



**CITY OF FLORENCE
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 18, 2017**

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, April 18, 2017. 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: Kaytrina Simmons, William D. Jordan, David Bradley, Michelle Eubanks, Blake Edwards and Andrew Betterton.

AGENDA

CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 18, 2017

5:00 P.M.

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1. Meeting called to order - President Jordan
 2. Invocation - Councilmember Edwards
 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 April 4, 2017, meeting.
- (b) Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.
- (c) Resolution to approve the contract with Dwight Springer, d/b/a Lauderdale Appraisal Company, to perform an appraisal on the property located at 1423 Huntsville Road, in the amount of \$2,500.00, to be paid from Fund 193, Account #954-48128, sponsored by Bill Batson.

- (d) Resolution to approve the contract with Computer Support Systems, Inc., to provide labor, equipment, materials and other incidentals, necessary for fiber optic termination and splicing for the Florence Police Department and other locations, in the amount of \$3,957.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #397.00 - Communication Equipment, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (e) Resolution to approve the contract with Chris Mitchell, d/b/a Chris Mitchell Management Consultants, to provide professional services necessary to perform cost of service studies and financial forecast and analysis for the Florence Utilities Electricity Department, in the amount of \$14,420.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #923.00 - Outside Services Employed, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.
- (f) Resolution to advance and reimburse travel expenses to City employees, sponsored by Mayor Holt.

12. Regular Agenda

- (a) Resolution to express the Council's opposition to SB31 (HB58) or any similar legislation that would further restrict the City's authority to properly license business that is transacted within the municipality, sponsored by Mayor Holt and the City Council.

13. General Business:

- (a) Board Openings within the next 90 days or less:

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Agri-Business	Leonard Skipworth	06/03/08	11/15/16
Civil Service Board	Calvin Durham	01/18/11	04/04/17
Library Board	Dihanne Westfield	11/15/11	12/01/16
SCOPE 310	Vacancy		
	Josh Webster	08/21/12	07/21/15
	Reginald Owens	04/01/14	07/21/16
Zoning Adjustments	Bob Sneed	06/21/11	05/17/17
	Charles Kelley	06/21/11	05/17/17
	Michael O'Steen	12/18/12	05/17/17
	(Supernumerary)		

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

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

Council member Simmons
 Council member Bradley
 Council member Eubanks
 Council member Edwards
 Council member Betterton
 Council member Jordan

16. Motion to Adjourn.

President Jordan asked for a motion for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Betterton moved for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Simmons seconded the motion.

There being no discussion, a vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons
William D. Jordan
David Bradley
Michelle Eubanks
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Message from the Mayor:

Mayor Holt noted that the City's Web-Site Committee recently met to discuss looking at companies that do website development for governments. Mayor Holt further noted that he would like to see communications within departments and the public improved.

Mayor Holt stated the "Walk of Honor" Committee met recently to review the 2017 nominations. Mayor Holt also stated that "Earth Day" that was held last weekend in McFarland Park was a great success.

Report of Department Heads: None

Report of Standing Committee:

Councilmember Edwards, Chairperson of the Utilities Committee, stated that the Committee met on April 10 to review the proposed 2017-2018 budgets for Water/Waste Water Department and Gas Department. Councilmember Edwards noted that those in attendance were President Jordan, Councilmember Eubanks, Mike Doyle, Water/Waste Water & Gas Manager and Vance Young, Utilities Controller. Councilmember Edwards stated that the committee reviewed the proposed budgets and voted to forward them to the full Council for approval.

Public Hearing: None

Business from the Floor Pertaining to Items on the Consent or Regular Agenda: None

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons
William D. Jordan
David Bradley
Michelle Eubanks
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution to express the Council's opposition to SB31 (HB58) or any similar legislation that would further restrict the City's authority to properly license business that is transacted within the municipality, sponsored by Mayor Holt and the City Council. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Eubanks moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons
William D. Jordan
David Bradley
Michelle Eubanks
Blake Edwards
Andrew Betterton

Noes: None

Councilmember Simmons moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution.

Councilmember Eubanks seconded the motion.

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

Ayes: Kaytrina Simmons
William D. Jordan
David Bradley
Michelle Eubanks
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>
Agri-Business	Leonard Skipworth	06/03/08	11/15/16
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SCOPE 310	Vacancy		
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	Reginald Owens	04/01/14	07/21/16
Zoning Adjustments	Bob Sneed	06/21/11	05/17/17
	Charles Kelley	06/21/11	05/17/17
	Michael O'Steen (Supernumerary)	12/18/12	05/17/17

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

Ms. Eva Knight, 2810 Waldrige Street, appeared and made comments regarding the purchasing of the former Florence Golf & Country Club property which is currently being leased by the City of Florence for use as a Senior Center. Ms. Knight asked the Council if the re obtaining of the property is going forward. Ms. Knight noted that the number of seniors that are using the facility is increasing. Ms. Knight further noted that the seniors will be having a yard sale at the Senior Center this weekend.

Mr. Sam Pendleton, 1934 Maple Avenue, appeared and made comments regarding the Florence/Lauderdale Detention Center. Mr. Pendleton stated that he would like the Council to work with the Lauderdale County Commission to improve the jail. Mr. Pendleton further stated that safety is for all citizens.

Mr. Pendleton also made comments regarding a proposed Ag Center that, if approved, could be built on Florence Blvd. Mr. Pendleton stated that in a recent meeting with City, County and State officials regarding the building of an Ag Center, Dan Barger, Chief Accountant/Treasurer, was mistreated by those officials. Mr. Pendleton further stated that the meeting was a bullying meeting trying to force the City to go along with them. Mr. Pendleton stated that the City does not need to provide utilities for the proposed project. Mr. Pendleton further stated that if new jobs and business expansions do not come from SEDA then the City does not need to take part in it.

Council Reports and Comments:

Councilmember Simmons thanked Ms. Knight and Mr. Pendleton for their comments and concerns. Councilmember Simmons noted that she had received numerous complaints regarding residents who are not keeping their properties cleaned. Councilmember Simmons further noted that she will be riding around in District 1 and will stop and ask residents to clean up their property. Councilmember Simmons asked all residents of District 1 to help keep their neighborhoods clean.

Councilmember Bradley also asked the residents of District 3 to help keep their property and neighborhoods clean.

Councilmember Bradley stated that he appreciated Ms. Knight and Mr. Pendleton's comments. Councilmember Bradley further stated that it is too early to know if the Ag Center would be a good or bad project.

Councilmember Eubanks' comments follow, to wit:

Councilmember Edwards stated that we live in a great city. Councilmember Edwards noted that there is a need for improving, such as paving some streets. Councilmember Edwards further noted that improvements such as Streetscape and the new Indian Mound Museum are great assets to our city. Councilmember Edwards stated that the new Animal Shelter project is moving forward.

Councilmember Betterton offered condolences to Hester Cope and her family on the recent death of her husband David. Councilmember Betterton noted that Mr. Cope was a champion for environmental concerns.

President Jordan thanked everyone for coming tonight. President Jordan made comments regarding the resolution that was passed tonight regarding pharmacies. President Jordan noted that this legislation, if passed, will prohibit cities from charging pharmacies a business license based on their gross sales of prescription drugs. President Jordan further noted that it will not reduce the cost of prescription drugs to consumers but will take money away from cities.

Councilmember Betterton presented the closing prayer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK