



**Florence City Council
Business Meeting
Tuesday, June 27, 2023
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in regular session on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at 6:00 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 regular meeting to order and declared the regular session open for the presentation of all city business.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Aubuchon and Members of City Council recited the invocation.

All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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: City Attorney, Thomas R. Nienaber; CFO/HR, Linda Chapman; Fire/EMS Chief, Rodney Wren; Police Lieutenant, Jeff Mallery; Public Services Director, Eric Hall; Business & Community Development Director, Joshua Hunt; City Engineer, Bill Viox; City Clerk, Melissa Kramer; Videographer, Jay Gordon; and Police Lieutenant, Nathan Rettig.

The following were also present in the audience: Resident of Florence, Naomi Liebson; Resident of Florence, Karla Alonso; Resident of Florence, Jonathan Andrews; Resident of Florence, Carolyn Blanton; Resident of Florence, Shirley Pieper; Resident of Florence, Brad Cable; Resident of Florence, Angie Cable; Resident of Florence, Thomas Judd; Resident of Florence, Nancy Corman; and Northern Kentucky Tribune Reporter, Trisha Scheyer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2023, business meeting. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve the minutes with a second from Councilmember Kemper.

Councilmember Chambers noted a correction to the minutes on page 2 with regard to Municipal Order MO-11-2023. Upon correction of the minutes, Councilmember Carroll motioned to approve the corrected minutes with a second from Councilmember Kemper. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

SECOND READING ORDINANCE O-15-2023:

Mayor Aubuchon read Ordinance O-15-2023. An Ordinance of the City of Florence, Kentucky, amending the budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year of the City. (Amendment #2). The purposes of this amendment are: (a) to reflect an increase in General Fund – Departmental Expenditures for the Public Service Department, the Police Department, and the Fire Department; (b) to reflect an increase in General Fund Transfers for water and sewer fund transfers to cover expenses incurred by that fund for projects using the ARPA grant funds; (c) to reflect anticipated revenues/expenditures for the Aquatic Center Fund; (d) to reflect anticipated revenues in Golf Course Fund Revenues; (e) to reflect increases in Golf Course Fund Expenditures for wages, contractual services, supplies, utilities, and building maintenance; (f) to reflect the transfer from the General Fund for reimbursement of expenses incurred for various projects using ARPA grant funds; and (g) to reflect an increase in Water/Sewer Fund expenses for water purchases, motor fuels, and new service meter purchases line items.

Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance O-15-2023. Councilmember Carroll motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Winn. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

SECOND READING ORDINANCE O-16-2023:

Mayor Aubuchon read Ordinance O-16-2023. An Ordinance of the City of Florence, Kentucky, adopting the official budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year of the city.

This Ordinance adopts the fiscal year 2023-2024 budget of the City, including the General Fund, the Municipal Aid Road Fund, the Infrastructure Fund, the Asset Forfeiture Fund, the Aquatic Center Fund, the Water & Sewer Fund, the World of Golf Fund, and the Health and Dental Fund. Budgeted resources and expenditures are as shown on Exhibit “A”.

The full text of Ordinance O-16-2023, 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.

Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance O-16-2023. Councilmember Carroll motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Osborne. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

SECOND READING ORDINANCE O-17-2023:

Mayor Aubuchon read Ordinance O-17-2023. An Ordinance relating to personnel; amending Ordinance No. O-21-22 relating to personnel policies, job descriptions, authorized positions, and the pay plan.

This Ordinance makes revisions to the Job Descriptions, Pay Plan, List of Authorized Position Sections, and Personnel Policies and Procedures.

The full text of Ordinance O-17-2023, 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.

Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance O-17-2023. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Kemper. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – ORDINANCE O-18-2023:

Based on correspondence received from an organization FFRF Action Fund, Mayor Aubuchon stated the city attorney would review the correspondence and called for a motion to defer the discussion of Ordinance O-18-2023. Councilmember Carroll motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Kemper. **All councilmembers present voted aye.**

FIRST READING ORDINANCE O-19-2023:

Mayor Aubuchon read Ordinance O-19-2023. An Ordinance adopting and approving a Zoning Map Amendment from Union Commercial/Planned Development (UC/PD) to Urban Residential One/Planned Development (UR-1/PD) for an approximate 0.5 acre site located at 2011 Terrace Court, Florence, Kentucky, to allow the development of six (6) attached single-family residential units. (Terrace Townhomes, LLC)

The Ordinance adopts and approves a zoning map amendment from Union Commercial/Planned Development (UC/PD) to Urban Residential One/Planned Development (UR-1/PD) for an approximate 0.5 acre site located at 2011 Terrace Court, Florence, Kentucky, to allow the development of six (6) attached single-family residential units.

The full text of Ordinance O-19-2023 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.

Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance O-19-2023. Councilmember Winn motioned to approve, with a second from Councilmember Osborne.

Mayor Aubuchon called upon Joshua Hunt, Business and Community Development Director, with regard to discussion of Ordinance O-19-2023.

