



**CITY OF FLORENCE  
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL  
DECEMBER 5, 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, December 5, 2017. President Jordan called the meeting to order. Councilmember Betterton gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Robert M. Leyde, City Clerk, performed the roll call and noted that five Councilmembers were present and a quorum was present with the following members of the City Council in attendance: Kaytrina Simmons, William D. Jordan, Michelle Eubanks, Blake Edwards and Andrew Betterton. David Bradley was absent.

**AMENDED AGENDA**

**CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**DECEMBER 5, 2017**

**5:00 P.M.**

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1. Meeting called to order - President Jordan
  2. Invocation- Councilmember Betterton
  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 November 21, 2017, meeting.
- (b) Confirm payment of bills by the City Treasurer.
- (c) Resolution to approve the contract with Professional Fire & Security, LLC, to provide the required annual fire alarm inspection for the Municipal City Hall Building, in the amount of \$2,120.00, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #266-41810 - Building Maintenance, sponsored by Gary Williamson.

- (d) Resolution to approve the contract with C & H Cooling & Heating, Inc., to provide labor, materials, equipment and incidentals necessary to install an actuator on a water valve in the Municipal Building, in the amount of \$1,789.23, to be paid from budgeted funds, Account #266-41810 - Building Maintenance, sponsored by Gary Williamson.
- (e) Resolution to approve the contract with Certified Alarm Co. Of Alabama, Inc., to provide labor, equipment and incidentals necessary to install security cameras and hardware at the Municipal Court, 651 South Seminary Street, in the amount of \$6,880.25, to be paid from budgeted Fund 110, Account #1147-42105, sponsored by Bill Musgrove.
- (f) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Shoals, Inc., to assist with placing five low income little brothers/little sisters with five volunteer matches, in the amount of \$3,300.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (g) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and Crossroads Community Outreach, to provide homeless services to low income persons, in the amount of \$1,500.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (h) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and the Florence Housing Authority/Family Self Sufficiency, to provide low income families with program needs, in the amount of \$3,000.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (i) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and the Florence Housing Authority/Transit, to provide transportation services to Section 8 clients, in the amount of \$8,500.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (j) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and the Food Bank of North Alabama, to provide a mobile food pantry to low income persons, in the amount of \$1,500.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (k) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and the Freedom House, to provide assistance to substance abuse clients, in the amount of \$3,000.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (l) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and the Healing Place, to provide grief support, counseling and education to low income families, in the amount of \$3,900.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (m) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and the Homeless Care Council, to provide eye care vouchers to homeless or low/moderate income individuals for eye exams and eyeglasses, in the amount of \$2,500.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (n) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments, to assist low income handicapped and elderly persons with transit assistance, in the amount of \$1,500.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (o) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and One Place of the Shoals, to provide training for volunteers interacting with victims of domestic violence and food for the pantry for those in need, in the amount of \$3,000.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (p) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and Safeplace, Inc., to provide client services by covering the costs of medication, healthcare visits, birth certificates and transportation services to low income persons, in the amount of \$1,200.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (q) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and Shoals Community Clinic, to provide medical and dental care for low/moderate income persons, in the amount of \$9,500.00, to be paid from Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.

- (r) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, to provide assistance to low income persons on final notice with up to \$100 towards their utility bill, rent assistance and food needs, in the amount of \$5,200.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (s) Resolution to approve the contract between the City of Florence and the Walk With Me Foundation, Inc., to provide arts enrichment programs to low/moderate income youth, in the amount of \$3,000.00, to be paid from budgeted Community Development Block Grant Funds, sponsored by Melissa Bailey.
- (t) Resolution to appoint Brian Murphy to the Florence Historical Board, sponsored by the City Council.
- (u) Resolution to reappoint Uhland O. Redd IV to the Florence Historical Board, sponsored by the City Council.
- (v) Resolution to reappoint Rod Whatley to the Florence Historical Board, sponsored by the City Council.
- (w) Resolution to reappoint Tom White to the Florence Historical Board, sponsored by the City Council. **(This item was removed)**
- (x) Resolution to reappoint Andrew Frith to the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library Board, sponsored by the City Council.
- (y) Resolution to reappoint Julie Trapp to the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library Board, sponsored by the City Council.
- (z) Resolution to reappoint Preston Hillis to the Florence Tree Commission, sponsored by the City Council.
- (aa) Resolution to reappoint Jacari Holt to the Florence Tree Commission, sponsored by the City Council.
- (bb) Resolution to advance and reimburse travel expenses to City employees, sponsored by Mayor Holt.

12. Regular Agenda:

- (a) Resolution to approve the revised In Aid of Construction Charges for the Florence Electricity Department, sponsored by Richard Morrissey. **(This item was removed)**

13. General Business:

- (a) Resolution - Alcohol Beverage License Application for a Special Event with On-Premises Beer & Wine by Amadeo Navarette, d/b/a FAMILY BIRTHDAY PARTY, located at 702 VETERANS DRIVE - FLORENCE COLISEUM, to take place on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde.

(b)	<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
	Agri-Business	Vacancy		
		Leonard Skipworth	06/03/08	11/15/17
	SCOPE 310	Vacancy		
		Josh Webster	08/21/12	07/21/15
		Reginald Owens	04/01/14	07/21/16

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

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

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

16. Motion to Adjourn.

President Jordan noted that it was decided at the earlier work session to remove Consent Agenda Item 11(w) Resolution to reappoint Tom White to the Florence Historical Board, sponsored by the City Council and Regular Agenda Item 12 (a) Resolution to approve the revised In Aid of Construction Charges for the Florence Electricity Department, sponsored by Richard Morrissey.

There being no further changes, President Jordan asked for a motion for approval of the amended agenda. Councilmember Betterton moved for approval of the amended agenda. Councilmember Eubanks seconded the motion.

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

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

Noes: None

**Message from the Mayor:**

Mayor Holt made comments regarding new businesses in Florence. Mayor Holt noted that to date the City has 132 new businesses that have opened in 2017. Mayor Holt further noted that is an increase from 2016. Mayor Holt stated that the unemployment rate in Florence is currently three and one half percent which is the lowest rate in a number of years.

**Report of Department Heads:**

**Report of Standing Committee:**

Councilmember Eubanks's Public Works Committee comments follow, to wit:

**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 Edwards moved for approval of the ordinances and resolutions as follow, to-wit:

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

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

Noes: None

City Clerk, Robert M. Leyde, presented a Resolution - Alcohol Beverage License Application for a Special Event with On-Premises Beer & Wine by Amadeo Navarette, d/b/a FAMILY BIRTHDAY PARTY, located at 702 VETERANS DRIVE - FLORENCE COLISEUM, to take place on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, FLORENCE, AL 35630, sponsored by Robert M. Leyde. Said Resolution follows, to wit:

Councilmember Betterton moved for immediate consideration of the foregoing Resolution.

President Jordan seconded the motion. A vote taken thereon resulted as follows:

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

Noes: None

Councilmember Eubanks moved for adoption of the foregoing Ordinance. Councilmember Simmons seconded the motion.

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

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

Noes: None

<u>Board</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Agri-Business	Vacancy Leonard Skipworth	06/03/08	11/15/17
SCOPE 310	Vacancy Josh Webster Reginald Owens	08/21/12 04/01/14	07/21/15 07/21/16

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

Mr. Sam Pendleton, 1934 Maple Avenue, former Councilmember, appeared and made comments regarding the City's financial problems. Mr. Pendleton stated that the current Council is running all over Mayor Holt. Mr. Pendleton further stated that Mayor Holt needs to lead, follow or get out of the way. Mr. Pendleton noted that this City does not have any money. Mr. Pendleton further noted that if this Council does not agree to pass a sales tax increase, then Mayor Holt needs to stop services such as leaf, brush and recycle collection until the Council agrees to the tax increase. Mr. Pendleton stated that Mayor Holt needs to use his power and veto every resolution and contract. Mr. Pendleton further stated that President Jordan needs to let the City's money run out. Mr. Pendleton stated that the City's finances do not look good. Mr. Pendleton also stated that Mayor Holt needs to instruct Dan Barger, City Treasurer, to transfer money to the Public Safety budgets to increase the number of police officers and fire fighters. Mr. Pendleton further stated Mayor Holt needs to cut services and let the citizens know that it is the Council's fault for not passing an increase in sales tax. Mr. Pendleton stated that the Council should not be allowed to be critical of City employees. Mr. Pendleton also stated the City is not doing well due to the lack of money. Mr. Pendleton further stated that the City will be out of money in a year and that there are a number of drainage problems that need correcting. Mr. Pendleton stated that the Council needs to understand that Mayor Holt and Dan Barger do not have a money tree. Mr. Pendleton again noted that the Council is "walking over" Mayor Holt. Mr. Pendleton stated that Mayor Holt needs to cut services until the Council agrees to adopt an increase in sales tax.

**Council Reports and Comments:**

Councilmember Betterton had no comments.

Councilmember Simmons had no comments

Councilmember Eubanks had no comments.

Councilmember Edwards had no comments.

President Jordan noted that it was a short but important agenda. President Jordan thanked Melissa Baily, Planning & Community Development Director, for her work on the CDBG funds.



Mayor Holt presented the closing prayer.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK