



**Florence City Council  
Business Meeting  
Tuesday, February 8, 2022  
6:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in regular session on Tuesday, February 8, 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 five (5) members of council were registered present: Dr. Julie Aubuchon (Vice-Mayor), J. Kelly Huff, David Osborne, Patricia Wingo, and Gary Winn. Councilmember Mel Carroll was absent.

Staff members present were: Assistant City Attorney, Thomas Nienaber; Fire/EMS Chief, Rodney Wren; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; Public Services Director, Eric Hall; Business & Community Development Director, Joshua J. Hunt; Assistant City Clerk, Brandi Roundtree; Videographer, Spencer Foreman; and Police Lieutenant, Nathan Rettig.

The following were also present in the audience: Honor Run Executive Director, Scott Spicher; Family Members and Volunteers associated with the Honor Run Half Marathon; Executive Director of the Honor Flight Tri-State, Cheryl Popp; Executive Director of the Boone County Planning Commission, Kevin P. Costello, AICP; Resident of Florence, Jenna Kemper; Resident of Florence, Aaron Gillum; 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 January 25, 2022, business meeting. Councilmember Winn noted a correction to the minutes on page three. Upon correction of the minutes, Councilmember Wingo motioned to approve the corrected minutes with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

**PRESENTATION – HONOR RUN HALF MARATHON:**

Mayor Whalen introduced Scott Spicher, Executive Director of Honor Run Half Marathon, to present the results of the 2021 Honor Run Half Marathon.

Mr. Spicher stated being in attendance was one of his three favorite events associated with the Honor Run Half Marathon. The first event is race day, second is attending the Florence City Council Meeting and presenting Honor Flight Tri-State with the proceeds, and third is Honor Flight Day.

Mr. Spicher invited Cheryl Popp, Executive Director of the Honor Flight Tri-State to the podium and presented this year's donation in the amount of \$50,000. Ms. Popp was very thankful and appreciative. Mr. Spicher stated the amount was the highest presented over the last seven years. Over the course of the last seven years, the Honor Run Half Marathon has donated over \$300,000 to Honor Flight Tri-State.

Mr. Spicher stated he originally brought the idea to the city eight years ago and the idea was turned down. However, Mayor Whalen stepped in, supported the idea, and felt the race needed to happen. Mr. Spicher stated the only reason the Honor Run Half Marathon exists today is because of the support received from Mayor Whalen. Mr. Spicher expressed his appreciation to Mayor Whalen upon her retirement and stated, "The veterans I have been able that have been able to experience the Honor Flight, because of the Honor Run, they don't do that without your vision, without your support, and behalf of everyone associated with the Honor Run Half Marathon, we thank you for your service to the City of Florence, we thank you for everything you have done for the City and this region, you will greatly be missed." Mayor Whalen thanked Mr. Spicher for the words of appreciation.

Mr. Spicher informed everyone registration was already open for the run this year. He was thankful for the support received from the entire city including the Fire/EMS Department, Police Department, Public Services Department, Mayor and councilmembers.

Councilmember Aubuchon inquired how many runners participated this past year. Mr. Spicher stated there were approximately 850.

Councilmember Osborne expressed his gratitude for being able to participate himself in the Honor Flight Tri-State.

### **SECOND READING ORDINANCE O-1-22:**

Mayor Whalen read Ordinance O-1-22. An Ordinance adopting and approving a Zoning Map Amendment for a special sign district in a Recreation/Planned Development/Houston Donaldson Study Corridor Overlay (R/PD/HDO) zone for an approximate 196.5 acre site located at 7500 Turfway Road, Florence, Kentucky, to allow alternative signage.

The effect of this Ordinance is to allow a zoning map amendment for a Special Sign District in a Recreation/Planned Development/Houston Donaldson Study Corridor Overlay (R/PD/HDO) zone, which would allow alternative signage. 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-1-22, 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-1-22. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Huff. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

### **FIRST READING ORDINANCE O-2-22:**

Mayor Whalen read Ordinance O-2-22. An Ordinance Relating to the Adoption of the Florence, Kentucky Main Street Zoning Update that includes Text and Zoning Map Amendments that affect Article 23 of the Boone County Zoning Regulations and Section 3440.C-Florence Main Street Special Sign District, as well as the Zoning Map Boundaries for the Florence Main Street District within the City of Florence, Kentucky; and recommending that this Florence, Kentucky Main Street Study Update, including its Text and Map Amendments set forth herein be adopted and made enforceable as Land Use Regulations under the Boone County Zoning Regulations, Text and Map, as applicable to the City of Florence, Kentucky.

This Ordinance adopts the Florence, KY Main Street Zoning Update, including text and map amendments that affect Article 23 of the Boone County Zoning Regulations, and Section 3440.C-Florence Main Street Special Sign District, as well as the zoning map boundaries for the Florence Main Street District.

The full text of Ordinance O-2-22, 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.

Councilmember Winn expressed appreciation to Councilmember Wingo, Business and Community Development Director, Joshua Hunt, and the Boone County Planning Commission for their involvement in the update.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance O-2-22. Councilmember Wingo motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

### **RESOLUTION R-1-22:**

Mayor Whalen read Resolution R-1-22. A Resolution of the City of Florence, Kentucky, City Council Approving an Agreement between the Commonwealth of Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and the City of Florence, Kentucky, for the Weaver Road (KY 842) Sidewalk Item #06-03218.00 as a Federal Project No. 4002028; SC628-2200000825, approved for \$245,000 by the Federal Highway Administration; and Authorizing Diane E. Whalen, as Mayor, to sign this Agreement on behalf of the City of Florence, Kentucky, as the recipient for this project.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve Resolution R-1-22. Councilmember Aubuchon motioned to approve Resolution R-1-22 with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**

- Mayor Whalen announced the Florence Water Tower would continue to glow orange for a show of support for the Cincinnati Bengals in the Super Bowl Game Sunday.
- City offices will be open on President’s Day, Monday, February 21.

**RECOGNITION:**

Mayor Whalen asked if any of the following desired recognition:

Department Heads:

Fire/EMS Chief, Rodney Wren:

Chief Wren did not desire recognition.

Chief of Police, Tom Grau:

Chief Grau did not desire recognition.

Public Services Director, Eric Hall:

Mr. Hall stated the Public Services Department was well prepared for the winter weather the past week. He commended the staff and their non-stop work before, during, and after the storm. At shift changes, the public services staff voluntarily brought cots in and slept at the garage to ensure they would be ready for their next shift. Mr. Hall was appreciative and stated the city has a dedicated public services staff and was grateful for the cooperative effort received from the Fire/EMS Department and Police Department.

Due to the winter weather and numerous potholes, Mayor Whalen informed everyone the city is compiling information to provide with regard to contact information for notification of potholes.

Members of City Council:

Councilmember Osborne expressed his appreciation for the Public Services Department the past week with the winter weather. He also thanked the Fire/EMS Department and the Police Department for all they do in the community.

Councilmember Aubuchon announced the St. Paul Academic Team won their region and will be attending the State Governor’s Cup Competition.

**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 6:21 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

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

**ATTEST:**

/s/ Melissa Kramer  
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk

