



FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 21, 2024, 6:30 PM

Watch this meeting live on the City's YouTube channel at
<https://www.youtube.com/@CityofFlorenceCO>

1) CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Council Chambers, 600 W. 3rd Street, Florence, CO 81226

Mayor Wolfe called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) ROLL CALL:

Mayor Wolfe	Present
Councilman Vanhoutan	Present
Councilman Stiefel	Present
Councilwoman Stone	Present
Councilman Mergelman	Present
Councilwoman Gardner	Present
Councilwoman MacKinnon	Present

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Cortlyne Huppe, City Manager Amy Nasta, Finance Officer Lori Cobler, Chief of Police Sean Humphrey, and City Attorney Dan Findlay.

3) PUBLIC HEARING

a) City of Florence 2025 Proposed Budget

Mayor Wolfe opened the Public Hearing for the 2025 Proposed Budget.

There was no public input.

Mayor Wolfe closed the Public Hearing for the 2025 Proposed Budget.

4) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any matter on this agenda may, at the discretion of the governing body, be opened for public comment and discussion (three minutes).

Mayor Wolfe recited the following statement, "Per Colorado law, electioneering is prohibited within 100 feet of polling places while voting is open. This includes campaigning, displaying political materials, wearing advocacy clothing, distributing literature, and collecting signatures. City Hall and the Council Chambers are within 100 feet of a ballot box and thus subject to these restrictions. Public comment, elected official discussions, and audience participation will be conducted accordingly in order to protect voters from undue influence and help ensure a fair electoral process."

There was no public comment.

5) CONSENT AGENDA

a) Consider approving the minutes as written for the Regular City Council Meeting on October 4, 2024

- b) Consider approving City expenditures prepared on October 10, 2024, in the amount of \$28,134.88, and October 17, 2024, in the amount of \$45,114.66,
- c) Consider approving the annual liquor license renewal for the Sumo Golf Village Bar & Grill
- d) Consider approving the annual liquor license renewal for Louie's Place

Councilor Stiefel motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilor Stone seconded. With the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

6) **COUNCIL UPDATES**

a) City Council Reports

Councilor Stiefel commented on his hurricane relief efforts in North Carolina.

Councilor Mergelman attended FEDC and the Fremont Exceptional Women banquet. He recognized the Florence winners and the Bell Tower's Monetary Donation Award.

Councilor Stone attended FEDC and the Fremont Exceptional Women banquet. She also noted the upcoming trick-or-treat event, and the Florence Junior/Senior High School and merchant's efforts in beautifying downtown Florence.

Mayor Wolfe noted Bliss Eckland's addition to the Planning Commission and RE-2's Bear Hug Program which provides meals to local students. He attended the senior coffee chat, Mayor's Round Table where the main topic of discussion was the Black Hills Energy PUC case, his work with Fremont County on Siloam Road, and he also thanked the Florence Police Department for their service monitoring the highway's crosswalks during school hours.

b) City Manager Reports

City Manager Amy Nasta reported on the efforts to implement new asset management, program management, and budgetary processes. She thanked Finance Officer Lori Cobler for her work on the budget. Public Works Director Sam Elstun was monitoring the North Pikes Peak Project, and the Hazardous Tree Removal Program where Phase 2 would begin later in the week. The Public Utilities Commission would be in Florence on November 18, 2024, at 5:30 PM for their information meeting. Any major changes to the budget can be communicated before the November 4, 2024, meeting, or during the budget's first reading.

Mayor Wolfe commended the City on the budget's increased infrastructure projects and Pioneer Park bathroom improvements.

City Attorney Dan Findlay updated the Council on the Black Hills rate case. The City's advocacy has borne some fruit and the involvement has been proactive.

7) **EXECUTIVE SESSION(S): IF NECESSARY**

Pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b), an executive session for the purpose of conferencing with an attorney for the local public body for the purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions pertaining to any item listed on the agenda herein and/or any related discussion that may arise thereto. Such executive session may be entered into at any time or at any point on the agenda, if necessary and with the requisite Council approval.

8) ADJOURNMENT: Adjournment until the next regular City Council Meeting
Monday, November 4, 2024

Councilor Gardner motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Stone seconded. With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.
Mayor Wolfe adjourned the City Council Meeting at 6:44 p.m.

CITY OF FLORENCE, CO

BY: _____
Steve Wolfe, Mayor

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: _____
Cortlyne Huppe, City Clerk