

MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORALA HELD MAY 8, 2023 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 6:30 PM. A WORKSHOP WAS HELD PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT 6:00 PM FOR AUDIT REVIEW.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Holley with the following members present:

Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis, Mayor Holley.

Absent: None.

The invocation was given by Councilwoman Mathis.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.

The first item on the Agenda was the approval of the minutes of the April 10, 2023 Council Meeting. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mathis. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The second item on the Agenda was approval of Special Call meeting minutes of April 18, 2023. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mathis. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The third item on the Agenda was approval of Special Call meeting minutes of April 26, 2023. Councilwoman Mathis made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wallace-Patton. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fourth item on the Agenda was approval of Special Call meeting minutes of April 27, 2023. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Franklin. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fifth item on the Agenda was the approval of accounts payable for May 8, 2023 and permission to pay bills as needed. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve accounts payable. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inabinett. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The next item on the Agenda was the presentation by Dr. Terri Dunn on the Covington County Youth Leadership program.

The next item on the Agenda was the recognition of all participants in the Covington County Youth Leadership program by the Mayor and Council: Alyssa Anderson, Caleb Chatman, Hannah Griffith, Marissa Jackson,

Graylon McCall, Katee Prescott and Claire Woodham. An anonymous citizen paid all of the student's fees for participation in the program at \$100 per student.

The sixth item on the Agenda was the approval to increase the City trash fee by \$1 for each resident. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mathis. After much discussion, this item was tabled until a later date. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The seventh item on the Agenda was the approval of Ordinance 20180402-City of Florala Handbook. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Robbins. After much discussion, this item was tabled until a later date. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The sixth item on the Agenda was Public Works Director, Chris Jackson regarding the RSA (Retirement State of Alabama) prior to the Council voting on the Resolutions needed to apply to the RSA.

The seventh item on the Agenda was to approve Resolution 20230508-Adopt Employee Retirement System of Alabama. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Franklin. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The eighth item on the Agenda was to approve Resolution 20230508-1-ACT 2011-676 Model for the RSA. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inabinett. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The ninth item on the Agenda was the topic of an alleyway off of Eleventh Ave brought before the Council by Tuwan Bryant. This alley has not been legally vacated and there is a form to fill out requesting alleyway to be vacated.

The tenth item on the Agenda was the approval to rescind Resolution 20221010-1-Permission to Burn. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inabinett. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The eleventh item on the Agenda was the approval of pay for officers presented by Chief McGraw. Chief McGraw requested that Chief pay be \$30 per hour, Assistant Chief pay be \$25 per hour and three patrol officers pay be \$22 per hour. Chief stated that he could run the department with five officers versus the seven full time officers budgeted and maintain the current budget for salary. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Robbins. After a brief discussion, the item was tabled until next meeting. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton,

Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The twelfth item on the Agenda was a request for approval from Marvin Williford to close Fourth Street from 3 PM to 11 PM for the Rock the Block concert to be held near the Florala Pharmacy. Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Franklin. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE**: Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The thirteenth item on the Agenda was a request for approval from 24<sup>th</sup> of June committee representative Doug White, to close Third Street for the Alligator Trot and to donate \$2,600 toward the cost of fireworks for 24<sup>th</sup> of June. Councilwoman Mathis made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wallace-Patton. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE**: Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fourteenth item on the Agenda was a request for approval from Williford, Zessin & Presley to have a neighborhood cookout on Eighth Ave and Fourth Street from 4 PM – 10 PM on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Robbins. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE**: Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fifteenth item on the Agenda was the presentation for consideration of the 2020 LEAD group for the kiosk at Lake Jackson boat ramp. Project team is: Amanda Laird Schofield, Evan Robbins, and Carol Morgan. Project goal is to replace the honor system method, increase revenue and modify the entry/exit to parking & boat ramp. Benefits: increase revenue, modernize boat launch area and use increased revenue for upgrades at the lake.

The sixteenth item on the Agenda was re-appoint Nathaniel Belcher to the Board of Adjustments. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Franklin. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE**: Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The seventeenth item on the Agenda was re-appoint Steve Franklin to the Board of Adjustments. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wallace-Patton. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE**: Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried

The eighteenth item on the Agenda was re-appoint Cindy Phillips to the Board of Adjustments. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Robbins. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE**: Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried

The nineteenth item on the Agenda was re-appoint David Willis to the Board of Adjustments. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Robbins. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE**: Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried

The twentieth item on the Agenda was re-appoint Gay Burleson as Supernumerary to the Board of Adjustments. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inabinett. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE**: Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried

The twenty-first item on the Agenda was re-appoint Gary Jones as Supernumerary to the Board of Adjustments. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Franklin. Mayor called for the vote **ROLL CALL VOTE**: Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried

Mayor Holley shared the city news: 24<sup>th</sup> of June Celebration is coming up and things are being approved. This event is a great thing for our City. Rock the Block is coming up on May 20<sup>th</sup> and with all of us working together as a community, this is a positive thing. Rangers will be at Lake Jackson for exercise training so come out and see them from 8 AM to 2 PM.

District Reports were called for:

**Councilwoman Wallace-Patton** No call from residents. Earth Day didn't happen but plan for it to happen at a later date. Rock the Block is coming up and they will have music, soda and other things. We need to clean up district one. Senior Center director is here and the new van should be delivered soon but there is not a definite date yet. Mayor Holley stated that this is an opportunity for us to gain this new van. Councilwoman Robbins and myself will be going to the ALM conference in Birmingham on Wednesday, May 10-13.

**Councilwoman Robbins** One call received to say thank you to the Street Department for mowing the right-of-way in front of the house. The financial report was provided to all Council member and Mayor. There was not a payroll report provided.

**Councilwoman Inabinett** The holes at the RV park have been patched. The RJE building needs to be pressure washed. There are two street lights that are out at 646 Fourth Street and kudzu is overgrowing 689 Fourth Street and there is concrete on the road that has been there since March.

**Councilwoman Franklin** No complaints. The library is doing great and the 2023 reading will be in June and July and it will be posted in the newspaper. There are no complaints for court.

**Councilwoman Mathis** No complaints. The cemetery is looking a lot better. Pat McDougald is doing well. The Recreation board is not meeting but they are putting in new members. They will be appointing three new members to include a new president and vice-president. The baseball team is competing and hope to start baseball for Florala.

**Street Department** Working hard to keep the grass cut and things cleaned up. The baseball field was being used a lot but is not being used now. Everything that the recreation board is doing is appreciated.

**Chief McGraw** No report.

Next Council meeting is on June 12, 2023.

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Gina Hendriks, City Clerk

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Terry Holley, Mayor