



**CITY OF FLORENCE  
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 17, 2016**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Florence, Alabama, was held in the City Hall Auditorium in Florence at 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, May 17, 2016. President Jordan called the meeting to order. Councilmember Edwards gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Robert M. Leyde, City Clerk, performed the roll call and noted that six Councilmembers were present and a quorum was present with the following members of the City Council in attendance: Dave Smith, William D. Jordan, Hermon T. Graham, Barry Morris, Blake Edwards and Andrew Betterton.

**AGENDA**

**CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MAY 17, 2016**

**5:00 P.M.**

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1. Meeting called to order - President Jordan
  2. Invocation - Councilmember Graham
  3. Pledge of Allegiance
  4. Roll Call - President Jordan
  5. Approval of Agenda
  6. Message from Mayor
  7. Reports of Department Heads
  8. Reports of Standing Committees
  9. Public Hearings:
  10. Business from floor pertaining to items on the consent and regular agenda (5-minute time limit).
  11. Consent Agenda:

All matters listed within the Consent Agenda have been distributed to each member of the Florence City Council for reading and study, are considered to be routine, and will be enacted by one motion of the Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda by request. Please call 256-760-6400 for questions on Consent Agenda items prior to the Council meeting.

- (a) Approval of minutes of the May 3, 2016, meeting.
- (b) Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.
- (c) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with Affordable Tree Services, LLC, to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to remove six (6) trees from the Wood Avenue Right-of-Way, in the amount of \$19,500.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #931-48131, sponsored by Bill Batson.

- (d) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with Moores Heating and Air, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to replace duct work going to the Evidence Room that runs from one of the two 3 ton systems that services dispatch and add a new thermostat to the system at the Florence Police Department, in the amount of \$2,800.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, sponsored by Chief Tyler.
- (e) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into a contract with Shoals Exteriors, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals necessary to perform roof repairs at the Handy Recreation Center, in the amount of \$3,500.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #266-44410, sponsored by Todd Nix.
- (f) Resolution to approve a contract with the Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children of Florence/Lauderdale County (CASA), in the amount of \$3,000.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, sponsored by Mayor Haddock and the City Council.
- (g) Resolution to appropriate \$25,000.00 to the Lauderdale County District Attorney's Office to be used for the operation of One Place of the Shoals, sponsored by Mayor Haddock and the City Council.
- (h) Resolution to approve the quote from the Municipal Workers Compensation Fund, Inc., to provide workers' compensation re-insurance for the City of Florence for a period of one (1) year, beginning September 1, 2016, sponsored by Alanna Sullivan.
- (i) Resolution to approve the revised Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives regarding the City Employees' Retirement Plan submitted by Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC, through its Graystone Consulting Business, sponsored by Alanna Sullivan.
- (j) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into an Agreement with the Shoals Economic Development Authority to reimburse the City up to \$25,000.00 for funds used to provide fiber service at two locations of the Shoals Entrepreneurial Center, sponsored by Mayor Haddock.
- (k) Resolution to advance and reimburse travel expenses to City employees, sponsored by Mayor Haddock.

12. Regular Agenda:

- (a) Ordinance to amend Section 11-4 of the Code of Florence, Alabama, as amended, dealing with sale and use of fireworks within the City limits, sponsored by Mayor Haddock.
- (b) Resolution authorizing the City to appropriate funds from its Economic Development Fund to provide fiber service to two locations of the Shoals Entrepreneurial Center in the Florence-Lauderdale Industrial Park, with the Shoals Economic Development Authority reimbursing the City up to \$25,000.00 of the cost of providing the fiber service, sponsored by Mayor Haddock.

13. General Business:

- (a) Resolution – Alcohol Beverage License Application for a Special Event to serve On-Premises Beer-Wine by NATIONAL M.S. SOCIETY, ALABAMA-MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER, d/b/a M.S.: ROCKET TO THE SHOALS, located at 15 HIGHTOWER PLACE, FLORENCE, AL 35630, to take place on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 2016 sponsored by Robert M. Leyde.
- (b) Board Openings within the next 90 days or less:

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Beautification	Vacancy		
Hospital Board	Thelma Robinson	07/01/86	06/25/16
Housing/Const	Adam Burchell	06/19/12	09/30/15
	Jack Reid	09/06/05	09/30/15
	William Wynne (alt)	09/06/05	09/30/15
	Thomas Pigg (alt)	09/06/05	09/30/15
Parks & Rec	Mike Williams	12/01/09	10/30/14
Port Authority	Darlene Ballard (Joint)	08/02/11	07/21/16
SCOPE 310	Josh Webster	08/21/12	07/21/15
	Reginald Owens	04/01/14	07/21/16
	Vacancy		

14. Business from the public (5-minute time limit).

15. Council Members reports and/or comments (5-minute time limit).

Council member Morris  
Council member Edwards  
Council member Betterton  
Council member Smith  
Council member Graham  
Council member Jordan

16. Motion to Adjourn.

**Consent Agenda:**

President Jordan asked for a motion for approval of the Consent Agenda items. Councilmember Graham moved for approval of the ordinances and resolutions as follow, to-wit:

Councilmember Betterton seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Dave Smith  
William D. Jordan  
Hermon T. Graham  
Barry Morris  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

**Message from the Mayor:**

Mayor Haddock's comments follow, to wit:

**Report of Department Heads: None**

**Report of Standing Committee:**

Councilmember Betterton made comments regarding the building of a new Senior Center. Councilmember Betterton stated that a meeting with the seniors from “The Club” to discuss the building of a new center will be taking place very soon.

**Public Hearing: None**

**Business from the Floor Pertaining to Items on the Consent or Regular Agenda:**

Ms. Terri Whalen, 4637 County Road 24, appeared and made comments in opposition to Regular Agenda Item 12 (a) Ordinance to amend Section 11-4 of the Code of Florence, Alabama, as amended, dealing with sale and use of fireworks within the City limits, sponsored by Mayor Haddock. Ms. Whalen stated that she does not believe that this proposed ordinance is in the best interest of the citizens of Florence. Ms. Whalen further stated that this ordinance restricts new businesses from locating into the City of Florence.

Mr. Chase Holcombe, 308 Crossmore, appeared and made comments in opposition to Regular Agenda Item 12 (a) Ordinance to amend Section 11-4 of the Code of Florence, Alabama, as amended, dealing with sale and use of fireworks within the City limits, sponsored by Mayor Haddock. Mr. Holcombe stated that this ordinance benefits only one wholesale in Florence and that everyone here knows exactly who that is. Mr. Holcombe further stated that this business is using government to maintain its monopoly. Mr. Holcombe asked the Council to vote no or to at least vote against immediate consideration so that this matter could be investigated further.

**Consent Agenda:**

President Jordan asked for a motion for approval of the Consent Agenda items. Councilmember Betterton moved for approval of the ordinances and resolutions as follow, to-wit:

Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Dave Smith  
William D. Jordan  
Hermon T. Graham  
Barry Morris  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented an Ordinance to amend Section 11-4 of the Code of Florence, Alabama, as amended, dealing with sale and use of fireworks within the City limits, sponsored by Mayor Haddock. Said Ordinance follows, to wit:

Councilmember Betterton moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Ordinance.

Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Dave Smith  
William D. Jordan  
Hermon T. Graham  
Barry Morris  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Smith moved for adoption of the foregoing Ordinance. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Morris made comments in opposition to the proposed ordinance.

Councilmember Morris offered an amendment to Section A-4 to remove the word wholesaler and in Section 3, removed the word resident.

Councilmember Morris moved for the amendment. No second was made. Therefore, the motion died.

President Jordan stated that the City of Florence is very cautious regarding the handling of fireworks in the City. President Jordan further stated that this type of business requires highly trained personnel.

Councilmember Morris noted that if his amendment had passed the wholesaler coming from out of town would be highly experience in handling fireworks.

There being no further discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Dave Smith  
William D. Jordan  
Hermon T. Graham  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: Barry Morris

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution authorizing the City to appropriate funds from its Economic Development Fund to provide fiber service to two locations of the Shoals Entrepreneurial Center in the Florence-Lauderdale Industrial Park, with the Shoals Economic Development Authority reimbursing the City up to \$25,000.00 of the cost of providing the fiber service, sponsored by Mayor Haddock. Said Resolution follows, to wit:



Councilmember Morris moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Betterton seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Dave Smith  
William D. Jordan  
Hermon T. Graham  
Barry Morris  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing Ordinance. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Morris made comments in support of the proposed resolution. Councilmember Morris stated that it is time to come into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by providing high speed internet and fiber optic cable at the Florence-Lauderdale Industrial Park. Councilmember Morris further stated that the City Council is in favor of the proposed resolution and fully support President Jordan in this matter.

President Jordan made comments in support of the proposed resolution. President Jordan noted that this is an important tool to promote business in Florence.

There being no further discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Dave Smith  
William D. Jordan  
Hermon T. Graham  
Barry Morris  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution – Alcohol Beverage License Application for a Special Event to serve On-Premises Beer-Wine by NATIONAL M.S. SOCIETY, ALABAMA-MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER, d/b/a M.S.: ROCKET TO THE SHOALS, located at 15 HIGHTOWER PLACE, FLORENCE, AL 35630, to take place on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 2016 sponsored by Robert M. Leyde. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Morris moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Dave Smith  
William D. Jordan  
Hermon T. Graham  
Barry Morris  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Graham moved for adoption of the foregoing Ordinance. Councilmember Betterton seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Morris made comments in support of the proposed resolution. Councilmember Morris stated that he has friends and family who are afflicted with MS and that this is a fund raiser.

There being no further discussion, a vote taken on the motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Dave Smith  
William D. Jordan  
Hermon T. Graham  
Barry Morris  
Blake Edwards  
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Board Openings within the next 90 days or less:

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Beautification	Vacancy		
Hospital Board	Thelma Robinson	07/01/86	06/25/16
Housing/Const	Adam Burchell	06/19/12	09/30/15
	Jack Reid	09/06/05	09/30/15
	William Wynne (alt)	09/06/05	09/30/15
	Thomas Pigg (alt)	09/06/05	09/30/15
Parks & Rec	Mike Williams	12/01/09	10/30/14
Port Authority	Darlene Ballard (Joint)	08/02/11	07/21/16
SCOPE 310	Josh Webster	08/21/12	07/21/15
	Reginald Owens	04/01/14	07/21/16
	Vacancy		

**Business from the Public (5-minute time limit):**

Mr. Billy Ray Simpson, 755 West Alabama Street, appeared and made general comments regarding the City of Florence. Mr. Simpson complimented the Parks & Recreation Department for their hard work.

Dr. Eva Knight, 2810 Waldrige Street, appeared and presented a report of actions regarding the Senior Center to the Council. Dr. Knight stated that the Seniors have written letters that have been translated into Chinese and are to be sent to the owner of the property that currently houses the Senior Center.

Mr. Chase Holcombe, 308 Crossmore Drive, appeared and made comments regarding Regular Agenda Item, 12 (a) Ordinance to amend Section 11-4 of the Code of Florence, Alabama, as amended, dealing with sale and use of fireworks within the City limits, sponsored by Mayor Haddock.

Mr. Holcombe asked the Council to state in their closing comments the reason that Councilmember Morris's amendment was not supported. Mr. Holcombe questioned President Jordan's comments regarding the safety associated with fireworks.

Mr. John Hargett, appeared and also made comments regarding Regular Agenda Item 12 (a) Ordinance to amend Section 11-4 of the Code of Florence, Alabama, as amended, dealing with sale and use of fireworks within the City limits, sponsored by Mayor Haddock. Mr. Hargett questioned the residency requirements in this ordinance. Mr. Hargett stated that he does not believe the City can enforce these requirements.

**Council Reports and Comments:**

Councilmember Morris had no comments.

Councilmember Edwards had no comments.

Councilmember Betterton applauded the “Smoke on the Water” event that took place last Saturday in McFarland Park.

Councilmember Smith noted that work is progressing on the Indian Mound Museum, Tennessee Street Streetscape and Wood Avenue.

Councilmember Graham congratulated the students who were honored here tonight.

President Jordan reminded everyone that “Arts Alive” is this weekend in Wilson Park.

Councilmember Morris presented the closing prayer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK