

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORALA  
HELD JANUARY 8, 2024 IN THE AUDITORIUM AT FLORALA MUNICIPAL COMPLEX.

Workshop was held from 6:00-6:30 PM for topics of discussion: Ambulance service, day to day operations by department, auditorium repair, rental property at 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, work orders, parking plan for Lake Jackson, overgrown property, HVAC at Florala Family Care, and police body cameras.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Robbins with the following members present:

Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins, Mayor Robbins. Absent: None.

The invocation was given by Ray Bundy.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by Dominique Nelson and all present.

The first item on the Agenda was the approval of the minutes of the December 11, 2024 Council Meeting. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2024 meeting and Councilwoman Inabinett seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The second item on the Agenda was approval of the accounts payable January 8, 2024 and to pay bills as needed. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The third item on the Agenda was approval for one reading of Ordinance 20240108-Parking at Lake Jackson. Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve and Councilman Robbins seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fourth item on the Agenda was approval of Ordinance 20240108-Parking at Lake Jackson. Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Wallace-Patton seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fifth item on the Agenda was public hearing to vacate city property at 11<sup>th</sup> Ave and 5<sup>th</sup> Street. No one showed up for this public meeting to contest vacating this landlocked property so we will proceed with a Resolution at the next Council meeting.

The sixth item on the Agenda was to approve Rod Sylvester as the new Municipal Court Judge starting the month of January 2024 for six months at \$550 per month. Judge Sylvester is replacing Judge Jones, who is retiring. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The seventh item on the Agenda was approval of Otis Dixon for Lake Jackson Park Manager. Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The eighth item on the Agenda was approval for setting up six email addresses for the police department. The cost of this is \$90 per month- \$1,080 per year. Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve and Councilman Robbins seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The ninth item on the Agenda was approval to send one councilmember to Advocacy Day on February 7<sup>th</sup> in Montgomery. It was recommended that Councilwoman Wallace-Patton go to represent Florala, with no mileage reimbursement. The cost is \$195 and it starts at 11 AM. Councilwoman Franklin made the motion and Councilwoman Wallace-Patton seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The tenth item on the Agenda was approval to amend the Police SOP in Chapter 14, pages 1-3, in regards to body-worn cameras. Councilman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Wallace-Patton seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The eleventh item on the Agenda was a request by Chief McGraw to donate \$300 to the Incidence Report Team (IRT). Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve this request and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The twelfth item on the Agenda was approval for the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief to attend the instructors conference April 16 through April 20, 2024. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Inabinett seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton,

Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin. Abstained: Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The thirteenth item on the Agenda was the approval to release bids for the roof at the visitor/museum center. The Dixon Foundation has donated funds for a new roof but cannot release those funds until bids are taken in for this project. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fourteenth item on the Agenda was discussion of the property at 23168 Fifth Avenue (theater property). This was discussed in workshop. Per Mayor Robbins, this property is a liability to the City and there has been caution tape put on the backside of the building because it is open and anyone can access this building. Mayor Robbins asked that Council think about what to do with this property and it will be on the next meeting Agenda.

The fifteenth item on the Agenda was approval of request from Florala High School to have eight railroad cross ties for use in building a bull pen to provide a safe and controlled environment for pitchers to practice. Councilman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Bryan, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The sixteenth item on the Agenda was request to hold Committee District reports until February due to impending inclement weather. Councilman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

District Reports were voted/approved to be held until meeting in February.

**Councilwoman Wallace-Patton**  
**Councilman Bryan**  
**Councilwoman Inabinett**  
**Councilman Franklin**  
**Councilman Robbins**  
**Chief McGraw**

Next Council meeting is February 12, 2023

Meeting adjourned.

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Gayle C. Robbins, Mayor

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Gina Hendriks, City Clerk