



**Florence City Council
Business Meeting
Tuesday, January 11, 2022
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 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 registered present: J. Kelly Huff, David Osborne, Patricia Wingo, and Gary Winn. Absent was Mel Carroll and Dr. Julie Aubuchon (Vice-Mayor) (present at 6:02 p.m.).

Staff members present were: Assistant City Attorney, Thomas Nienaber; Fire/EMS Chief, Rodney Wren; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; City Clerk, Melissa Kramer; Videographer, Spencer Foreman; and Police Officer, Derrick Lynn.

The following were also present in the audience: Florence Fire/EMS Department new Training Battalion Chief, Matt Pleiman; Family and Friends of the new Florence Fire/EMS Department Training Battalion Chief, Matt Pleiman; Assistant Fire/EMS Chief John Black; Battalion Chief of Prevention/Fire Marshall, Randy Childress; Resident of Florence, Jenna Kemper; Resident of Florence, Brian Kinross; Residents of Florence, Maria and Joseph Brown; The River City News Reporter, Trisha Scheyer; and observer, Thomas Judd.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2021, business meeting. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Wingo. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

OATH OF OFFICE:

Rodney Wren, Fire/EMS Chief, introduced the newest member of the Florence Fire/EMS Department, Matt Pleiman. Chief Wren stated Matt Pleiman is the new Training Battalion Chief. He comes to Florence having retired from the City of Newport Fire/EMS Department as a Captain/Paramedic. Matt previously worked for the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International

Airport Fire Department, as well as, the Central Campbell (formerly Cold Spring) Fire Department. Prior to working for Central Campbell, Matt served as a volunteer with the Cold Spring Fire Department, prior to the merger with Highland Heights and formation of the Central Campbell Fire District. Matt resides in Independence with his wife and two children. Chief Wren stated Matt started on Tuesday, January 4, 2022. Chief Wren welcomed Matt to the City of Florence Fire/EMS Department Family.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Mayor Whalen announced the City of Florence offices will be closed on Monday, January 17 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- Mayor Whalen stated the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce contacted her and is requesting a community wide pep rally in support of the Cincinnati Bengals. Therefore, the Florence Water Tower will glow orange this week in support of the Cincinnati Bengals in their Playoff Game Saturday against the Las Vegas Raiders.
- Due to the recent increase in Covid-19 cases, Mayor Whalen encouraged everyone to protect themselves and each other.

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 6:07 p.m.** Mayor Whalen advised they would return to the room to adjourn and did not anticipate any further business taking place following Executive Session.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to come back into session after the Executive Session. Councilmember Winn so moved, with a second from Councilmember Huff. **All councilmembers present voted aye, the time being 6:36 p.m.**

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Whalen called for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Aubuchon so moved, with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **Councilmembers present voted aye**, the time being 6:36 p.m.

APPROVED:

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Kramer
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk

