

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORALA  
HELD MARCH 9, 2020 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL

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

Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Mathis, Mayor Holley. Absent: Councilman Burleson.

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 February 3, 2020 Council Meeting. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inabinett. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The second item on the Agenda was the approval of accounts payable for March 9, 2020. Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve. 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 Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The third item of business was the approval of City of Florala joining Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Mathis seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fourth item of business was approval of Junior Firefighter Program as presented by Fire Department representative Robert Thomas. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Mathis seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fifth item of business was the approval of Senior Center Director position to Debra Gibbs. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Robbins seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The sixth item of business was the approval to hire Police Officer candidate Jesse Cowen. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Inabinett seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton,

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

The seventh item of business was the approval a banner type sign to be hung at Sass N Grit for a period of 6 months pending purchase of permit. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Inabinett seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The eighth item of business was the approval of the City providing two dumpsters in support of Economic Development. Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Wallace-Patton seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The next item on the Agenda was Mayor Holley speaking about the election held at the RJE Building on March 3, 2020. Mayor Holley thanked everyone that came out to vote and was glad for all the votes for Amendment 1. The Mayor announced that the runoff election would be held on March 31, 2020 at the RJE Building.

The ninth item of business was the approval of naming the recently purchased property where the old hospital is, Florala Medical Complex. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Wallace-Patton seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilwoman Mathis. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Holley added after the vote for naming the medical complex, that there is doctor, nurse and engineer looking at the hospital for a possible urgent care facility.

Mayor Holley stated that a quarter review of the budget was in progress and the results would be provided at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Holley shared the following points of interest of city news: A thank you letter was received by the City from John and Marsha Hooten for allowing and helping them attend the trails conference where they received a lot of information to help the City of Florala. The runoff election is to be held on March 31, 2020 at the RJE Building. The Glowrun was very successful. All of the outside lights at the RJE Building have been repaired and are now working-over 24 lights were repaired. The City is working with ALDOT to fix potholes on state and local roads. There have been improvements made at the RV park and items added for recreation purposes. Daylight Savings time occurred on March 8, 2020.

District Reports were called for:

**Councilwoman Wallace-Patton** Senior Center will be hiring Debra Gibbs (voted on in this meeting) and no complaints from this district.

**Councilwoman Robbins** Payroll breakdown report was provided to all council members. Financials from Wells Fargo and Southern Independent Bank were also provided. Wells Fargo branch will be closing June 10, 2020. Some signs in the district are leaning due to all of the rain and need to be shored up. Trash needs to be picked up. The Graceland business on Longview Avenue is closed down-when will the buildings be removed? Contacting John Davis to find out. Caton Road has some new residents from Montana. The Library received \$2K from the County Commission.

**Councilwoman Inabinett** The lake is doing well. The added recreation of volleyball and corn hole games is good. The pier across from the Church of Christ needs to be repaired by the bathroom-a child could fall through this hole. Wild life signs need repaired. Mayor Holley added that Jimmy Burleson is coming off of medical leave and will be back at work at the lake and he would look at the signs and the repairs needed.

**Councilman Burleson** No report.

**Councilwoman Mathis** Recreation Board has been busy with football. Baseball program has not come to fruition. Hopefully they will do some other kind of program for the kids-maybe movie night or swimming lessons. Mayor Holley added that Buddy York will be looking at the light poles in the downtown area that are not working and see what they need to be repaired. SOCOM building still needs to be addressed-Mayor Holley said he spoke to the lawyer regarding this tenant. This will be the last year this tenant will be in this building. Councilwoman Mathis stated there is a lot of cosmetic things that can be done to beautify downtown.

**Street** Discussed earlier in the meeting.

**Police** Chief Bedsole spoke regarding the police staff. They are one officer short. There were three applicants to apply and a recommendation was made for Jesse Cowen to get the position and this candidate will attend the Academy in May of 2020.

Next Council Meeting will be April 13, 2020 at 6:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned.

Adopted and approved this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

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Terry Holley, Mayor

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Gina Hendriks, City Clerk