

CITY OF FLORENCE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 2, 2015

1. Mayor Ore called the regular meeting of the Florence City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Police Chief Mike Delaurentis informed Council that our police K-9 Faroan died. He was injured about 2 weeks ago, experience an allergic reaction to drug treatment and died today. Our sympathy goes out to Sgt. Humphrey for the loss of his partner.

2. Roll call	-	Mayor Ore	-	Present
		Councilman Baker	-	Present
		Councilman Martinez	-	Present
		Councilman Edwards	-	Present
		Councilwoman Henager	-	Present
		Councilman Villagrana	-	Present
		Vacancy		

Others present – City Manager Mike Patterson, City Attorney Bryan Fredrickson, City Clerk Dori Williams, Finance Officer Mary Dice, City Planner Wade Broadhead, Chief Delaurentis, Public Works Supt. Sam Elstun

3. Approval of minutes – Councilman Baker moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held February 17, 2015 as presented. Seconded by Councilman Villagrana. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 1 abstention – Henager, 1 vacancy.

4. Visitors –

a. Chief Delaurentis presented a commendation to Police Administrative Assistant Nancy Barth for her dedication and professionalism for her actions above and beyond her duties in determining an error in the paper work for a person and kept him from going to jail. He presented Nancy with a meritorious service award.

Chief Delaurentis recognized Jessica Talbot and Michelle Crawford, E911 dispatchers for their calm action in helping to save a 5-day old infant and stated that their action reflect credit on the department. He presented them each a commendation for their quick action in saving the infant.

b. Alan Knisley, Florence Chamber of Commerce, requested that Council allow the Chamber the use of Pioneer Park on the first Wednesday of each month from June through September for Music in the Park. He also requested a street closure for Junktique to be held September 18th and 19th on Sante Fe from Main to 2nd Street. We will also need the Park for the craft fair both those days. He also requested a street closure on October 31st for Halloween Walk on Main Street from Church Street to Petroleum Avenue from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. He asked that the City partner with the Halloween Walk for insurance purposes.

Councilman Baker questioned how they want the city to partner with the insurance.

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It was stated that Pioneer Park is city property and there is no insurance issue but the Main Street closure requires a certificate of insurance to CDOT for the closure.

Councilman Baker moved to approve the Chamber request for use of Pioneer Park for Music in the Park, craft fair on September 18 and 19th, the street closure of Sante Fe from Main to 2nd street on September 18th and 19th and closure of Main Street from Church to Petroleum for Halloween Walk on October 31 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The City will partner with the Chamber on the Halloween Walk and provide the certificate of insurance to CDOT for the closure request. Seconded by Councilman Martinez.

Councilman Villagrana stated that he is tired of people coming before Council and asking for things when it is not on the agenda.

City Clerk Williams stated that she puts these types of request at the beginning of the meeting under visitors as a courtesy to them so they don't have to sit through the entire meeting. It is on the agenda tonight as a specific request for the use of the park and for a street closure. That denotes that the council will be requested to take some kind of action. If that is not how Council wishes to do business, then direct me to set the agenda and do not make these people feel like they have done something wrong. Until this point in time, the make up of the agenda has not been a problem. Just tell me how you want the agenda set from here on.

Councilman Edwards stated that he would like to have had something in the packet so he would know before hand what the details of the request is and we are not allowing opposition when the public does not know what streets are in the request. It seems that people who live on these streets should be allowed to oppose the closures. We need to do the right thing.

City Manager Patterson stated that this request could be table to next meeting and get the detail for next agenda and resubmit the request.

City Clerk Williams stated that Council could also request that each person requesting a street closure submit a statement signed by everyone who lives on the street that they are aware of the proposed closure and whether they agree with it or not.

Councilwoman Henager stated that for Americana we had to have a public meeting so make everyone aware of the streets that were being closed. She stated that she fully supports the chamber but we need to have the residents informed and put on the agenda under new business.

Roll call vote – 2 ayes, 4 nays – Henager, Villagrana, Edwards, Ore, 1 vacancy. Motion failed.

It was the consensus of Council that the Chamber provide a map of the area to be closed and that all residents of the area be notified of the date and time of the street closure for next regular meeting under new business as an action item. It needs to be clear on the agenda what streets will be closed.

d. Edwin Hill – request for use of Pioneer Park

Mr. Hill, Canon Acoustic Rose, would like to continue Music in the Park and would like to fill in the dates on Wednesdays that the Chamber is not using. It will be for all the Wednesdays except the first Wednesday from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Councilman Baker stated that this should also be treated just like a street closure and be put on the agenda for next regular meeting.

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City Manager Patterson stated that bookings for Pioneer Park pavilion are treated a little differently than public street closures. City Clerk Williams stated that Mr. Hill could call City Hall and book the pavilion. She stated that she would make sure that his dates are reserved on the park calendar.

e. Mike Vendetti, speaking for the Florence Senior Community Center, once again stated that they need to replace the roof at the center and need to get local historic designation to be able to get a grant.

He stated that the City needs to pass the historic preservation ordinance. There will be a public meeting on this on March 12th after the Planning Commission meeting to discuss the preservation ordinance.

5. Old Business –

a. 2nd reading Ordinance 1-2015 vacating 2 alleys and a portion of E 4th Street
City Planner Wade Broadhead stated that at last meeting the Ordinance passed on first reading with the stipulation by the City Attorney that the vacation plat be corrected. Wade stated that the plat has been corrected and it meets the standards for a vacation plat. Councilman Edwards moved to adopt Ordinance 1-2015 vacating two alleys and a portion of East 4th Street as a public road right of way, all located in Margo Park, City of Florence, on second reading. Seconded by Councilman Martinez. Roll call vote – 6 ayes, 1 vacancy.

b. 2nd reading Ordinance 2-1015 authorizing alcohol beverage tastings for licensed retail liquor stores and liquor licensed drug stores
Councilman Baker moved to adopt Ordinance 2-2015 authorizing alcohol beverage tastings on second reading. Seconded by Councilman Martinez. Roll call vote – 6 ayes, 1 vacancy.

c. Bruce Jensen – Steampunk road closure insurance
Bruce Jensen presented Council with a written statement from the Chamber of Commerce that they are sponsoring the Steampunk event and will be the responsible party. He also presented a written statement signed by all residents on Front Street that they are aware of the closure and do not have any issues. Now that the Chamber, who is a registered organization, is taking responsibility, we are asking that the City partner and cover the liability insurance for the event.

Councilman Villagrana moved to partner with the Florence Chamber of Commerce for the Steampunk event and cover the insurance for the event. Seconded by Councilman Edwards. Roll call vote – 6 ayes, 1 vacancy.

6. New Business –

a. Appointment to fill vacancy – Ward One
Mayor Ore stated that there are four letters of interest submitted by Deyon Boughton, Richard Upton, Patricia Smith and Shadrig Smith. City Clerk Williams verified that all four candidates possess the qualifications necessary to be appointed to the vacancy. Mayor Ore gave each candidate the opportunity to speak prior to the Council vote.

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Deyon Boughton was not present. Richard Upton, Patricia Smith and Shadrig Smith all spoke on their interest in being appointed to fill the vacancy.

Richard Upton, 401 Tanner Avenue, stated his involvement as a member of the Planning Commission, representative to the Gold Belt Tour, service on the Board of Zoning Adjustments and his repeated attendance at City Council meetings. He stated that he has time to attend all meetings of Council whether afternoon or evenings.

Patricia Smith, 576 Brookeway, stated that she has been a resident of Ward One for 15 years and would like to do her part as a concerned citizen but would not be able to attend day time meetings.

Shadrig Smith, 509 Brookeway, stated that he is a resident of Ward One, is married and has 2 small children and has a vested interest in the community. He stated that he does not have much experience but would like the opportunity to serve on Council. He stated that he felt he would be able to make most meetings.

Mayor Ore stated that all candidates possess the qualifications for appointment and that Council would now vote by secret ballot.

The results of the first ballot are as follows:

Deyon Boughton	0
Richard Upton	4
Patricia Smith	1
Shadrig Smith	1

Richard Upton was elected to fill the vacancy in Ward One by majority vote.

City Attorney Fredrickson administered the Oath of Office to Richard Upton as Councilman for Ward One. Richard Upton was then seated.

Councilman Baker stated that Richard Upton is a member of the Planning Commission and will now have to resign his seat. That makes for a vacancy on the Commission. He encouraged each of the candidates to consider filling that planning commission vacancy.

b. 3.2 beer license renewal – Kwik Stop #9 – 217 Church Street

City Clerk Williams stated that the application is complete, the fees have been paid and the police report is attached.

Councilman Villagrana moved to approve the 3.2 beer license renewal for Kwik Stop #9 at 217 Church Street. Seconded by Councilman Baker. Roll call vote -7 ayes.

c. Set meeting date – Elks special event permit – Steampunk event

Councilwoman Henager moved to set the public hearing for the application by the Florence Elks for a special event liquor license for Steampunk for March 16, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Baker. Roll call vote – 7 ayes.

d. Request for special meeting/Public Hearing – Elk’s special event permit

City Clerk Williams stated that the Elk’s Club forgot to submit the application for the special event permit for the Fireman’s Ball to be held on March 21st. Council would have to agree to hold a special meeting in order to have a public hearing on March 9th in order to get the application to the State at least 10 days prior to the event.

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Councilman Villagrana moved to hold a special meeting on March 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. to hold a public hearing on the special event license for the Florence Elks Club for the Fireman's Ball. Seconded by Councilman Baker. Roll call vote – 6 ayes, 1 nay – Edwards.

7. Mayor's report –

Committee reports – Councilman Villagrana stated that he would like to Mayor to write a letter recognizing the Florence High School athletes for their accomplishments in wrestling and basketball.

Councilwoman Henager stated that the COG has appointed her as the Fremont County Municipal Board member. She stated that she finished her training last week and was not aware of the many aspects of life that they are involved in. They are ageing, housing, Wick, headstart, partner with work force to help employers, business loans, transit and recycling.

Councilman Baker stated that he has been re-appointed to the County Board of Zoning Adjustments.

Councilman Edwards reported that he attended the FEDC meeting and we need to know that they recognized Florence as competitor in economic development.

Council has been invited to the Arkansas River Basin dinner on April 13th at the Fortino Ballroom at PCC.

8. Finance Officer report – no report

9. City Attorney report – no report

10. City Planner report –

City Planner Wade Broadhead stated that he is requesting that Council approve the addendum to the agreement that the City has with Tom Duke who is doing the Downtown Historic assessment. The contract has been extended for one year and there has been some required language added to the agreement as required by the state. There is no change in the scope of services or in the contract amount.

Councilman Villagrana moved to approve the addendum to the agreement for services with Tom Duke on the Downtown Historic assessment to extend the date to March 15, 2106. Seconded by Councilman Baker. Roll call vote – 7 ayes.

Wade informed Council that there will be a public meeting on the proposed historic preservation ordinance on March 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. and he encouraged Council to attend.

There will be another Imagine Florence meeting and this is on Transportation on March 25th at 7:00. Carlos Hernandez will be the speaker.

11. City Manager report –

City Manager Mike Patterson reminded Council of the Mayor/Manager coffee chat on Thursday at 8:00 a.m. at the Rose Bud Café.

The City Officials chat has been moved to March 16th at 6:00 p.m. and will include discussion on the ½ cent sales tax.

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12. Bills allowed – Councilman Baker moved to approve the bills for payment as presented. Seconded by Councilman Villagrana. Roll call vote – 7 ayes.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.