



FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 15, 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: Secretary Quiana Hess, City Manager Amy Nasta, and City Attorney Dan Findlay (virtual).

3) PRESENTATIONS

a) Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Wolfe recited the Arbor Day Proclamation, and proclaimed April 26, 2024, as Arbor Day in the city of Florence, Colorado.

b) Randy Gradishar Proclamation

Mayor Wolfe recited the Randy Gradishar Proclamation, and proclaimed May 3, 2024, as Randy Gradishar Day.

c) Tree Board recommendations

Tree Board President Jane Chess announced the board's intention to continue advocating for the care of hazardous trees. The board plans to provide relevant information to Florence citizens, change the City's codes, promote the planting of new trees, and assist in writing potential grant proposals.

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).

Kati Scheibler- 609 W 2nd Street

Noted her unresolved issues with the City's pesticide spraying, bat conservation, and bear conflicts within the community.

5) **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a) Consider approving the minutes as written for the Regular City Council Meeting on April 1, 2024
- b) Consider approving City expenditures prepared April 4, 2024, in the amount of \$74,233.61; April 11, 2024 in the amount of \$77,908.30
- c) Consider approving the annual liquor license renewal for The Patio Pub
- d) Consider approving a modification of premises request for The Patio Pub
- e) Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Tri-State Fireworks, Inc. for the purchase and delivery of fireworks in the amount of \$16,000

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

6) **OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Consider approving the second reading of Ordinance No. 3 –2024, an Ordinance authorizing the lease agreement renewal for the Colorado State Patrol, Troop 2A

City Manager Amy Nasta noted the first reading was approved at the April 1, 2024, City Council meeting, and this is the statutorily required second reading of an ordinance. The ordinance renews the Colorado State Patrol lease within City Hall.

Motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 3 –2024, an Ordinance authorizing the lease agreement renewal for the Colorado State Patrol, Troop 2A: Councilor Stone
Seconded by: Councilor Stiefel

7 Ayes

Motion passed: 7 – 0

- b) Consider approving the second reading of Ordinance 4-2024, an Ordinance amending Chapter 2.20 of the Florence Municipal Code relating to the Planning Commission

City Manager Nasta noted the first reading was approved at the April 1, 2024, City Council meeting, and this ordinance updates policies and procedures surrounding the Planning Commission.

Motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 4-2024, an Ordinance amending Chapter 2.20 of the Florence Municipal Code relating to the Planning Commission: Councilor Mergelman

Seconded by: Councilor Gardner

7 Ayes

Motion passed: 7 – 0

- c) Consider approving the second reading of Ordinance 5-2024, an Ordinance adding Chapter 2.25 of the Florence Municipal Code relating to the Board of Zoning Adjustment

City Manager Nasta noted the first reading was approved at the April 1, 2024, City Council meeting. This ordinance moves BOZA to Chapter 2 of the municipal code, and outlines updated policies and procedures.

Motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 5-2024, an Ordinance adding Chapter 2.25 of the Florence Municipal Code relating to the Board of Zoning Adjustment: Councilor Stone

Seconded by: Councilor Gardner

7 Ayes

Motion passed: 7 – 0

7) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Consider adopting a Resolution adopting an ARPA Tree Maintenance Program for the City of Florence, Colorado

City Manager Nasta stated Resolution 5-2024 adopts and outlines an ARPA tree maintenance program by reference. It's a one-time program for the mitigation of hazardous trees and associated sidewalk damage utilizing the allocated \$113,500 in ARPA funding. The document's program provides rules and procedures for allocating funding based on the City Council's goals and criteria from the March 18, 2024, City Council workshop. The program intends to ensure the most hazardous trees are mitigated first.

Kathy Madonna- 504 Brookeway

Confirmed the ARPA funds must be spent before the end of 2026 and requested the City Council include a reporting system with the program.

Bridger Langston- Canon City

Runs a local tree company in Canon City and is interested in submitting a proposal to the City Council for the tree removals.

Sue Kinzer- 302 Wilson Avenue

Questioned if the Safe Streets grant could be used for sidewalk repair and if any tree mitigation would take place in Rainbow Park.

Mayor Wolfe stated Rainbow Park is outside of city limits, and agreed to the inclusion of a status report.

Councilor Mergelman requested a calendar and project schedule be included in the report.

Motion to adopt Resolution 5-2024, a Resolution adopting an ARPA Tree Maintenance Program for the City of Florence, Colorado, to include a quarterly status report:

Councilor Mergelman

Second: Councilor MacKinnon

7 Ayes

Motion passed: 7 – 0

- b) Consider adopting a Resolution setting water rates and capital improvement charges to be assessed to the East Florence Water Association

City Manager Nasta stated the East Florence Water Association contract requires an annual re-evaluation of water rates. The increase will be \$668.17 per month, which EFWA would relay to its customers. This increase covers operating and capital costs.

Motion to adopt Resolution 6-2024 setting water rates and capital improvement charges to be assessed to the East Florence Water Association from May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025:

Councilor Stone

Seconded by: Councilor Gardner

7 Ayes

Motion passed: 7 – 0

8) COUNCIL UPDATES

a) City Council Reports

Councilor Stone attended the Florence Chamber of Commerce meeting and announced their upcoming Business After Hours event. She also attended the Florence Marchants meeting where they're working on a billboard, the upcoming Car Show, and Second Saturday events.

Councilor Mergelman promoted the 5th Annual Chili and Pie Cookoff July 4th fundraiser.

Mayor Wolfe attended the Tree Board, 4th of July Planning, City/City/County, Senior Center Coffee Chat, Mayor's Round Table, Merchants meeting, and KRLN radio show with Councilor Mergelman. Fremont County is working to expand its Pathfinder Park capabilities, the EPA is demolishing the Penrose funeral home location, and Canon City is still undergoing road construction. Mayor Wolfe announced a new three-mile trail at Red Canon Park, clarified that May 25th is Fremont County's electronic recycling, and reminded the City Council he would be absent for the next meeting.

b) City Manager Reports

City Manager Nasta addressed Ms. Schleibler's concern regarding mosquito spraying certification. She stated Public Works Director Sam Elstun and one member of staff conduct the local mosquito spraying. Both would hold the proper certification before the scheduled spray on April 19.

9) EXECUTIVE SESSION(S):

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.

10) ADJOURNMENT: Adjournment until the next regular City Council Meeting
Monday, May 6, 2024

Councilor Stone motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Gardner seconded. With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

Mayor Wolfe adjourned the City Council Meeting at 7:10 p.m.

CITY OF FLORENCE, CO

BY: _____

Steve Wolfe, Mayor

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: _____

Cortlyne Huppe, City Clerk