



**REGULAR MEETING OF FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021 – 1:00 P.M.
CITY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
324 WEST EVANS STREET
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Teresa Myers Ervin, Mayor Pro Tempore George Jebaily, Councilwoman Pat Gibson-Hye Moore, Councilwoman Lethonia Barnes, Councilman Chaquez T. McCall, Councilman Bryan A. Braddock and Councilman C. William Schofield.

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Randall S. Osterman, City Manager; Mr. James W. Peterson, Jr., City Attorney; Mrs. Casey Moore, Municipal Clerk; Mr. Scotty Davis, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Clint Moore, Assistant City Manager of Development; Mr. Kevin Yokim, Assistant City Manager of Administration/Finance; Chief Allen Heidler, Florence Police Department; Chief Shannon Tanner, Florence Fire Department; Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning; Mr. Michael Hemingway, Director of Utilities; Mrs. Jennifer Krawiec, Director of Human Resources; Mrs. Amanda P. Pope, Director of Marketing/Communications and Municipal Services; Mr. Chuck Pope, Director of Public Works; Mr. Charlton deSaussure, Bond Attorney; and Mr. Sam Howell, Bond Attorney.

MEDIA PRESENT

Notices of this regular meeting of City Council were provided to the media and individuals requesting a copy of the agenda informing them of the date, location and time of the meeting.

Mr. Matthew Christian with the Florence Morning News and Ms. Lacey Lee with WBTW were present for the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ervin called the July 12, 2021 regular meeting of Florence City Council to order at 1:02 p.m.

INVOCATION

Mayor Ervin gave the invocation for the meeting. The pledge of allegiance to the American Flag followed the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt the minutes of the June 14, 2021 Regular Meeting and the June 21, 2021 Special Meeting and Councilman Schofield seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously adopted.



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PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held regarding the proposed issuance by the Housing Authority of the City of Florence of its Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Dillon Grade School Apartments), in an initial aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$8,000,000.

Mayor Ervin opened the public hearing at 1:05 p.m. Being no public comment, Mayor Ervin closed the public hearing at 1:05 p.m.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Ms. Jenny Boulware, Main Street SC Manager, said each year, Main Street SC recognizes members' achievements and successes in downtown revitalization. The City of Florence and Florence Downtown Development Corp. (FDDC) won two 2021 Inspiration Awards from Main Street SC. The FDDC was presented an Inspiration Award for Outstanding 2020 Promotion for its work on the Downtown Holiday Gift Guide. The City of Florence and FDDC were also presented an Inspiration Award for Outstanding Business Development Program for their COVID-19 response.

APPEARANCE BEFORE COUNCIL

Mr. Gary Finklea

Mr. Gary Finklea appeared before Council to speak on the Business License Ordinance and the Rental Registry. He spoke of equal protection as it relates to the Business License fee and the rental industry. He said the city should not hide behind the Equal Protection clause in treating the rental industry different and excluding them from the business license fee. He said there is a rational basis for the city to not include landlords in the business license fee because landlords are already taxed based upon income through property taxes. He said the business license fee on landlords will be burdensome and it takes three months of rent just to pay the property taxes on a residential property. He further stated that when it comes to millage, it is never communicated what the impact will be on a 6% assessment. Mr. Finklea also spoke on the Rental Registry and asked Council to request staff to review the ordinance and invite the community for their input. The ordinance, in its current state, will run off good property managers and could inflict unintended consequences. He spoke of several concerns he has with the ordinance, one being the requirement that the property manager/representative live within 50 miles of the property. He also said he noticed that Limited Liability Companies were not listed in the ordinance, which is a drafting oversight. The ordinance that was adopted by Council is two drafts behind what the city manager and city attorney reviewed. He said improvements can be made to the ordinance and urged Council to make these improvements.

Pro tem Jebaily thanked Mr. Finklea for his input and asked all citizens to be involved. He agreed that there are some issues with the rental registry ordinance, and it could be improved upon. Staff is working administratively to work on some of the issues Mr. Finklea discussed. He said once the registry is implemented and the dust settles, there will be opportunities to make improvements. Pro tem Jebaily then spoke on the Business License ordinance and said he had some concerns with Mr. Finklea's debate. He said all commercial and residential property owners must deal with property taxes, and everything is relative in regard to property taxes. He then asked Mr. Yokim to speak on where Florence ranks in the state regarding property taxes. Mr. Yokim replied the City of Rock Hill completes an annual survey comparing approximately 30-35 cities in the state. The survey places Florence in the bottom 10% of the property tax burden on businesses and residences. Mr. Yokim further said of all the cities surveyed,



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Florence appeared to be the only city that does not require commercial properties to obtain business licenses.

Councilman Braddock asked Mr. Finklea if he could point out a few specifics within the rental registry ordinance the current Council could address and possibly bring amendments. Mr. Finklea said most of his issues had to do with the procedure on how the violation was delivered to the owner to bring about the desired result without putting them in jail and protecting the property manager who has no authority to fix the property if the owner does not cooperate. Councilman Braddock said he would like to come up with a process in which the two ordinances can be revisited.

Councilwoman Moore spoke of bad property owners that do not care about their residents. She said she will not bend on the rental registry until people no longer have to worry about their roofs caving in, no heating or air, no water, et cetera.

Mayor Ervin said a rental registry ordinance has been discussed among Council for many years, even before she was a Councilmember. She said she wants to assure the citizens that this ordinance was not thought up over-night nor was it pushed past; it has been a long process and has been extensively researched. She said the ordinance is in the beginnings of being implemented and they need time to evaluate the process before amendments are brought forward.

Mr. Finklea said the previous Council adopted the International Property Maintenance Code 8 years ago, however it has never been enforced. Had it been enforced, the city would not have the issues Councilwoman Moore spoke of.

Mr. Mark Williams

Mr. Williams spoke of some traffic concerns on Bellevue Drive and Third Loop Road. He said this intersection is poorly designed and proposed a 3-way stop. He recognized that this is not a city problem because the street is maintained by the SC Department of Transportation (SCDOT). He said he has gotten very little response from the SCDOT and is requesting assistance from the city. He also mentioned an ordinance that Council passed several years ago prohibiting thru trucks on Third Loop Road, but the signs have never been put up. Mr. Osterman said they are currently working with the SCDOT to get signage, but they require encroachment permits to meet their standards. Pro tem Jebaily asked Mr. Osterman if a letter can be sent to the SCDOT asking that they study this intersection. Mr. Osterman replied staff would send a letter formally requesting them to study the intersection.

ORDINANCES IN POSITION

Bill No. 2021-14 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone the parcel located at 2495 Hoffmeyer Road, identified as Florence County Tax Map Parcel 01221-01-109.

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2021-14 on second reading and Councilman Schofield seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Bill No. 2021-14.



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Bill No. 2021-15 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone 2504 Abbey Way, 2513 Abbey Way, 2485 Parsons Gate, and 2502 Parsons Gate, identified as Florence County Tax Map Parcels 01221-01-254, 01221-01-261, 01221-01-305, and 01221-01-283.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2021-15 on second reading and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Bill No. 2021-15.

Bill No. 2021-16 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone the parcel located at 3136 Pisgah Road, identified as Florence County Tax Map Parcel 00097-01-029.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2021-16 on second reading and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Bill No. 2021-16.

Bill No. 2021-17 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to rezone from NC-6.2 to CBD the lots at 113 and 115 East Pine Street and 319 and 321 Railroad Avenue, identified as Florence County Tax Map Parcels 90087-06-001, 90087-06-002, 90087-06-005, and 90087-06-006.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2021-17 on second reading and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Bill No. 2021-17.

Bill No. 2021-18 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to declare Florence County Tax Map Parcels 90060-05-014 and 90060-06-008 as surplus and authorize the transfer of land to the Desolate Development Group.

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2021-18 on second reading and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Bill No. 2021-18.

Bill No. 2021-21 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to amend Chapter 2 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances by adding additional sections to Article III to establish the Aesthetics Advisory Committee.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2021-21 on second reading and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Bill No. 2021-21.



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Bill No. 2021-22 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to amend Chapter 2 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances by adding additional sections to Article III to establish the Resilience and Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2021-22 on second reading and Councilman Braddock seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Bill No. 2021-22.

Bill No. 2021-23 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to amend Chapter 2 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances by adding additional sections to Article III to establish the Public Safety Citizen’s Review Board.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2021-23 on second reading and Councilman Schofield seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Bill No. 2021-23.

Bill No. 2021-24 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to amend the City of Florence Code of Ordinances Section 12-272(a)(1) and 12-272(a)(2) to add \$0.50 per equivalent residential unit to the rate charged for stormwater utility service charges.

Councilman Schofield made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2021-24 on second reading and Councilman Braddock seconded the motion.

