



FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – BUSINESS MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in regular session on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Florence Government Center, 8100 Ewing Blvd, Florence, KY, 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 five (5) members of council were present: Mel Carroll; Dr. Julie Aubuchon; J. Kelly Huff; Gary Winn; David A. Osborne.

Not Present: Duane Froelicher

Also present: City Coordinator, Joshua R. Wice; City Attorney, Hugh Skees; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; Fire/EMS Chief, Scott Knoll; Director of Public Services, Eric Hall; Business & Community Development Director, Joshua Hunt; City Clerk, Nancy Zeilman, Videographers Mike Setters and Matt Miller; Police Officer, Chris Boone. The following signed in: Reporter, Trish Scheyer; Family and friends of Firefighters and Police Officers taking Oath of Office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

March 26, 2019

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2019 business meeting. Councilmember Winn so moved with a second from Councilmember Aubuchon. **Council approved by unanimous vote.**

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Whalen read a proclamation recognizing Courtney Brandt, Director for Positive Solutions Behavior Group, for her mission to spread awareness throughout the community about autism and to help the families with children of autism.

Courtney has collaborated with organizations to provide opportunities to autistic children to read to therapy horses, provide therapeutic horseback riding, create “Autism at Work” and “We Include Everyone” initiatives, with no charge to the families.

Mayor Whalen thanked Courtney for her dedicated service to this important initiative.

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OATH OF OFFICE

Three Fire/EMS Department Members were promoted to Captain. Congratulations to Stacy Beach, Wes Burns, and Joey Marcum.

In addition, Jake Whitford and Josh Calliccoat took the Oath of Office as Florence Police Officers. Mayor Whalen and City Council extended congratulations to them.

**FIRST READING
ORDINANCE NO. O-9-19**

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. O-6-15 relating to lateral transfers of experienced officers from other police departments to join the Florence Police Department and experienced firefighters, EMTS, or paramedics from other fire department's to join the Florence Fire/EMS Department.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve first reading of Ordinance No. O-9-19. Councilmember Osborne motioned with a second from Councilmember Huff. **Council approved by unanimous vote.**

**MUNICIPAL ORDER
MO-5-19**

A Municipal Order approving the appointment of Dr. Cathy Gratkowski to the City of Florence, Kentucky, Urban Forest Commission for a three (3) year term.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve Municipal Order MO-5-19. Councilmember Winn motioned with a second from Councilmember Aubuchon. **Council approved by unanimous vote.**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- There are a variety of job positions available in the City of Florence. Visit the website for an application.
- The annual Easter Egg hunt will be held at the Florence Freedom field on April 20, 2019. Gates open at 10:00 a.m. and hunt will begin at 11:00. More information can be found on the website.
- The second Glow Orange Kentucky week brings attention to Work Zone Safety Week held April 8th through April 12th. The Florence Water Tower will be glowing orange as part of the recognition. There will be numerous work areas in the city during the next few months. Mayor Whalen encouraged everyone to pay specific attention to those areas and the workers in them.
- The Florence Family Aquatic Center has a 15% discount on all membership categories until April 30, 2019. The form is available on the City of Florence website.
- Drug Take Back Day is scheduled for April 20, 2019, 10a.m. until 2p.m. You may drop off at the Florence Government Center or Kroger located on Mall Road. No liquids or needles.
- Mayor Whalen reminded everyone of the Great American Clean Up Event that will be held on April 27th. This is a perfect opportunity for volunteers to help pick up litter along the streets and sidewalks of Florence. More information can be found on the website or by calling the Government Center.
- Spring Clean up week is scheduled for April 29th through May 5th. Computer and electronic equipment will be accepted. Confidential documents will be shredded. Check the website or call Public Services for more information.

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Mayor Whalen offered congratulations to the Willis Music Company as they celebrate their 120th year anniversary. Councilmember Gary Winn attended the celebration on Saturday, April 6th and presented a proclamation to them that recognized their achievements.

Mayor Whalen addressed the concern expressed by residents over the destruction of trees along Aero Parkway. She explained that it is outside the city limits but it is related to the Amazon project and the expansion of the airport. Additional information is available at the Boone County Fiscal Court or from the Airport Board.

Another point of concern is the Pleasant Valley Road project. Mayor Whalen explained that she understands the concern but, the widening and relocation of portions of the road must result in cutting trees. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet may be able to give residents more information on this project.

RECOGNITION

Mayor Whalen asked if any of the following desired recognition:

City Coordinator, Joshua R. Wice:

Mr. Wice discussed the Strategic Planning Process. The first stage is complete. The second stage of the process will become more public. Community input workshop sessions are being planned during the months of May or June. City Council will be asked to participate in workshops during early summer.

He thanked everyone for their participation to date and stated there was a great response to the distributed employee surveys. More information will be shared as dates are confirmed.

Department Heads:

- Eric Hall, Director of Public Services announced the following:
 - Orleans North is 50% complete – Mill and Overlay
 - Connector Drive will be widened. Start date April 15th
 - Woodland Avenue – Complete Street replacement 40% complete
 - Kentaboo Park – Grading underway and storm installation. Water main installation to begin tomorrow.
 - Lincoln Woods playground resurfacing will begin May 1st

Eric reminded everyone that all city projects are updated on the Florence Y'all app. Download it onto your phone to follow any project in the city.

- Scott Knoll announced that the new ambulance has arrived and it is parked outside the Government Center if anyone would like to look at it.

Councilmembers:

- Councilmember Osborne asked if there is an opening date for Menards. Mayor Whalen explained that the city does not have a date, but it will be shared as soon as we receive it from Menards.

Audience:


None requested

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ADJOURNMENT:

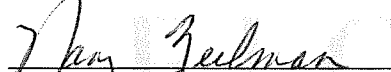
There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Whalen called for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Huff so moved, with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **Council approved by unanimous vote**, the time being 6:56 p.m.

APPROVED:



Diane E. Whalen, Mayor

ATTEST:



Nancy Zeilman, City Clerk

