



**REGULAR MEETING OF FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021 – 1:00 P.M.
CITY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
324 WEST EVANS STREET
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA
MEETING CONDUCTED THROUGH ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Teresa Myers Ervin, Mayor Pro Tempore George Jebaily, Councilwoman Pat Gibson-Hye Moore, Councilwoman Lethonia Barnes and Councilman Chaquez T. McCall.

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Randall S. Osterman, City Manager; Mr. James W. Peterson, Jr., City Attorney; Mrs. Amanda P. Pope, Municipal Clerk; Mrs. Casey Moore, Assistant City 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. Michael Hemingway, Director of Utilities; Mr. Chuck Pope, Director of Public Works; and Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning.

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.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ervin called the January 11, 2021 regular meeting of Florence City Council to order at 1:05 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

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt the minutes of the December 14, 2020 Regular City Council meeting and Councilman McCall seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously adopted.

ORDINANCES IN POSITION

Bill No. 2020-42 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone 15 acres on West Sumter Street and Pisgah Road, identified as a portion of Florence County Tax Map Parcel 00097-01-008.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2020-42 on second reading and Councilwoman Moore seconded the motion.



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Council voted unanimously (5-0) to adopt Bill No. 2020-42.

Bill No. 2020-43 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to grant an easement on a portion of Florence County Tax Map Parcel 00102-01-161 to Duke Energy Progress, LLC, specifically 15 feet wide along the northern most property line fronting Alligator Road.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2020-43 on second reading and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (5-0) to adopt Bill No. 2020-43.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Bill No. 2021-01 – First Reading

An Ordinance to adopt a model business license ordinance in accordance with the business license bill (H4431) passed by the South Carolina Legislature in September 2020.

Mayor Ervin said staff has requested that this item be deferred. Without objection, this item was deferred.

Bill No. 2021-02 – First Reading

An Ordinance to annex 4 parcels located at 1534, 1537, 1539, and 1543 North Sierra Range, identified as Florence County Tax Map Parcels 90096-02-005, 90096-01-008, 90096-01-017, and 90096-01-009.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to pass Bill No. 2021-02 on first reading and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Mr. Jerry Dudley, Planning Director reported these four lots are located in the Spaulding Heights Neighborhood. Each lot is the site of a single-family residence and water and sewer services are currently available. The proposed zoning of Neighborhood Conservation 6.1 (NC-6.1) is consistent with the surrounding parcels already located inside city limits.

On December 8, 2020, Planning Commission held a public hearing on this matter and voted unanimously 6-0 to recommend the zoning request of NC-6.1.

Council voted unanimously (5-0) to pass Bill No. 2021-02.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2021-01

A Resolution pursuant to section I, II, and III of Ordinance No. 2020-28 to extend the emergency term and the application of said ordinance by an additional sixty (60) days.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-01 and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Barnes asked what the repercussions are for businesses that are not abiding by the mask ordinance. Mayor Ervin deferred to Mr. Randy Osterman, City Manager to address the question.



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Mr. Randy Osterman, City Manager said enforcement of this ordinance is complaint driven, similar to that of the no smoking ordinance. If the city receives a complaint, a codes enforcement officer will be sent to investigate and will educate the business prior to enforcement. There is an administrative fine associated with the ordinance in the event the business remains noncompliant.

Mayor Ervin referenced the doughnut holes throughout the city and reminded residents that there are some businesses that appear to be in the city but are actually outside the city and in the county.

Councilwoman Moore stated that she would help enforce the ordinance by reporting businesses that are not in compliance.

Mr. Osterman said businesses are responsible for posting the requirement for face coverings on the entrance of their establishment and requiring their employees to wear face coverings, but they are not responsible for enforcing customers to wear a face mask.

Mayor Ervin made a statement encouraging citizens to wear masks and practice preventative care in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Councilwoman Moore said there is an organization coming from New York and California to test the underserved members of the community that are unable to get to the various testing sites. This organization will go to different communities, homeless shelters, et cetera to help get the pandemic under control in Florence.

Council voted unanimously (5-0) to adopt Resolution No. 2021-01.

Resolution No. 2021-02

A Resolution to designate an additional, third day for Christmas as an official holiday for the City of Florence.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-02 and also made a motion to amend the resolution to rename it the Councilman Ed Robinson Christmas Holiday Resolution. Councilwoman Moore seconded the motion.

Pro tem Jebaily said Councilman Robinson always made sure the third day came before Council every year and the renaming of this Resolution to make the third day a permanent holiday for the city is in honor of him.

Council voted unanimously (5-0) to adopt Resolution No. 2021-02 as amended.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Planning Commission

Pro tem Jebaily deferred his appointment to the Planning Commission.



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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to enter into Executive Session and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion. Without objection, Council entered into Executive Session at 1:24 p.m. for a discussion related to a personnel matter and for the receipt of legal advice.

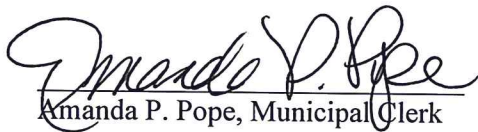
Council reconvened Open Session at 2:21 p.m.

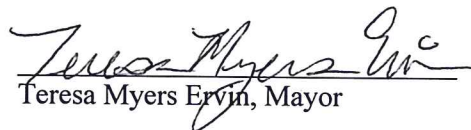
Mayor Ervin stated the city manager's 6-month evaluation was discussed in Executive Session. Councilwoman Moore made a motion to increase the city manager's pay based on the 6-month evaluation and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

ADJOURN

Without objection, the January 11, 2021 Regular meeting of City Council was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Dated this 8th day of February 2021.


Amanda P. Pope, Municipal Clerk


Teresa Myers Ervin, Mayor