Council voted 5-2 in favor of the motion to adopt Bill No. 2021-24, with Mayor Ervin and Councilwoman Moore voting Nay.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Bill No. 2021-12 – First Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone a portion of Lake Oakdale and the Lake Oakdale dam, identified as a portion of Florence County Tax Map Parcel 00751-01-049.

Mayor Ervin said the applicants have requested that this item be deferred. Without objection, this item was deferred.

Bill No. 2021-25 – First Reading

An Ordinance authorizing the conveyance of the real estate described in detail on the list attached hereto as exhibit “A”, said properties being acquired by the city as part of the Neighborhood Redevelopment efforts to be utilized by facilitating the construction/rehabilitation of homes which will be marketed for sale at prices based on fair market value in order to help revitalize neighborhood areas within the city.

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to pass Bill No. 2021-25 on first reading and Councilman Schofield seconded the motion.



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Mr. Jim Peterson, City Attorney, reported these are all the properties the city has acquired over many years for the purpose of Neighborhood Redevelopment. The city began to run into situations with banks wanting to close on the property, but the city had not yet passed an ordinance authorizing the conveyance of the property. For the city to convey property, SC Code requires it to be approved by ordinance which requires two separate readings. As a solution, Mr. Peterson proposes this “blanket” ordinance authorizing the conveyance of the lots under the Neighborhood Redevelopment program. Council will then be approached by Resolution (requiring one reading) to approve the plan for each lot as they come up.

Councilman Braddock inquired on lots purchased in the future. Mr. Peterson said lots purchased in the future can either be combined in a separate “blanket” ordinance or done individually.

Pro tem Jebaily asked Mr. Dudley to explain to the public the Neighborhood Redevelopment process. Mr. Dudley said the city has spent many years acquiring all the properties in this list. Some of the lots have been given to the city and many have been purchased. Many of these lots had blighted homes and are demolished as funds allow. Conveyance of these properties to homeowners and/or private developers will support goals established in the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy such as to stabilize each of the focus area neighborhoods, to increase opportunities for affordable housing and homeownership, and to leverage city resources through partnerships with the private sector. The ultimate goal is to reinvest in disenfranchised neighborhoods and create opportunities for homeownership. Pro tem Jebaily said many of these neighborhoods consist of 80% rental and 20% homeownership and this is an effort to increase homeownership opportunities.

Mayor Ervin said when Community Redevelopment first began in Florence, the city hired consultants who identified the catalyst areas of Florence as North Florence, Northwest Florence and East Florence. As the city began developing, it attracted private investments and partnerships to promote homeownership. This is an ongoing process and will take time.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to pass Bill No. 2021-25.

Bill No. 2021-26 – First Reading

An ordinance to annex and zone the parcel located at 2924 West Palmetto Street, identified as Florence County Tax Map Parcel 00100-01-30.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to pass Bill No. 2021-26 on first reading and Pro tem Jebaily seconded the motion.

Mr. Dudley reported this property is the site of a church and the proposed zoning is Campus-CA. City water is available; however, sewer service is not available and the applicant has signed a sewer release form. Planning Commission held a public hearing on this matter and voted unanimously to recommend the zoning of CA.

Council voted unanimously to pass Bill No. 2021-26.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2021-19

A Resolution and Conditional Grant and Development Agreement to provide an incentive for the development of a project located within an Overlay District.



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Mayor Ervin said this item will be discussed in Executive Session.

Resolution No. 2021-20

An amended Resolution to designate ten (10) on-street parking spaces located on the north side of the 400 block of West Evans Street as “U.S. Marshals Parking Only” along the frontage of the McMillan Federal Building, Monday through Friday, 6:00 am until 7:00 pm.

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-20 and Councilwoman Moore seconded the motion.

Mr. Clint Moore, Assistant City Manager of Development, reported staff met with the Marshals following the last Council meeting and presented Council’s recommendation of limiting parking to hours of operation. The Marshals proposed the spaces be limited to U.S. Marshals Parking Only, Monday through Friday, 6:00 am until 7:00 p.m. Mr. Moore said the city would have to work out an agreement with the Marshals on towing enforcement. Councilwoman Barnes asked if 6:00 am to 7:00 pm are their hours of operation. Mr. Moore replied those hours were chosen because 6:00 am is when their security measures begin and the building must remain secure until 7:00 pm due to the presence of judges.

Councilman Braddock made a motion to amend the resolution to include the language “with the exemption of federal holidays”. Read in its entirety: An amended Resolution to designate ten (10) on-street parking spaces located on the north side of the 400 block of West Evans Street as “U.S. Marshals Parking Only” along the frontage of the McMillan Federal Building, Monday through Friday, 6:00 am until 7:00 pm, with the exception of federal holidays. Pro tem Jebaily seconded the motion. The motion to amend was unanimous.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Resolution No. 2021-20, as amended.

Resolution No. 2021-22

A Resolution to amend the Conditional Grant and Development Agreement dated March 25, 2020 between the City of Florence and Styx Florence Land, LLC.

Mayor Ervin said this item will be discussed in Executive Session.

Resolution No. 2021-23

A Resolution authorizing the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act funds by the City of Florence.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-23 and Pro tem Jebaily seconded the motion.

Mr. Yokim reported the American Rescue Plan was signed into law on March 11, 2021. This \$1.9 trillion emergency relief bill provides \$65.1 billion to municipal governments to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency, offset revenue losses, bolster economic recovery, and provide premium pay for essential workers. The City has been allocated \$7,943,151 in funds and will distribute the funds in two tranches. The first tranche will be distributed within 60 days of enactment of the law and the second tranche will be distributed 12 months after the first tranche is paid. City staff has developed a proposed plan for the expenditure of funds:



PLAN OF EXPENDITURE FOR AMERICAN RESUCE PLAN FUNDS

1. Respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency
 - a. \$250,000 to various non-profit agencies to fund rent and utility assistance
2. Offset revenue losses
 - a. \$3,040,901 to offset revenue losses incurred by the General Fund as a result of COVID-19, to be used as follows:
 - i. \$1,200,000 to be deposited into fund balance in the City's General Fund, to be expended at the direction of City Council
 - ii. \$250,000 for neighborhood revitalization programs
 - iii. \$680,000 for the construction of fields 5 and 6 at the new athletic complex
 - iv. \$350,000 for a new cherry-picker to assist with yard waste removal
 - v. \$300,000 for a new sanitation truck
 - vi. \$260,901 for premium pay for other employees who worked during the COVID-19 pandemic
3. Bolster economic recovery
 - a. \$3,000,000 to be used for various water and sewer projects
 - b. \$1,000,000 to be used to enhance broadband access for underserved areas
4. Premium pay for essential workers
 - a. \$652,250 for premium pay for employees who interacted directly with the public during the COVID-19 pandemic

Councilwoman Moore requested that some funds be used for seating and picnic tables at Iola Jones Park. Councilman McCall said he recalls seeing funds for equipment for Iola Jones Park in the General Fund budget and asked if seating and picnic tables are included in that funding. Mr. Osterman said there is money in the general fund budget for those types of projects and using the money from the American Rescue Plan funds would not be necessary. Councilwoman Moore asked if there is money for a picnic shelter. Mr. Osterman said there has been discussion on sharing the cost of a picnic shelter with a state representative, but it is currently not finalized. Councilman McCall inquired on the cost of a shelter, and Mr. Osterman said it is approximately \$60,000. Councilman McCall and Councilwoman Moore both requested staff to come up with a plan and takes steps towards getting the shelter, even if the state cannot provide funding.

Councilman Braddock asked if there is money in this proposed budget that is to be used at Council's discretion. Mr. Osterman replied the presented budget is based on the rules attached to the money. The revenue replacement fund can be used as regular city revenue. This budget allots \$1.2 million to be used at Council's discretion. Mr. Osterman said there should be a process on how Council wants to spend his money and will need to be further discussed. He said what staff is asking of Council today is to approve the budget presented, which includes the \$1.2 million to be used at Council's discretion

Councilman McCall spoke of the money being allocated to employees and asked how much it will be per employee. Mr. Osterman replied it will be between \$1,500 - \$2,000 per employee. Councilman McCall said he fully supports rewarding the employees that worked through the pandemic.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Resolution No. 2021-23.



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Resolution No. 2021-24

A Resolution approving the issuance by the Housing Authority of the City of Florence of its Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Dillon Grade School Apartments), as required by section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$8,000,000.

Councilman McCall made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-24 and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Mr. Jim Peterson, City Attorney, said this is not a bond being issued by the City of Florence nor is it a bond that will have any impact of the city's finances. Dillon County and the City of Dillon do not have a Housing Authority and the City of Dillon came up with a project that will be of benefit to that area. The Housing Authority that was established by the City of Florence was the closest Housing Authority to be involved in the project. The Housing Authority and the City of Dillon approved the project; however, since the City of Florence is the next in line elected body over the Housing Authority, state law requires the City of Florence to pass a resolution in order for the bond to be issued.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Resolution No. 2021-24.

Resolution No. 2021-25

A Resolution formally commending Helping Florence Flourish for their dedicated efforts during the June 26, 2021 community clean-up event.

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-25 and Councilman Schofield seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Barnes read the Resolution and presented it to Ms. Jai Jai Spann. Ms. Spann said she is standing in for Mr. Chris Handley, President of Helping Florence Flourish, to receive the Resolution. Ms. Spann read a letter from Mr. Handley and thanked Council.

Councilman McCall thanked Helping Florence Flourish and Councilwoman Barnes for taking the initiative on this project to move the city forward. Mayor Ervin and Councilwoman Barnes thanked Mr. Handley and the community for all the work they put into the clean-up.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Resolution No. 2021-25.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Mr. Scotty Davis, Deputy City Manager presented the packet of appointments to Boards and Commissions to Council. The results are as follows:

Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee

Councilman McCall made a motion to reappoint Larry Smith. Larry Smith was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2024.

Mayor Ervin made a motion to reappoint Tim Norwood. Tim Norwood was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2024.



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Councilman Schofield made a motion to reappoint Quentin Williams. Quentin Williams was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2024.

Councilwoman Moore deferred her nomination to the Committee.

Planning Commission

Councilman Braddock made a motion to appoint James Mark Lawhon. James Mark Lawhon was appointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2024.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to reappoint Vanessa Murray. Vanessa Murry was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2024.

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to reappoint Bryant Moses. Bryant Moses was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2024.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Councilman McCall deferred his nomination to the Board.

Mayor Ervin made a motion to reappoint Deborah Moses. Deborah Moses was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire June 30, 2024.

Design Review Board

Councilman Schofield made a motion to appoint Brice Elvington. Brice Elvington was appointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2025.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to appoint John Keith. John Keith was appointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2025.

Councilman Braddock made a motion to appoint Joey McMillian. Joey McMillian was appointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2025.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to appoint Ranny Starnes. Ranny Starnes was appointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2025.

Construction & Maintenance Board of Adjustments and Appeals

Mayor Ervin made a motion to reappoint Joe Linder. Joe Linder was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2025.

Mayor Ervin made a motion to reappoint Chaznick Rivers. Chaznick Rivers was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2025.

Mayor Ervin made a motion to appoint Darryl Mitchell to the role of a Layperson on the Board. Darryl Mitchell was appointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2025.



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Mayor Ervin made a motion to appoint Tommie Thomas to the role of an Architect on the Board. Tommie Thomas was appointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2025.

Being no additional qualified applicants, Mayor Ervin deferred the remaining two vacancies on this Board.

Housing Authority Board

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to reappoint Linda Becote. Linda Becote was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2026.

Memorial Stadium Commission

Councilman McCall made a motion to reappoint Derek Urquhart. Derek Urquhart was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2026, pending approval by Florence County Council.

Parks and Beautification Commission

Mayor Ervin made a motion to reappoint George Scipio. George Scipio was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2026.

Veterans Park Committee

Councilman Schofield made a motion to reappoint Michael Montrose. Michael Montrose was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2026.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to reappoint Carlos Washington. Carlos Washington was reappointed by unanimous consent with a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2026.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Development Committee, Chaired by Pro tem Jebaily

Pro tem Jebaily said the committee had an overview of various goals and objectives and spoke of wanting to build on the successful work done thus far. He said the committee discussed the importance of all the committees working with Kendig Keast, Comprehensive Plan Consultants, in the development of the Comprehensive Plan. He said they talked about continuing work downtown in filling the empty storefronts; however, the Business Development Committee work will not only focus on downtown. The committee will also look at enhancing business activities throughout the whole city, including neighborhoods and corridors. He said they are seeking input from the community and asked the community to contact staff if they have any ideas or recommendations.

Community Redevelopment Committee, Chaired by Councilwoman Barnes

Councilwoman Barnes said this committee will start by looking at the numerous needs in the community and prioritizing them. She said they have scheduled a “Windshield Survey” on August 5, 2021. This committee and staff, along with leaders of the community, will be riding a PDRTA bus and will visit



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various areas in Florence. She said the committee will also be meeting with local spiritual leaders to discuss issues in the community.

Marketing and Public Relations Committee, Chaired by Councilman McCall

Councilman McCall said their first step is to recognize that they need to work with the other committees and formalizing a strategy that gets the ideas and projects out to the community. He said the City of Florence is constantly doing work, and highlighting that work creates a buzz throughout the community. The committee also discussed the city's branding and Councilman McCall said it would be looked at more comprehensively. The committee also discussed the city taking a more proactive approach to annexation to help the city reach the goal of a 50,000 population through smart development.

ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA: COMMITTEE REPORTS

Judicial Review Ad Hoc Committee

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to add this item to the agenda and Councilwoman Moore seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously (7-0) to add the Judicial Review Ad Hoc Committee to Committee Reports of the agenda.

Mayor Ervin said the Judicial Review Ad Hoc Committee will discuss a personnel matter in Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to enter into Executive Session and Councilwoman Moore seconded the motion. Council entered into Executive Session at 3:12 p.m. for a discussion of matters relating to a proposed economic development project located within an Overlay District, a discussion of matters relating to a proposed economic development project, and a personnel matter.

Council reconvened open session at 4:24 p.m. and took action on the following items:

Resolution No. 2021-19

A Resolution and Conditional Grant and Development Agreement to provide an incentive for the development of a project located within an Overlay District.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-19 and Councilwoman Moore seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Resolution No. 2021-19.

Resolution No. 2021-22

A Resolution to amend the Conditional Grant and Development Agreement dated March 25, 2020 between the City of Florence and Styx Florence Land, LLC.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-22 and Pro tem Jebaily seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt Resolution No. 2021-22.

Appointment of Municipal Judges



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Councilman McCall said the Judicial Review Ad Hoc Committee was comprised of himself, Councilman Schofield and Councilwoman Moore. The committee recommends the following two-year appointments:

The committee recommended the reappointment of Judge Rangeley Bailey. Pro tem Jebaily said Judge Bailey is a lawyer at his office and he must recuse himself from the vote. The signed recusal form is attached and is incorporated into the minutes by reference.

Councilman Schofield made a motion to reappoint Judge Bailey and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion. Council voted 6-0 to reappoint Judge Bailey, with Pro tem Jebaily having recused himself.

The committee recommended the reappointment of Judge Nicholas Lewis. Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to reappoint Judge Lewis and Councilwoman Moore seconded the motion. Judge Lewis was reappointed by unanimous consent (7-0).

The committee recommended the reappointment of Judge Edgar Willcox. Councilman Schofield made a motion to reappoint Judge Willcox and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion. Judge Willcox was reappointed by unanimous consent (7-0).

The committee recommended the reappointment of Judge Linward Edwards. Councilwoman Moore made a motion to reappoint Judge Edwards and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion. Judge Edwards was reappointed by unanimous consent (7-0).

The committee recommended Alesha Lewis be appointed to fill the seat previously held by Judge Taft Guiles. Councilwoman Moore made a motion to appoint Ms. Lewis and Councilman Schofield seconded the motion. Ms. Lewis was appointed by unanimous consent (7-0).


ADJOURN

Without objection, the July 12, 2021 Regular meeting of City Council was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Dated this 9th day of August 2021.



Casey C. Moore, Municipal Clerk



Teresa Myers Ervin, Mayor

STATEMENT OF RECUSAL

In accordance with Section 8-13-700(B), I hereby abstain from all votes, deliberations and other

action on the following matter(s): **Judicial appointment of Judge Bailey.**

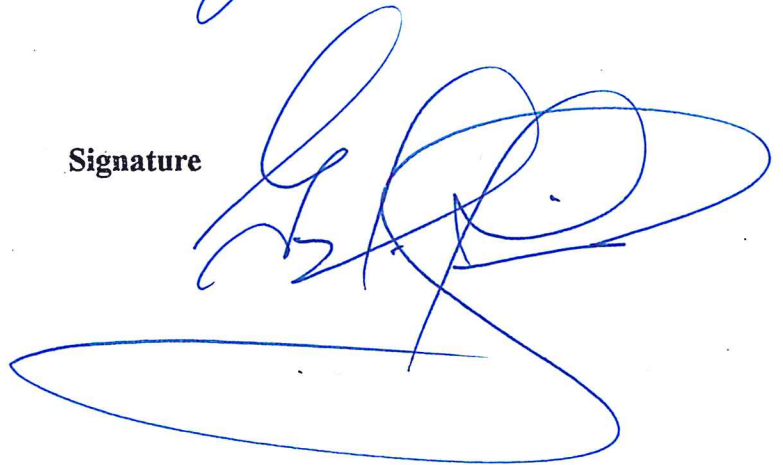
REASONS FOR DISQUALIFICATION:

Judge Rangelley Bailey works with me at Sebasty law firm.

Date:

11/10/21

Signature

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.