

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORALA  
HELD JANUARY 13, 2025 IN THE AUDITORIUM AT FLORALA MUNICIPAL COMPLEX.

Workshop was held from 6:00-6:30 PM for topics of discussion: salary for new officials, use of RJECC, LA Customs move, janitorial contract, chamber amendment.

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

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

The invocation was given by Kathy Murphy.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by Robert Price and all present.

The first item on the Agenda was the approval of the minutes of the December 9, 2024 Council Meeting. Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2024 meeting and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Robbins called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Abstain: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The second item on the Agenda was approval of the accounts payable January 13, 2025 and to pay bills as needed. 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, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The third item on the Agenda was approval of Resolution 20250113-Rezoning of property off Caton Road. Councilwoman Franklin made the motion to approve and Councilman Robbins 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.

The fourth item on the Agenda was approval of Ordinance 20250113-New elected officials salary for 2025. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to table this item until next meeting 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.

The fifth item on the Agenda was approval to amend Ordinance 20160222-Drug seizures. Councilman Robbins made the motion to waive the full reading and only read the amended changes and 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.

The sixth item on the Agenda was the approval to use the RJECC building for January 21 & 24 for city events. 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, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The seventh item on the Agenda was approval for LA Custom Graphics to move from their current location on Wall Avenue, into the old courtroom next door. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilman Robbins 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.

The eighth item on the Agenda was the approval of the janitorial contract with Crystal Jones for the Municipal Complex. 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, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The ninth item on the Agenda was the approval of the leadership contract with Kathy Murphy. 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, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The tenth item on the Agenda was the approval of the amended contract with the Chamber of Commerce. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin. Abstained: Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The eleventh item on the Agenda was approval for SEARPDC voluntary aide contribution of \$2,000 per request of Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission (SEARPDC). Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilman Robbins 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.

The twelfth item on the Agenda was the approval of the promotion of Sergeant Dorsey to Lieutenant/Investigator with a .25 per hour pay increase. 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, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The thirteenth item on the Agenda was the introduction of the new Enforcement Officer, Javier Steele. Javier started this position on December 25, 2024. Welcome Javier!

The fourteenth item on the Agenda was the approval of purchase of one police vehicle and insurance. 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, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fifteenth item on the Agenda was the Rebuild Alabama Gas funds report by Mayor Robbins. There is currently \$55,260.65 in the bank account with another \$86,277.30 in a certificate of deposit to earn interest. This is a total of \$141,547 and \$100,000 of these funds are ear-marked to be used as the match for the grant the city received to pave Gum and Fir Street.

The sixteenth item on the Agenda was the open position for District II. There are two residents that want to be considered for filling this unexpired term. The first resident is Fontella Thompson, and the second resident is Chad Carter. Both residents had the opportunity to speak for themselves in regard to filling this council position.

Community notes and events-Mayor Robbins: MLK march is on January 20<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM at the Carver Community Center; Cancer Freeze is on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

District Reports:

**Councilwoman Wallace-Patton** No report for the district. The recreation board has new by-laws, and all is quiet at the cemetery.

**Councilman Bryan** No report-open position.

**Councilwoman Inabinett** Old city yard

**Councilwoman Franklin** New member, Angela Wiggs is replacing Pat Strickland on the library board. A stop sign was vandalized on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

**Councilman Robbins** Complaint about Creech Road issues-county is involved to get this resolved.

**Mayor Robbins** Financial reports were provided to all council members.

**Public Comments:** None.

The LEAD graduates were presented with their certificates of graduation by LEAD instructor, Kathy Murphy. The graduates were: Whitney Simpson, Sherry Simpson, Ray Bryant, Lorena Bryant, Ronney Robbins, Rachel Cook, Jessie Coughenour, Robert Price, and Shelia Franklin.

Next Council meeting is February 10, 2025.

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Gayle C. Robbins, Mayor

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Gina Hendriks, City Clerk