



**Florence City Council
Business Meeting
Tuesday, January 26, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, 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, J. Kelly Huff, David Osborne, Josh Walton, and Gary Winn.

Staff members present were: City Attorney, Hugh O. Skees; Business & Community Development Director, Joshua Hunt; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; City Clerk, Melissa Kramer; Videographer, Spencer Foreman; and Police Officer, Tara Ruschell.

The following were also present: Mike Detzel and Coleen Detzel, Florence Antique Mall; and Trisha Scheyer, The River City News.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2021, business meeting. Councilmember Huff motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Whalen recognized Mike Detzel and Coleen Detzel, Owners of the Florence Antique Mall, and issued a Proclamation proclaiming January 26, 2021 as Florence Antique Mall Day reading the following Proclamation into record:

WHEREAS, the City of Florence recognizes, with respect, pride, and admiration, the contributions, dedication, and hard work of local businesses within our community; and

WHEREAS, the Florence Antique Mall opened on August 1, 1998 in Florence, Kentucky, is owned and operated by Mike and Coleen Detzel, and has become a Tri-State treasure since their opening; and

WHEREAS, the Florence Antique Mall offers a wide selection of fine antiques, collectibles, art, and furniture in a one-level 50,000 square foot showroom with over 200 independent small businesses under one roof; and

WHEREAS, the City of Florence supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy, and are integral to the growth and longevity of a community; and

WHEREAS, the Florence Antique Mall has been voted for the 9th straight year as the Best Antiques of Northern Kentucky from Northern Kentucky Magazine; and

WHEREAS, the City of Florence would like to congratulate the Florence Antique Mall on their award for the Best of Northern Kentucky 2020 and offer sincere best wishes for many more years of success.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT, I, Diane E. Whalen, Mayor of the City of Florence, Kentucky, and on behalf of the members of Florence City Council, do hereby proclaim January 26, 2021 as Florence Antique Mall Day in the City of Florence, Kentucky.

As a result of the closure due to COVID-19, Mr. Detzel stated they were able to adapt, innovate, and provide curbside pickup for customers. Since reopening, Mr. Detzel stated the Florence Antique Mall has been thriving and believes customers are enjoying browsing the mall. Mr. Detzel enjoys the location of their business. The Florence Antique Mall has developed a large following and also has sellers from other states. The Detzel's are proud to be part of the city. Mr. Detzel expressed his thanks to the city for their support and the continued support of the community. He believes their store is a rare treasure. Mayor Whalen thanked the Detzel's for attending.

SECOND READING ORDINANCE O-1-21:

Mayor Whalen read Ordinance O-1-21. An Ordinance adopting and approving text amendments to Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 20, 23, 31, and 40 of the Boone County Zoning Regulations to (1) Define "Household Agriculture" and "Household Pets"; (2) Not permit "Household Agriculture" in the City of Florence; and (3) Permit the keeping of "Household Pets" as an accessory use for dwelling units in Agricultural, Recreation (R), Conservation (CONS), Residential, Commercial, Professional Office One (O-1A), Public Facilities (PF), Small Community Overlay (SC), and Florence Main Street Zoning Study (FMS) Zones.

This Ordinance amends and enacts text provisions of the Boone County Zoning Regulations Text as applicable to the City of Florence, Kentucky, to provide for and regulate "Household Pets" and "Household Agriculture" in the City of Florence, Kentucky. These amendments and enactments apply to Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 20, 23, 31, and 40 of those Boone County Zoning Regulations text provisions. The effect of these amendments and enactments is to establish a definition for "Household Agriculture" and "Household Pets"; to not permit "Household Agriculture" in the City of Florence; and to allow "Household Pets" as an accessory use for dwelling units in various zoning districts.

The full text of Ordinance O-1-21, including its Exhibits, is 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 for a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance O-1-21. Councilmember Aubuchon motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Huff. Mayor Whalen requested a Roll Call Vote. Councilmember Carroll, yes; Councilmember Winn, yes; Councilmember Huff, yes; Councilmember Aubuchon, yes; Councilmember Walton, no; Councilmember Osborne, yes. **Roll call recognized five yes votes, and one no vote, approving the second reading of Ordinance O-1-21.**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- The REAL ID office has relocated from Dream Street in Florence to 6159 1st Financial Drive, Burlington, Kentucky. The office is open Monday-Friday between 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Their telephone number is 859-692-5834.
- The Florence Government Center will be open on Monday, February 15, 2021. There will be a Presidents Day display in the lobby.
- Kentucky continues to list those eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations - Vaccinations are currently being provided by a local partnership of NKY Health, HealthPoint Family Care, and St. Elizabeth Healthcare. Currently, you must be 70 years of age or older to qualify if you are not part of first responders, teachers, and healthcare workers. Next phase should begin the end of January. Monitor the NKY Health website at www.nkyhealth.org for the latest information on vaccination opportunities.

RECOGNITION:

Mayor Whalen asked if any of the following desired recognition:

Department Heads:

Chief of Police, Tom Grau:

Chief Grau did not desire recognition.

Members of City Council:

Councilmember Aubuchon stated she and the Mayor recently met with representatives from RA Jones Middle School. RA Jones Middle School currently has 800 students enrolled and a majority of the students are behind two years academically. Following enrollment at RA Jones Middle School, students were able to improve their scores. RA Jones Middle School has been classified as the 13th most diverse school out of 300 in the state.

Mayor Whalen stated RA Jones Middle School had been previously classified as a school in crisis due to placing below the standards set forth by the state. The representatives informed her and Councilmember Aubuchon all of the improvements the school has been making. Representatives from the school intend on attending a council meeting to provide an update to councilmembers.

Audience:

No recognition requested from the audience.

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 6:15 p.m.

APPROVED:

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Kramer
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk