



**Florence City Council
Special Meeting
Wednesday, May 7, 2025
11:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Florence, Kentucky, met in special session on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at the Rosetta Training Facility, 175 Rosetta Drive, 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.

The following six (6) members of council were present: Angie Cable, Lesley Chambers, David A. Schneider, Diane E. Whalen (Vice Mayor), Patricia Wingo, and Gary Winn.

Staff members present were: Finance Director, Jason Lewis; Public Services Director, Eric Hall; Director of Administration/City Administrator, Joshua J. Hunt; Chief of Police, Jeff Mallery; Fire/EMS Chief, Rodney Wren; City Clerk, Melissa Kramer; Police Officer Rob Fulton and Police Officer Patrick Cottingham.

The following were also present in the audience: Assistant Fire/EMS Chief, Chris Miller; Assistant Fire/EMS Chief Ryan Born; Fire Marshal/Battalion Chief Randy Childress; Battalion Chief of Training, Matt Pleiman; Battalion Chief of EMS, Danielle Stiner; Emergency Medical Services Captain Eric Siemer; Human Resources Coordinator, Laura Grant; Resident of Florence, Karen Strayer; and Resident of Florence, Thomas Judd.

FY 2025-2026 BUDGET OVERVIEW:

Mayor Aubuchon welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. She advised that the department heads would be presenting and thanked everyone calling upon Jason Lewis, Finance Director.

Jason Lewis, Finance Director, discussed the proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget. Mr. Lewis advised the proposed budget continues the stringent philosophy that was adopted in previous fiscal years. This year's budget was to maintain a status quo in operating expenditure with that of the current fiscal year, less any additional requests that were approved during the budget process last year. Each department's budget had been adjusted to reflect the potential change in personnel costs by incorporating a C.O.L.A. of 2.8%. The remaining operating budget will be held the same as FY 2024-2025 in total except for some additional requests.

Presentations for changes to the personnel policy and an employee benefits overview were presented by Human Resources Coordinator, Laura Grant. Presentations with regard to departmental budget requests and city projects were provided by Finance Director, Jason Lewis; Chief of Police, Jeff Mallery; Fire/EMS Chief, Rodney Wren, Assistant Fire/EMS Chief Chris Miller; Assistant Fire/EMS Chief Ryan Born; Fire Marshal/Battalion Chief Randy Childress; Battalion Chief of Training, Matt Pleiman; Battalion Chief of EMS, Danielle Stiner; Public Services Director, Eric Hall; and Director of Administration/City Administrator, Joshua J. Hunt.

CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(f) appointment, discipline, or dismissal of personnel and KRS 61.810(1)(g) discussion between the city and representatives of a business entity – where open discussion would jeopardize the sitting, retention, expansion, or upgrading of the business. Councilmember Winn so moved with a second from Councilmember Schneider. **All councilmembers present voted aye, the time being 4:12 p.m.**

Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to come back into session after the Closed Session. Councilmember Winn so moved, with a second from Councilmember Schneider. **All councilmembers present voted aye, the time being 4:46 p.m.**

Following Closed Session, additional budgetary discussion was held with regard to the budgetary items for the Administration Department by Mr. Hunt and Mr. Lewis.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Aubuchon called for a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting. Councilmember Winn so moved, with a second from Councilmember Wingo. **Council approved by unanimous vote, the time being 5:25 p.m.**

APPROVED:

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Kramer
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk