



**Florence City Council
Special Meeting
Tuesday, May 9, 2023
4:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in special session on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. at the Florence Government Center, 8100 Ewing Boulevard, Florence, Kentucky, with Mayor Julie M. Aubuchon presiding as chair.

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME:

Mayor Julie M. Aubuchon called the special meeting to order and declared the meeting open for the presentation of items on the special meeting agenda.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called, and the following five (5) members of council were registered present: Mel Carroll, Lesley Chambers, Jenna Kemper (Vice-Mayor), David A. Osborne, and Gary Winn. Councilmember Patricia Wingo was absent.

Staff members present were: Assistant City Attorney, Thomas R. Nienaber; CFO/HR, Linda Chapman; Fire/EMS Chief, Rodney Wren; Chief of Police, Tom Grau; Public Services Director, Eric Hall; Business & Community Development Director, Joshua Hunt; City Engineer, Bill Viox; City Clerk, Melissa Kramer; and Police Lieutenant, Jeff Mallery.

The following were also present in the audience: Members of the Florence Police Department; Members of the Florence Public Services Department; Resident of Florence, Angela Cable; Northern Kentucky Tribune Reporter, Trisha Scheyer; and Resident of Florence, Thomas Judd.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2023, special meeting. Councilmember Carroll motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2023, special meeting. Councilmember Carroll motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Aubuchon recognized National Police Week and issued a Proclamation proclaiming May 14, 2023-May 20, 2023 as Police Week reading the following Proclamation into record:

***WHEREAS**, the members of the Florence Police Department stand watch over our citizens, selflessly risking their lives to protect individuals, families, neighborhoods, and property against crime; and*

***WHEREAS**, it is important that all citizens recognize the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices of local law enforcement agencies; and*

***WHEREAS**, 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 in honor of those law enforcement officers who, through their courageous deeds, have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community or have become disabled in the performance of duty; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Florence Police Department, past and present, who, by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities, have rendered dedicated service to the community.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT, I, Julie M. Aubuchon, Mayor of the City of Florence, Kentucky, and on behalf of the members of Florence City Council, do hereby proclaim the week of May 14-20, 2023, as Police Week in the City of Florence, Kentucky and hereby publicly salute the service of law enforcement officers in our community.

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Florence, Kentucky, to be affixed hereto, this 9th day of May, 2023.*

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Aubuchon recognized National Public Works Week and issued a Proclamation proclaiming May 21, 2023-May 27, 2023 as Public Works Week reading the following Proclamation into record:

***WHEREAS**, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of Florence; and*

***WHEREAS**, these infrastructure, facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers, and employees at all levels of government and the private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving, and protecting our nation's transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens; and,*

***WHEREAS**, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders and children in Florence to gain knowledge of and to maintain an ongoing interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and,*

***WHEREAS**, the year 2023 marks the 63rd annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association; and,*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT, I, Julie M. Aubuchon, Mayor of the City of Florence, Kentucky, and on behalf of the members of Florence City Council, do hereby proclaim the week May 21-27, 2023 as National Public Works Week and further extend appreciation to the City of Florence Public Services Department and all their public works professionals, engineers, managers and employees for their substantial contribution in protecting our health, safety, and quality of life.

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Florence, Kentucky, to be affixed hereto, this 9th day of May, 2023.*

SECOND READING ORDINANCE O-14-2023:

Mayor Aubuchon read Ordinance O-14-2023. An Ordinance Adopting and Approving a Zoning Map Amendment from Commercial Two (C-2) to Suburban Residential Two (SR-2) for the approximate 0.48 acre site located at 7309 Dixie Highway, Florence, Kentucky, to allow the existing building to be used as a single-family home for rental. (Banklick Real Estate Holdings, LLC)

The Ordinance adopts and approves a zoning map amendment from Commercial Two (C-2) to Suburban Residential Two (SR-2) for an approximate 0.48 acre site located at 7309 Dixie Highway, to allow an existing building to be used as a single-family home for rental.

The full text of Ordinance O-14-2023 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.

Councilmember Carroll raised concern with regard to the zoning classification. Business and Community Development Director, Joshua Hunt, stated the reason the property was zone SR-2, instead of SR-1, was the minimum density standards for SR-1 is five acres. Additionally, the property currently abuts a SR-2 Zone and therefore the property was permitted to be changed to residential zoning. Mr. Hunt explained any possible future amendment would be required to go through an approval process.

No further discussion was necessitated. Therefore, Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance O-14-2023. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER MO-9-2023:

Mayor Aubuchon read Municipal Order MO-9-2023. A Municipal Order Approving the appointment of Thomas R. Nienaber, Skees, Wilson & Nienaber, PLLC, as City Attorney and Authorizing Julie M. Aubuchon, as Mayor, to execute any and all documents for their services on behalf of the City.

Councilmember Osborne made a motion to take action on the Municipal Order MO-9-2023 with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

Councilmember Osborne stated it was an honor for Mr. Nienaber to be selected as the city attorney. He stated Mr. Nienaber is well qualified and has a longstanding history with the city. Councilmember Osborne expressed his appreciation for Mr. Nienaber.

Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to approve Municipal Order MO-9-2023. Councilmember Osborne motioned to approve Municipal Order MO-9-2023 with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Mayor Aubuchon reminded everyone the 9/11 NEVER FORGET Mobile Exhibit was at the Florence Government Center. She stated the Opening Ceremony was held over the weekend and there were several first responders in attendance and the parade transporting the exhibit to the campus was a site to see. The exhibit is open daily from 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., except May 12, when the hours will be 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. On that evening, Mayor Aubuchon stated the Florence Y'all's will host a First Responders Game Night. First responders and their families will get in free. Additionally, the firefighters from the 9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit will also be in attendance. During the game, all first responders will be invited onto the field for a special tribute. For more information, she encouraged everyone to visit the website of the Florence Y'all's – www.florenceyalls.com.
- Mayor Aubuchon announced there would be a Freedom Brewing Company Groundbreaking Release Ceremony tomorrow, May 10 at 2:00 p.m. at 7950 Freedom Way. She stated the ceremony would be held directly behind the Florence Y'all's and Thomas More Stadium. The Freedom Brewing Company & the Pickleball Ranch are expected to open in the spring of 2024.
- Mayor Aubuchon informed everyone the Florence Police Department Community Resource Officers and Volunteers in Policing would be at the Florence Old Navy store, 7719 Mall Road, Saturday, May 13, from noon until 2:00 p.m. All are invited to stop by, say hello, and pick up some Florence Police swag. She stated to be sure to get a fingerprint and photo ID file for all children, provided by the National Child Safety Council, to be used for parents and guardians to record and keep fingerprints and dental records of their children in case of an emergency.
- Mayor Aubuchon reminded everyone the BAWAC Community Rehabilitation Center will host their 50th Anniversary Celebration with a Ribbon Cutting on Wednesday, May 17 at 2:00 p.m. The event will be held at their location, 7970 Kentucky Drive, Florence.
- Mayor Aubuchon reminded everyone Public Works Night Out would be held on Tuesday, May 23, at the Florence Mall Parking lot from 4:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Mayor Aubuchon encouraged everyone to come out.
- Mayor Aubuchon informed everyone the city was still accepting applications for participants in the Memorial Day Parade. Application deadline to participate in the parade is May 15. Information and the application to participate can be found on the city website.
- Mayor Aubuchon reminded everyone the Florence Aquatic Center will open May 27 and hours of operation will be 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. She stated the weather is beginning to feel like summer.
- Mayor Aubuchon informed everyone city offices would be closed on Monday, Memorial Day, May 29.

CLOSED SESSION:

There was no need for Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting. Councilmember Carroll so moved, with a second from Councilmember Winn. **Councilmembers present voted aye**, the time being 4:16 p.m.

APPROVED:

/s/ Julie M. Aubuchon
Julie M. Aubuchon, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Kramer
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk

