

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORALA  
HELD JANUARY 13, 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, Councilman Burleson, Mayor Holley. Absent: Councilwoman Mathis.

The invocation was given by Councilman Burleson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.

The first item on the Agenda was the approval of the minutes of the December 9, 2019 Council Meeting. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burleson. Mayor called for the vote.

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

The second item on the Agenda was the approval of the Special Call minutes of the December 16, 2019 Council Meeting. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve the Special Call minutes of the December 16, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burleson. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilman Burleson. Abstained: Councilwoman Inabinett. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The third item on the Agenda was the approval of accounts payable for January 13, 2020. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burleson. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fourth item of business was the approval of Resolution 20200113 Severe Weather Preparedness. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilman Burleson seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fifth item of business was the approval of Human Trafficking Proclamation. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilman Burleson seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The sixth item of business was the presentation by Jennifer Davidson of Cancer Freeze to request the use of the RJE building and Lake area. 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, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Next on the agenda was an update from Michael Scroggins on the Phoenix Building. Mr. Scroggins stated it would be a good year in 2020. Thanked the Council and Mayor for supporting all the efforts to improve downtown. The building is progressing well. The dirt has been put in to get ready for the concrete slab floor to be poured. He is currently waiting on the design from the architect. In the meantime, he is cleaning up the window structures. Phase 2 is architect and design to show the future plan which he expects to have this time next month.

The seventh item of business was the approval for matching funds of \$300 to send John and Marsha Hooten to the 2020 Recreational Trails Conference on February 6 & 7<sup>th</sup>. Councilwoman Wallace-Patton made the motion to approve and Councilman Burleson seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The eighth item of business was the approval of \$2,500 for Drug Task Force Funding. Councilman Burleson 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, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Next on the agenda was the announcement of the Alabama Communities of Excellence (ACE) meeting to be held at the RJE Building on January 15, 2020. The ACE committee are meeting to discuss the assessment that was performed on the City of Florala late in the year 2019. Three sponsors provided lunch for the group of eight Committee members.

The ninth item of business was the approval of funding of \$500 to send the Mayor & Pro Tem to the Wiregrass Resource Conservative Development (RC&D) workshops. 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 Inabinett, Councilman Burleson. Abstained: Councilwoman Robbins. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The tenth item of business was the approval of \$600 matching funds for the Florala Middle School Update from The Foundation. Mayor Holley provided an update on the status of the roofing project to repair the damage caused by ABC while delivering shingles. 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, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The eleventh item of business was the approval of hiring Kathy Bulger for the Senior Center Director. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilman Burleson seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The twelfth item of business was the approval of appointing and/or re-appointing to the Industrial Board Kenny Johnson, Ray Bundy, Whitney Simpson. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilman Burleson seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The thirteenth item of business was the approval of appointing and/or re-appointing to the Downtown Development Board Sue Mathis, Taylor Smith, Josh Menge. 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, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fourteenth item of business was the approval of appointing and/or re-appointing to the Board of Adjustments David Willis, Gay Burleson, Gary Jones, Steve Franklin, Nathaniel Belcher. 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, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Holley shared the following points of interest of city news: Ribbon cutting for The Cottage on Lake Jackson will be held on January 8 at 10 AM. The ACE committee will be here on January 15 to meet at RJE Building. City Hall and Utilities will be closed on January 20 for MLK. Black History Gala will be held this month and tickets can be purchased from Mr. Joe Barnes. The Cancer Freeze donated a new ice machine to the RJE building.

District Reports were called for:

**Councilwoman Wallace-Patton** MLK is Monday January 20<sup>th</sup> and the march starts at 11 AM at the Carver Center. Black History Gala will be held on February 8<sup>th</sup> at the RJE Building with guest speaker Kevin Mulkey. The Senior Center Director vacancy will be filled with Kathy Bulger.

**Councilwoman Robbins** Library Board meeting on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Councilwoman Robbins provided a listing of eBooks and statistics for the year in addition to the payroll breakdown report.

Councilwoman Robbins also stated that Mr. Harvey O. Bass Jr had passed away at 98 years of age. Mr. Bass was a dispatcher for Florala for 30 years, worked for Jackson Lumber Company,

was a radio operator, in the National Guard in the 631<sup>st</sup> tank in France and was part of General Patton's Army. Mr. Bass was awarded 4 bronze stars and featured in the Andalusia Star.

**Councilwoman Inabinett** Lake is doing well. There are only 4 sites left available at the RV park. There are still ruts in the road on Cactus and Fourth. Also, Begonia and 4<sup>th</sup> needs repaired.

**Councilman Burleson** Has not talked to Aron to get a court update. No complaints for this district.

**Councilwoman Mathis** Lake Jackson is looking good.

**Street** The department has been working hard to keep up with picking up the yard debris and other trash through out the City.

**Police** There is a vacancy for one officer. Police staff is currently short handed and Chief suggests that the current offices be allowed to take their City vehicle home during the time frame that they are short handed for Officers that live within the City limits. The Officer is responsible for that car and care of the vehicle. Officer Lee Edgar will be missed. Officer Edgar will be filling in some as a part time Officer.

The fifteenth item of business was the approval of Police Officers that live within the City Limits to take the Police vehicle home on a temporary basis due to shortage of staff. Councilwoman Inabinett made the motion to approve and Councilman Burleson seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The sixteenth item of business was the approval to hire new Police Officer pending interview process of applicant Jesse Cowen. Councilwoman Robbins made the motion to approve and Councilman Burleson seconded the motion. Mayor called for the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yeas: Councilwoman Wallace-Patton, Councilwoman Robbins, Councilwoman Inabinett, Councilman Burleson. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Holley stated for Economic Development that the new LED lights will be installed into a few lights by the Post Office up one block to see how they look. This should happen within the next 2 weeks.

Mayor Holley stated that the next Council Meeting would be held on February 3, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. with a workshop to be held prior at 6 PM.

Meeting adjourned.

Adopted and approved this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2020.



Gina Hendriks, City Clerk



Terry Holley, Mayor