

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORALA
HELD MARCH 9, 2026 IN THE AUDITORIUM AT FLORALA MUNICIPAL COMPLEX.

Workshop at 6:00 PM-Proposal to purchase property, Review proposed ordinance for side-by-side vehicles, towing and impound fees.

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

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

The invocation was given by Councilman Robbins.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by Councilman Carter and all present.

The first item on the Agenda was the approval of the minutes of the February 9, 2026 Council meeting. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2026 meeting with correction, and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The second item on the Agenda was approval of the accounts payable March 9, 2026 and to pay bills as needed. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Inabinett seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The third item on the Agenda was the approval of Resolution 20260309-Floralá Emergency Medical Service. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Franklin. Nays: Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilman Robbins. Motion failed.

The fourth item on the Agenda was approval of the Rebuild Alabama Act (RAA) additional paving. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Inabinett seconded the motion. There is \$21,000 left in the grant to complete paving from Fir Street to Gum Street. The request is for an additional \$17,000 from the city to complete paving from Gum Street to Hwy 331 on Second Avenue. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fifth item on the Agenda was a request to use the Rodney J Evans building on May 14th for a meet the candidates event. Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL**

VOTE: Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin. Abstained: Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The sixth item on the agenda was approval of a loan from the city with grant reimbursement back to the city once the grant funds are received, for \$2,387.50. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Abstained: Councilwoman Inabinett. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The seventh item on the Agenda was approval of the request from Heather Johnson and the Boy Scout troop representative to put in a Little Library with a flowering pot and bench at Percy Park. This is a project of the Boy Scout troop. Concrete will be used to weight the library down. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilman Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The eighth item on the Agenda was the proposal from the Carver Community Center to purchase the property next to the center from the city. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to table this until the legalities of selling this was researched and Councilman Robbins seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The ninth item on the Agenda was an update on the Recreation Board from Chairman, Dominica McGraw. The board by-laws and a current bank statement have been provided. Basketball season is complete and the board is having sign ups for football and cheer. A check was received from the county for \$5,300. The minutes have been submitted and the board wants to make everything transparent. The board is taking pre-orders for racks of ribs for \$35 on May 9th. On May 15th, there will be a 5K glow run at night. A t-shirt has been designed to sell to help raise money for the board.

The tenth item on the Agenda was the approval to appoint Demtrius Henderson to the Downtown Development Advisory Committee. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The eleventh item on the Agenda was the presentation by Presley Zessin for the Downtown Development Advisory Committee regarding beautification of the downtown area. Presley provided information to the council and mayor about the plants to be put in the flowerpots. The cost for this is already in the current budget.

The twelfth item on the Agenda is was the drainage issue brought to the council by Robin Doyle. Ms. Doyle stated that this drainage onto her property has been an issue for many years and that ALDOT said it is the city's responsibility to repair this issue. Per Chris Jackson, the city's responsibility is from sidewalk to sidewalk. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to table this issue until council has more information and can investigate to further understand this issue, and Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fourteenth item on the Agenda was a request by the Mayor to amend the agenda to add an item. Councilman Carter made the motion to approve and Councilman Robbins seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fifteenth item on the Agenda was the presentation by Assistant Chief Thigpen regarding the lease program for new police vehicles. This would entail trading in three Dodge Chargers for three trucks. This would be a four-year lease plan. The trucks are turnkey and would be 90 to 160 days out for receipt. The cost would be in the 2027 budget as the lease would not begin until one year and a day from receipt of vehicles. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilman Carter seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: Councilwoman Inabinett. Motion carried.

The sixteenth item on the Agenda was request from Councilman Robbins to amend the agenda. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Inabinett seconded the motion. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The seventeenth item on the Agenda to put the resolution for EMS back up for vote. Councilman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Inabinett seconded the motion. The council agreed to extend the contract for EMS with Advanced for one month until more information was found. The mayor is to call Advanced and a representative will be at the next council meeting. Mayor Burleson called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Franklin, Councilman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Community notes and events: A benefit for Marilyn Barnes will be held on March 21st at 3PM; Community Easter egg event will be on March 22nd from 3-5 PM-the city council will participate; Easter Sunday is on April 5th.

District Reports:

Councilwoman Wallace-Patton Operations-per Eric, large drain sections have been cleared on 7th and Goldenrod; gym should be complete this week-heaters in gym should be installed this week and the roll up door issue is being addressed; the cabin at the lake will have drywall finished this week; cleaning up city yard A with some bulldozing work to be done; work to get the drainage near the fire department clear; street department is doing an outstanding job, thank you. Cemetery had a meeting last Thursday at 10 AM; no complaints. Per Mayor, the street signs have been ordered and should be coming in soon.

Councilman Carter Senior Center serves 37 meals- 16 in house and 21 homebound; Older American Days is on May 7th, and the seniors will be participating.

Councilwoman Inabinett No complaints; tiny house at the lake is looking good and people are wanting to rent it; questions about when the museum will be open-per mayor, the stained-glass window are due Tuesday; the kiosk arms were up over the weekend-Otis fixed the issue.

Councilwoman Franklin District is quiet; issue at four way stop for drainage-the post has been removed and the city will provide a 4" pipe; Wysteria Lane issue-Lynn Rawls is retiring and Donaldson is taking over and will address the issue at that time-thank you to street department for a wonderful job; thank you to the police department-parking the police cars when not in use has helped in slowing speeders; hoping to have audits soon-2022 is complete with approximately 60 days to complete others; finance reports were provided.

Councilman Robbins No complaints. Had resident with a question about re-zoning property on 54; Court-magistrate was out for two weeks; Chief-no report.

Mayor Fire Dept-Chief Jones is at training; Recreation Board already spoke; finance reports have been provided.

Public Comments

Justin Wiggs: EMS spends a lot of time elsewhere when the city pays \$2,000 per month-responds to Lockhart, Oneika, Red Oak-I would encourage the mayor to talk to the fire chief-there are four employees at the fire department the are EMTs or in school for EMT and could provide simple triage while waiting for an ambulance. Ameripro EMS, Haynes, Advanced are in this area. With the \$24K being spent in a year, fire department could use to provide BML lifesaving procedure until EMS arrives.

Robin Doyle: Wanted to know when the alleyway behind her house would be addressed-a public hearing next month to address.

Demetrius Henderson: Wanted to know what he could tell the board regarding the property: the city need to investigate the legalities of selling.

Gay Burleson: Golf carts are not allowed in the RV park. Can the council address this? Temporary permit for campers? Speak with Otis and Susan.

Robin Doyle: Motorized golf carts have been on the path at the lake and electric bikes are not supposed to be on the walking path. The lake has become more popular and there are huge boats with huge motors at the lake now with babies and young children in the water creating a safety issue.

Patty Hughes: Wants to know what is happening with the meals at the Senior Center. Her brother cannot get a meal delivered to him. Senior Director responded that the meals have been cut by the state and there are only 16 meals in house and 21 meals to homebound per

day. Meals have been cut statewide. If there are extra on any given day and he is next on the list, then he can get a meal, but he is currently on the waiting list.

Robin Doyle: Florida has a farm share program where farmers take their harvest to churches for people that need food. Do we have this in Alabama? It needs to be checked into.

Next Council meeting is April 13, 2026.

Jeff Burleson, Mayor

Gina Hendriks, City Clerk