Mr. Hunt referred to his PowerPoint presentation and identified the proposed project. He stated the request was to remove the commercial zoning on the property and identify the property as urban residential zoning. The project would add six additional townhomes which would adhere to the current townhomes. Mr. Hunt stated the Boone County Planning Commission recommended approval with conditions including providing the zoning administrator rights to amend the plan, sidewalk requirements for Terrace Court, provide the zoning administrator rights to amend landscaping, and a sidewalk to be installed on Cedar Terrace. Mr. Hunt advised the Florence Planning & Zoning Committee met and recommended approval with the amendment of condition one and three from the Boone County Planning Commission. The conditions included that all modifications align with the agreements made by the Florence City Council and must receive approval by the city prior to the zoning administrator approval.

No further questions or comments were necessitated. Therefore, based on the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance O-19-2023 by Councilmember Winn, with a second from Councilmember Osborne, **all councilmembers present voted aye.**

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – ORDINANCE O-20-2023:

Mayor Aubuchon called upon Joshua Hunt, Business and Community Development Director, with regard to Ordinance O-20-2023. Mr. Hunt advised the request was for a change in a concept development plan by Electrify America. The proposal was for fourteen charging stations at 4990 Houston Road. The Boone County Planning Commission reviewed and recommended approval. Within the last week, Mr. Hunt advised Electrify America notified the City of Florence that they were withdrawing their request. Therefore, the proposed project is null and void. Electrify America would have to initiate the process again should they desire to proceed.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

- Mayor Aubuchon informed everyone the first Summer Concert Series was a success. She encouraged everyone to mark their calendars for the next concert on August 11 featuring music by London Street and the School of Rock.
- Mayor Aubuchon announced the Florence Police Department Community Resource Officers and Volunteers in Policing would be at the Florence Dick’s Sporting Goods Wednesday, June 28th, from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. She encouraged everyone to stop by, say hello, and pick up some Florence Police swag.
- Mayor Aubuchon reminded everyone the City of Florence would celebrate Independence Day with a “Celebrate Independence Day” event on July 3 from 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. She stated there would be food trucks, vendors, live music, featuring our Florence Community Band at 7:00 p.m. and DJ Nick beginning at 8:00 p.m., and a fireworks display at 10:00 p.m. Rain date for fireworks will be July 4 at 10:00 p.m.
- Mayor Aubuchon reminded everyone in observance of Independence Day, city offices would be closed on July 4 and the Caucus Meeting would be canceled.

RECOGNITION:

Mayor Aubuchon asked if any of the following desired recognition:

Members of City Council:

Councilmember Carroll expressed his thanks for the summer concert sponsored by local businesses including Heritage Bank.

Mayor Aubuchon inquired of the event Councilmember Carroll attended earlier in the day.

Councilmember Carroll stated he attended the free fresh food distribution held at Florence Christian Church. He was happy to have participated and believed it was a great way to give back to the area and help those in need. He expressed his concern for those receiving the assistance and was appreciative of all the faith based organizations within the city that provide assistance.

With the passage of the budget, Mayor Aubuchon was pleased with the newly created position of a Human Services Coordinator for the city. She believes this position will be able assist and collaborate with local organizations to help those in need which will have a significant positive impact on the community. Mayor Aubuchon expressed her appreciation to city council for approving the position.

Councilmember Kemper thanked Mayor Aubuchon for attending two of the Florence Hammerheads swim meets. She expressed her appreciation for the Mayor and the interest Mayor Aubuchon demonstrated.

Department Heads:

Fire/EMS Chief, Rodney Wren:
Chief Wren did not desire recognition.

Public Services Director, Eric Hall:
Mr. Hall did not desire recognition.

Police Lieutenant, Jeff Mallery:
Lt. Mallery did not desire recognition.

Members of the Audience:

Resident of Florence, Naomi Liebson, inquired with regard to the new position created by the city and which organizations the person would work with.

Mayor Aubuchon stated the position would assist with various organizations and members of the community. The position was a new position and she requested patience as there were community pieces and partners the person will be able to assist and bridge the gap amongst the various needs of the community.

Ms. Liebson expressed her concern with the growing need for more electric vehicle charging stations within the community. She encouraged everyone to read the Inflation Reduction Act passed by President Biden. She believed Florence was behind the curve and recommended the city review to possibly have the ability to receive funds from the program.

Mayor Aubuchon thanked Ms. Liebson for her comments and agreed that anything that could be done for the environment was awesome. She commended Ms. Liebson's passion.

Ms. Liebson stated her friend Brittany would be happy to provide information regarding the Inflation Reduction Act and she encouraged the city to change the fleet to electric and use solar panels.

Mayor Aubuchon called upon Joshua Hunt, Business and Community Development Director, with regard to future projects and electrical charging stations. Mr. Hunt stated the city is currently reviewing a zoning text amendment with regard to electrical vehicle charging stations.

Ms. Liebson inquired if her friend could attend a meeting and Mayor Aubuchon instructed Ms. Liebson to contact her for a meeting.

CLOSED SESSION:

There was no need for Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

APPROVED:

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Kramer
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk

