



**Florence City Council
Business Meeting
Tuesday, January 14, 2020
6:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. at the Florence Government Center, 8100 Ewing Boulevard, Florence, Kentucky, with Mayor Diane E. Whalen presiding as chair.

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME:

Mayor Diane E. Whalen called the regular meeting to order and declared the regular session open for the presentation of all city business.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called, and the following six (6) members of council were present: Dr. Julie Metzger Aubuchon, Mel Carroll, Duane Froelicher, J. Kelly Huff, David A. Osborne, and Gary Winn.

Staff members present were: City Coordinator, Joshua R. Wice; City Attorney, Hugh O. Skees; Business & Community Development Director, Joshua Hunt; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; Public Services Director, Eric Hall; Fire/EMS Chief, Scott Knoll; City Engineer, Bill Viox; City Clerk, Nancy Zeilman; Videographers, Sean Kreke and Matt Miller; and, Police Officer, Jeff Mallery.

The following were also present: family and friends of the Fire/EMS Department recruits, Chase E. Brinson, Firefighter/EMT; William Bruns, Firefighter/EMT; Matthew Craft, Firefighter/EMT; and Daniel Henry, Firefighter/Paramedic; family and friends of the Fire/EMS Department Retiree, Dennis Bidwell, Volunteer Firefighter; family and friends of the Police Department Recruit, Blake Burkhardt, Police Officer; Melissa Kramer, Assistant City Clerk; and Deb McCarty, Community Projects Administrator.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2019, business meeting. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Aubuchon. **Council approved by unanimous vote.**

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2019, special meeting. Councilmember Aubuchon motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **Council approved by unanimous vote.**

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Whalen recognized and issued a Proclamation in remembrance of Lieutenant Phil Bender and reading the following Proclamation into record:

WHEREAS, City of Florence, Kentucky, officials and employees wish to express our gratitude and respect for Firefighter/Paramedic Lieutenant Phil Bender, who suddenly and unexpectedly passed away on December 8, 2019;

WHEREAS, Lt. Bender was a distinguished and dedicated member of the Florence Fire/EMS Department and served with great distinction for ten years;

WHEREAS, Lt. Bender made many lasting contributions to his family, friends, and community prior to his passing;

WHEREAS, Lt. Bender leaves behind parents, Jim and Fran Bender, brother, Jamie Bender, fiancée, Amy Frommeyer, nieces, Audrey, Willow, and Olivia Bender, and a host of other family members, friends, and loved ones;

WHEREAS, the City of Florence Fire/EMS Department will remember Lt. Bender for his kind heart, integrity, and compassion towards others and will forever be touched by his presence; and,

WHEREAS, we mourn the loss of Lt. Bender, and we are humbly grateful to have known and worked side by side with him.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Diane E. Whalen, Mayor of Florence, Kentucky, and on behalf of the members of Florence City Council, do hereby remember

LIEUTENANT PHIL BENDER
and invite all citizens to duly note this remembrance.

OATH OF OFFICE

Scott Knoll, Fire/EMS Chief, introduced the newest members of the Florence Fire/EMS Department, Firefighter/EMT, Chase E. Brinson, Firefighter/EMT, William Bruns, Firefighter/EMT, Matthew Craft, and Firefighter/Paramedic, Daniel Henry and all were given the oath of office by Mayor Whalen.

Captain Tom Grau introduced Blake Burkhardt as the newest member of the Florence Police Department. Mayor Whalen swore in Mr. Burkhardt and welcomed him to the City of Florence Police Department.

RECOGNITION

Fire/EMS Chief, Scott Knoll, introduced Volunteer Firefighter, Dennis Bidwell, of his retirement from the Florence Fire/EMS Department and thanked him for his thirty-four years of service. Mayor Whalen read a Proclamation recognizing January 14, 2020 as “Dennis Bidwell Day” and thanked Mr. Bidwell and his family for his volunteer service in the Florence Fire/EMS Department.

MUNICIPAL ORDER MO-1-20:

A Municipal Order approving the reappointment of Jerry Auton to the City of Florence Urban Forest Commission.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve Municipal Order MO-1-20. Councilmember Huff motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Winn. **Council approved by unanimous vote.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER MO-2-20:

A Municipal Order approving the Kentucky Department of Local Government Deed Restriction related to Lincoln Woods Park playground surface replacement project grant.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve Municipal Order MO-2-20. Councilmember Osborne motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Froelicher. **Council approved by unanimous vote.**

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE O-24-19:

An Ordinance adopting and approving a change in Concept Development Plan for a 1.48 acre lot located at 410 Meijer Drive, Florence, Kentucky to allow a retail store (Duluth Trading Company).

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance O-24-19. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Aubuchon. **Council approved by unanimous vote.**

MOTION:

Mayor Whalen requested a motion to approve the 2020-2025 City Strategic Plan. Councilmember Aubuchon motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Froelicher. **Council approved by unanimous vote.**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Councilmember, Duane Froelicher, has agreed to serve on the Florence Planning and Zoning Committee. Mayor Whalen thanked Councilmember, Dr. Julie Metzger Aubuchon, for her dedication and service as the prior appointee on the committee.
- The Florence Aquatic Center Membership can be purchased at a 15% discount through April 30, 2020. More information is available at florence-ky.gov.
- NKU Basketball – Boone County Night is Saturday, January 18, 2020. NKU vs. Cleveland State at 7:00 p.m. Ticket Prices are \$9.00 for adults and \$7.00 for youth, ages 3-17. Tickets can also be purchased online at <http://bit.ly/nkuboone>.
- There will be a display in the Lobby of the Florence Government Center to honor Dr. Martin Luther King from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

RECOGNITION:

Mayor Whalen asked if any of the following desired recognition:

City Coordinator, Joshua R. Wice

Mr. Wice did not desire recognition.

Department Heads:

Fire/EMS Chief, Scott Knoll:

Chief Knoll did not desire recognition.

Chief of Police, Tom Grau:

Chief Grau did not desire recognition.

Public Services Director, Eric Hall

Eric Hall did not desire recognition.

Audience:

No recognition requested from the audience.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Whalen called for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Huff so moved, with a second from Councilmember Winn. **Council approved by unanimous vote**, the time being 6:56 p.m.

APPROVED:

/s/ Diane E. Whalen
Diane E. Whalen, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Nancy Zeilman
Nancy Zeilman, City Clerk