



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

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in regular session on Tuesday, October 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: Dr. Julie Aubuchon (Vice-Mayor), David Osborne, Patricia Wingo, and Gary Winn. Councilmembers Mel Carroll and J. Kelly Huff were absent.

Staff members present were: Assistant City Attorney, Thomas Nienaber; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; Fire/EMS Chief, Rodney Wren; Public Services Director, Eric Hall; City Engineer, Bill Viox; City Clerk, Melissa Kramer; Videographer, Perry Weber; and Police Lieutenant, Jeff Mallery.

The following were also present in the audience: Resident of Florence, Aaron Gillum; and Resident of Florence, Thomas Judd.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2022, special meeting. Councilmember Wingo motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

FIRST READING ORDINANCE O-21-22:

Mayor Whalen read Ordinance O-21-22. An Ordinance relating to personnel; amending Ordinance No. O-12-22 relating to personnel policies.

This Ordinance makes revisions to the Grooming, Annual Paid Leave and Sick Leave Sections of the Personnel Policies and Procedures.

The full text of Ordinance O-21-22, 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 Blvd., Florence, Kentucky, during regular office hours.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance O-21-22. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Aubuchon. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – RESOLUTION R-3-22:

Mayor Whalen read Resolution R-3-22. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky Adopting the Boone County Area Solid Waste Management Plan 2023-2027 Update.

Mayor Whalen advised the plan is required by KRS 224.43-340 and KRS 224.43-345 to submit an update of the area solid waste management plan. Mayor Whalen advised the plan is updated every five years and is governed by the Boone County Fiscal Court.

Mayor Whalen called for a motion to approve Resolution R-3-22. Councilmember Wingo motioned to approve Resolution R-3-22 with a second from Councilmember Aubuchon. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Mayor Whalen announced Fall Clean Up is underway now through Sunday, October 16. Drop off is at the Public Services Maintenance Facility located at 7850 Tanners Lane. The clean-up is available for Florence residents only and you must show proof of residency. If you have any questions, please contact the City of Florence Public Services Department at 859.647.5416.
- Mayor Whalen announced the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event is scheduled for Saturday, November 5 from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Thomas More Stadium. Free disposal of the following items: aerosol cans, antifreeze, batteries, corrosives/flammables, electronics including computers, monitors, printers, cell phones, ink/toner cartridges, light bulbs, oil, paint, ten can limit, pesticides, cylinders and tanks, TVs, limit of two per vehicle. Appliances, fertilizer, mercury-containing devices, medications, or tires will not be accepted at the event. Paper is no longer accepted. A registration form must be filled out and individuals can find the form on our website and the county website. Mayor Whalen advised you must be a Boone, Kenton, or Campbell County resident to participate and no businesses. The Boone County Coordinator for the event is Mike Wilson and you may contact him at 859.334.3629 if you have any questions.
- Mayor Whalen announced Florence residents are able to pay annual city property taxes at the Florence Government Center. The Boone County Sheriff's Office is also stationed in the Finance Department to collect county property taxes until the end of October and the last week in December.
- Mayor Whalen announced the 2022 Leaf Collection program will begin on October 24 and run through December 22. Contact the City of Florence Public Services Department at

859.647.5416 for more information. The leaf collection schedule is also on the City of Florence Website.

- Mayor Whalen reminded everyone the Annual Halloween Night Out will be held on Tuesday, October 25 at Thomas More Stadium, Home of the Florence Y'all, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. "Nightmare at the Ballpark", will be a spooktacular family friendly event. The event will have over fifty trick or treat booths, a photo booth, pumpkin patch, spooky characters, petting zoo, refreshments, and much more. The free event will be held rain or shine. The event will be a walk through event. Mayor Whalen requested the event have no political campaigning to allow children to enjoy the evening.
- Mayor Whalen reminded everyone Halloween Trick or Treat hours across Boone County will be on Monday, October 31, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. She encouraged individuals wishing to participate to turn on their front porch light.
- Mayor Whalen announced the Florence Police Department is participating in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day this Saturday, October 29, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. There will be two drop off locations: the north parking lot of the Florence Government Center and Florence Kroger Marketplace, 7685 Mall Road. No liquids, needles, ointments or syringes. Call the Florence Police Department at 859.647.5420 for additional information.
- Mayor Whalen announced in conjunction with the city's Veterans Day Program and in cooperation with the Florence Christian Church, the city is hosting "The Witness Tree" Event. The event will be held beginning November 1 and run through November 11 daily at 8:00 a.m. on the campus of the Florence Government Center at the Boone County Veteran's Memorial. The eleven day program is intended to raise awareness of the estimated twenty-two veterans who commit suicide daily. The daily ceremonies will include placing twenty-two dog tags on a tree, readings, meditative thought, and reflection. Additional resources will be available for participants.
- Mayor Whalen announced preparations for the Honor Run Half Marathon are underway. The Honor Run Half Marathon will be held on the morning of Sunday, November 13 beginning at the Florence Y'all Water Tower. There will be road closures during the race and the closures will be posted on the city's website and social media. The event raises funds which are donated to the Honor Flights Tri-State.
- Mayor Whalen announced the City of Florence will have a Veterans Day Program on Sunday, November 13 at 2:00 p.m. at the Florence Government Center.
- Mayor Whalen informed everyone there is a Ballot Drop Box in the lobby of the Florence Government Center for absentee ballots. Mayor Whalen encouraged everyone to contact the county clerk for additional voting information.

RECOGNITION:

Mayor Whalen asked if any of the following desired recognition:

Members of City Council:

None 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 provided an update with regard to upcoming Kentucky Transportation Cabinet road projects within the city:

- Donaldson Road – Mr. Hall stated while Donaldson Road is not within the city limits of Florence, the lane widening, which fronts Marydale will impact traffic in Florence. The project is scheduled to begin November 17, 2022 and anticipates completion by October 1, 2025.
- Mall Road Connector Phase 1 – Mr. Hall advised the project is in the planning stages and anticipates design alternates to be available early 2023.
- Turfway Road and Thoroughbred Boulevard one-way couplet – Mr. Hall advised the project is in the planning stages and anticipates designs to be complete in the spring of 2023.
- “Superstreet” – Carlton Drive to Houston Road – Mr. Hall advised the superstreet will have several opportunities for U-turns and provide no left turns out of the intersection.
- US 42 Westbound Safety Improvements at I-75 Project – Mr. Hall advised the project is anticipated to be completed by May 2023. The project includes a pedestrian path and decorative fence.
- Houston Road Project from Kentucky Route 18 to Turfway – Mr. Hall advised the project would be resurfaced in the spring of 2023.
- Kentucky Route 18 – Ewing to Turfway – Mr. Hall advised the advised the proposed project is in the planning stages for repairing the curb.
- Kentucky Route 18 – Houston to Ewing – Mr. Hall advised the proposed project is in the planning stages and anticipates designs by summer of 2023.

Mayor Whalen advised all access ramps to and from I-71/75 at Mt. Zion will be closed starting Friday evening through Sunday evening for work on the new Double Crossover Diamond interchange at I-71/75 and Mt. Zion Road.

Councilmember Aubuchon inquired with regard to the smart signals. Mr. Hall advised the adaptive signal control improvement designs are complete and the city is working with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to receive approvals. He anticipates the project to be sent out for bid early 2023.

Members of the 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 Aubuchon so moved, with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **Councilmembers present voted aye**, the time being 6:19 p.m.

APPROVED:

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Kramer
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk

