



**Florence City Council  
Business Meeting  
Tuesday, May 11, 2021  
6:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in regular session on Tuesday, May 11, 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 four (4) members of council were present: J. Kelly Huff, David Osborne, Josh Walton, and Gary Winn. Absent were Dr. Julie Aubuchon (Vice-Mayor) (present at 6:03 p.m.) and Mel Carroll.

Staff members present were: City Attorney, Hugh O. Skees; Business & Community Development Director, Joshua Hunt; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; City Engineer, Bill Viox; City Clerk, Melissa Kramer; Videographer, Spencer Foreman; and Police Corporal, Rick Saint Blancard.

The following were also present: Trisha Scheyer, The River City News; and Thomas Judd, observer.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2021, business meeting. Councilmember Huff motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Walton. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

**PROCLAMATION:**

Mayor Whalen recognized National Public Works Week and issued a Proclamation proclaiming May 16, 2021-May 22, 2021 as Public Works Week reading the following Proclamation into record:

*WHEREAS, public works services provided in our community are an integral part of our citizen's everyday lives and those services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals; and*

***WHEREAS**, the support of an understanding and informed public is vital to the efficient operation of the public works systems and programs including water, sewer, streets, public buildings, solid waste collection, code enforcement, and engineering to provide these essential services to our citizens; and*

***WHEREAS**, the health, safety and comfort of this community greatly depends on these facilities and services; and*

***WHEREAS**, the quality and effectiveness of these facilities, as well as their planning, design, and construction, is vitally dependent upon the efforts and skills of public works officials; and*

***WHEREAS**, the efficiency of the qualified and dedicated personnel who staff public works departments is materially influenced by the people's attitude and understanding the importance of the work they perform; and*

***WHEREAS**, the year 2021 marks the 61<sup>st</sup> annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association;*

***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 the week May 16 – 22, 2021 as National Public Works Week.*

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Florence, Kentucky, to be affixed hereto, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.*

Mayor Whalen also acknowledged National Police Week as May 9, 2021-May 15, 2021 and stated in 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls as National Police week. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the live events in DC have been canceled. However, the Northern Kentucky ceremony will be held at the Northern Kentucky Police Memorial located at the foot of the Suspension Bridge tomorrow, May 12, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

#### **FIRST READING ORDINANCE O-4-21:**

Mayor Whalen read Ordinance O-4-21. An Ordinance of the City of Florence, Kentucky, Amending Ordinance No. O-1-11, Providing for a Credit of its Occupational License Fee for new employees as part of an Economic Development Project by Robert Bosch Automotive Steering LLC (F/K/A ZF Steering Systems, LLC) under The Kentucky Business Investment (KBI Program (KRS 154.32-010-KRS 154.32-100).

The purpose of this Ordinance is to approve the continuation of the Occupational License Tax Credit for Robert Bosch Automotive Steering LLC (f/k/a ZF Steering Systems, LLC) in accordance with an Amended and Restated Tax Incentive Agreement between that Company and the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance O-4-21. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- The City of Florence will not be holding its annual Memorial Day Parade, however, will be conducting a modified version known as a "SHOEBOX" float parade. Participants may

decorate any size shoebox as a float with the theme of “Honoring Our Military.” Take of photo of the shoebox, include name, organization, description, and email the photo to our Community Events Coordinator for judging. Participants may also drop off the photo or the float at the Administration Department within the Florence Government Center. All photos and floats must be submitted by Friday, May 21, 2021. Awards will be announced at the Memorial Day Program. More information is on our website, Facebook page, and you may also contact Mrs. Lenear at 859.647.5439.

- The City will host a Memorial Day Program to honor our fallen military personnel on Monday, May 31, 2021 at the Boone County Veterans Memorial located on the campus of the Florence Government Center. The program will begin at 11:00 a.m. and consist of the Northern Kentucky Brotherhood Singers and the Florence Community Band and Chorus. The event will be held outside. According to the new guidelines, masks are not required outdoors if less than a thousand people are in attendance. Mayor Whalen invited everyone to pay tribute with the City to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our country.

**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:

None desired recognition.

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 6:08 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

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

**ATTEST:**

/s/ Melissa Kramer  
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk

