



**Florence City Council
Business Meeting
Tuesday, October 13, 2020
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in regular session on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, at 6:00 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 Aubuchon (Vice-Mayor), Mel Carroll, Duane Froelicher, J. Kelly Huff, David Osborne, and Gary Winn.

Staff members present were: City Coordinator, Joshua R. Wice; City Attorney, Hugh O. Skees; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; Fire/EMS Chief, Scott Knoll; Business & Community Development Director, Joshua Hunt; City Engineer, Bill Viox; Assistant City Clerk, Brandi Roundtree; Videographer, Spencer Foreman; and Police Officer, Joshua Callicoat.

The following were also present: Family and Friends of the Fire/EMS Department new employee, Jeremiah Meister; Family and Friends of the new Florence Police Department police officers, Aubrey Carter and Tyler Jackson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2020, business meeting. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Huff. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2020, special meeting. Councilmember Huff motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

OATHS OF OFFICE:

Scott Knoll, Fire/EMS Chief, introduced the newest member of the Florence Fire/EMS Department, Jeremiah Meister, Firefighter/Paramedic.

Jeremiah came to the Florence Fire/EMS Department from the Burlington Fire Protection District, where was a full-time employee since 2007. Additionally, Jeremiah has seven years of part-time experience with the Belleview McVille Fire Protection District, Crosby Township Fire Department, and Madeira-Indian Hill Joint Fire Department. He has numerous fire and EMS certifications and an extensive fire/EMS training history. Jeremiah resides in Florence with his wife, Jessica, and he is eager to begin the next step in his Fire/EMS career with Florence Fire/EMS Department.

Mayor Whalen administered the oath of office and welcomed Jeremiah to the City of Florence Fire/EMS Department.

Tom Grau, Chief of Police, introduced Tyler Jackson and Aubrey Carter, as the newest members of the Florence Police Department.

Tyler Jackson is 23 years old and currently resides in Crittenden, Kentucky. He is a 2016 graduate of the Community Christian Academy in Independence. He went on take classes at Gateway Community and Technical College and Northern Kentucky University. Tyler is currently a member of the Kentucky National Guard based in Barbourville, Kentucky and has been with them since 2016. Prior to his hire, Tyler worked as a farm hand on the Bates Family Farm in Walton, Kentucky.

Aubrey Carter is 30 years old and currently resides in Georgetown, Kentucky. He is a 2009 graduate of Dixie Heights High School. He went on to attend the College of Mount St. Joseph for a year and then enlisted into the United States Navy. Aubrey spent five years stationed in San Diego, California. Prior to his hire, Aubrey worked at the Boone County Jail since 2019.

Chief Grau appreciated the patience of Tyler and Aubrey during the hiring process due to delays encountered as a result of COVID-19. Chief Grau is excited to be adding Tyler and Aubrey to the department, and they will be leaving for the academy on November 1, 2020.

Mayor Whalen administered the oath of office and welcomed Tyler and Aubrey to the City of Florence Police Department.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE O-13-20:

Mayor Whalen read Ordinance O-13-20. An ordinance adopting and approving a zoning map amendment for a special sign district in a Commercial Services/Planned Development/Mall Road Overlay (C-3/PD/MR) zone for an approximate 3.3 acre site located at 8025 Action Boulevard, Florence, Kentucky, to allow an existing roof mounted sign to remain.

The effect of this Ordinance is to allow a zoning map amendment for a Special Sign District in a Commercial Services/Planned Development/Mall Road Overlay (C-3/PD/MR) zone, which would allow an existing roof mounted sign to remain. This Ordinance does not change the zoning of the site, but approves a zoning map amendment for a Special Sign District based on its current zoning.

The full text of Ordinance O-13-20, including its exhibits, are available for examination in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Florence, Kentucky, in the Florence Government Center, 8100 Ewing Boulevard, Florence, Kentucky, during regular office hours.

Mayor Whalen called upon Joshua Hunt, Business and Community Development Director. Mr. Hunt explained the sign request is for an amendment due to new owners of Harley Davidson as discussed at the previous meeting.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance O-13-20. Councilmember Huff motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Carroll. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER MO-14-20:

Mayor Whalen read Municipal Order MO-14-20. A Municipal Order reversing a recommendation from the Boone County Planning Commission contained in Resolution No. R-20-006-A and denying the request of James Titus, AIA (applicant) for Luong M. Pham and Thu Ha T Le (Owners) for a zoning map amendment from Residential One Family (R1F) to Commercial One (C-1) for a 0.63 acre tract located on the southwest corner of the US42/Dilcrest Drive intersection, Florence, Kentucky, to allow commercial and office uses.

Mayor Whalen called upon Joshua Hunt, Business and Community Development Director. Mr. Hunt advised based on discussions at the previous meeting and recommendations of the Florence Planning and Zoning Committee, it was the recommendation of the committee to reverse the recommendation of the Resolution from the Boone County Planning Commission and deny the request.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve Municipal Order MO-14-20. Councilmember Carroll motioned to approve Municipal Order MO-14-20 with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER MO-15-20:

Mayor Whalen read Municipal Order MO-15-20. A Municipal Order approving the reappointment of Phillip Yannarella to the City of Florence Urban Forest Commission for a three (3) year term.

Councilmember Carroll was appreciative of citizens taking the time to be involved on the boards and commissions as volunteers.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve Municipal Order MO-15-20. Councilmember Aubuchon motioned to approve Municipal Order MO-15-20 with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Fall Clean Up is scheduled for Monday, October 12 thru Sunday, October 18. Dispose of unwanted debris at our Public Services Maintenance Facility located at 7850 Tanners Lane, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Available for Florence residents only and must show proof of residency. Computer and electronic equipment will be accepted by Tri-State Escrap. Confidential documents will be accepted by Shred-It. We are not accepting tire, non-rechargeable batteries, oil, paint, antifreeze, insecticides, pesticides, and fungicides as these are hazardous waste. There will be a hazardous waste collection that takes place in November.
- We will be hosting a Halloween Night Out on Tuesday, October 27, 2020. Halloween Night Out will be held at the UC Health Stadium from 5:00-7:00 p.m., home of the Florence Y'alls. Enter through Freedom Way or Safeway Drive, stay in your car, drive to a checkpoint, and provide the number of children in your vehicle. As your car makes the way around the loop with your trunk open, each sponsor at the Spooky Station will have treats for your children.
- Trick or treat hours are Saturday, October 31, 2020, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Please follow CDC Guidelines. If you want to participate, leave porch light on; if you do not want to participate, keep your porch light off.
- Property taxes have been sent out and can be paid at the Florence Government Center. Boone County Sheriff's Department is also stationed at our Finance Department and accepting payments for property taxes.
- The offices of the County Clerk and Circuit Clerk on our lower level remain closed. Driver licenses remains closed until the state allows them to have more than 50% of their staff in place. County Clerk is hopeful after the election to be able to bring back staff to Florence to allow residents to renew car tags in our building. Call the County Clerk and Circuit Clerk for any questions.
- We will have our annual leaf collection beginning October 26, 2020 through December 28, 2020. More information can be obtained from our website or call our Public Services Department.
- If you have an absentee ballot, there was a box previously located in the Florence Government Center in May, however, there is not a drop box located in our building now. You are able to drop off your absentee ballot at one of the Boone County Public Library branches in Florence, Hebron, or the Scheben Branch.

RECOGNITION:

Mayor Whalen asked if any of the following desired recognition:

City Coordinator, Joshua R. Wice:

Mr. Wice referenced a memo provided in the council packets from Vanessa Lenear, Community Events Coordinator. The city has been recognized by the Kentucky Recreation and Parks Society for a facility award and an outstanding program award. The KRPS recognized our new Kentaboo Park as a first class park. We were also awarded for an outstanding program for the Presidents' Day display.

Mayor Whalen advised the Florence Y'all water tower is currently being painted. The painting should be complete in November and will return to our beloved Florence Y'all water tower after a fresh coat of paint.

Department Heads:

Fire/EMS Chief, Scott Knoll:

Chief Knoll did not desire recognition.

Chief of Police, Tom Grau:

Chief Grau did not desire recognition.

Members of City Council:

Councilmember Froelicher thanked Mayor Whalen for her help regarding the new development at Farmview. Councilmember Froelicher also thanked Chief Grau for the police officers apprehending the citizen the past weekend at Big Lots.

Councilmember Osborne inquired with regard to the project at Farmview. Mayor Whalen advised the property was approved and is properly zoned. She attended a meeting and was able to provide the answers to the citizens in attendance.

Audience:

None desired recognition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1)(b) acquisition/sale of real property - where publicity would be likely to affect the value of property to be acquired for public use or to be sold by the city.

Councilmember Huff so moved with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye, the time being 6:24 p.m.** Mayor Whalen advised that no further business is anticipated to take place after the executive session.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to come back into session after the Executive Session. Councilmember Aubuchon so moved, with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **All councilmembers present voted aye, the time being 6:45 p.m.**

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ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Whalen called for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Huff so moved, with a second from Councilmember Winn. **Councilmembers present voted aye**, the time being 6:48 p.m.

APPROVED:

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Kramer
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk