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**City of Florence
City Council Regular Session
Florence City Hall
250 Hwy 101, Florence, Oregon
Final Action Minutes
August 5, 2024**

Councilors Present: Mayor Ward, Councilors Sally Wantz, Bill Meyer, Jo Beaudreau, and Robert Carp.

Councilors Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Manager Erin Reynolds, City Recorder Lindsey White, Assistant City Manager Megan Messmer, Community Development Director Wendy FarleyCampbell, Police Chief John Pitcher, and Economic Development and Communications Analyst Chantelle Meyer.

Guests Present: None.

Handout: 8.5.24 City Council Meeting Base Presentation

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Employee Recognitions for years of service by Human Resources Director Alex Ferguson.

Start Time: 5:32 p.m.

Discussion: Police Chief Pitcher recognized Years of Service milestones.

- Sergeant Brandon Bailey – 10 years of service.

Discussion: CDD FarleyCampbell recognized Years of Service milestones.

- Dan Frazier, Code Enforcement Officer – 10 years of service.

Discussion: PWD Miller recognized Years of Service milestones.

- Rob Opitz, Utility Worker II – 10 years of service.

- New Employee Introductions by Human Resources Director Alex Ferguson.

Start Time: 5:36 p.m.

Discussion: HRD Ferguson introduced new employees.

- Jacob Foutz – Planning Manager.
- Veronica Engle – Communication Officer.
- Nicholas Steinman – Police Officer.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This is an opportunity for members of the public to bring to the Council's attention any item not otherwise listed on the agenda.

Start Time: 5:40 p.m.

Commenter 1: Ms. Renee Lopilato – Florence, OR

Handout: Speaker's Card and Written Comments

Discussion: Ms. Lopilato discussed...

- Comments on July 24, 2024 newspaper article about the opening of the GOP Campaign Headquarters and the comments made by Lane County Republican Chair John Large and the contrast of the respectful comments made by the three Councilors in attendance.
- Recommending that campaign language used by all City Council members be expressed thoughtfully and respectfully.

Start Time: 5:44 p.m.

Commenter 2: Ms. Lisa Walter-Sedlacek – Florence, OR

Handout: Speaker's Card and Written Comments

Discussion: Ms. Walter-Sedlacek discussed...

- What makes Florence special.
- Recommending development of a Park and Recreation District for the greater Florence area.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

2. APPROPRIATION TRANSFER FOR 2023-2025 BIENNIAL BUDGET

A. PUBLIC HEARING

Hear and consider written or oral testimony regarding the proposed appropriation transfers for the 2023-25 Biennial Budget'

Start Time: 5:47 p.m.
Process Reading: CR White read the Public Hearing Script and officiated the procedures.
Handouts: Public Hearing Script
Public Hearing: Opened at 5:48 p.m.

Start Time: 5:48 p.m.
Discussion: ASD Baker presented the staff presentation.
Handouts: Staff Presentation
Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- Understanding reduction of capital purchases and what items may be impacted.
- Understanding increase in budget.

Comments: Councilor Wantz and Councilor Carp.

Discussion: Staff discussed...

- Could be a project that was budgeted for, however not able to answer at this time.
- Will be discussing new numbers tomorrow at Management Team meeting.

Comments: ASD Baker and CM Reynolds.

Public Hearing: Closed 5:58 p.m.

B. 2023-2025 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

Consider approving **Resolution No. 17, Series 2024**, a resolution adopting appropriation transfers for the 2023-25 Biennial Budget.

Start Time: 5:58 p.m.
Action: Approve Resolution No. 17, Series 2024 as presented.
Motion: Councilor Meyer
Second: Councilor Wantz
Roll Call: Councilor Carp, 'Aye'
Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'
Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'
Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'
Mayor Ward, 'Aye'
Motion passes 'unanimously'

ACTION ITEMS

3. ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR EMERGENCY FUEL STATION PROJECT

Consider accepting the fee proposal from Civil West Engineering Services, Inc. of \$85,801 for the engineering professional services for the Emergency Fuel Station Project and authorize the City Manager to proceed with a professional services contract.

Start Time: 5:59 p.m.

Discussion: PWD Miller presented the staff presentation.

Handouts: Staff Presentation

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- Concerns with the safety of the underground tanks and for the environment around us.
- Understanding the life expectancy and maintenance of the tanks.

Comments: Councilor Beaudreau.

Discussion: Staff discussed...

- This is not new to myself or the engineers. There are very specific rules and regulations for underground tanks.

Comments: PWD Miller.

Action: Accept the fee proposal from Civil West Engineering Services, Inc. of \$85,801 for the engineering professional services for the Emergency Fuel Station Project and authorize the City Manager to proceed with a professional services contract.

Motion: Councilor Meyer

Second: Councilor Beaudreau

Roll Call: Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'

Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'

Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'

Councilor Carp, 'Aye'

Mayor Ward, 'Aye'

Motion passes 'unanimously'

4. LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Consider recommending policy positions and issues for the League of Oregon Cities to focus on during the 2025-2026 legislative cycle.

Start Time: 6:14 p.m.

Discussion: CM Reynolds presented the staff presentation.

Handouts: Staff Presentation

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- Reasons for listing Invest in Community Resiliency and Climate
- Understanding how the Lodging Tax is divided between the Florence Events Center and the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce.
- Lobbying for Lodging Tax Flexibility.

Comments: All Councilors present.

Discussion: Staff discussed...

- City of Florence has a four percent lodging tax and Lane County also has a percentage.
- City of Florence has always put our lodging tax towards marketing and event-based tourism like the Florence Events Center.
- Forty percent goes to the Chamber of Commerce for the marketing and information center and event production as a tourism asset. The Florence Events Center as a tourism asset and facility for the City receives the remaining sixty percent.

Comments: CM Reynolds.

Start Time: 6:42 p.m.

Commenter 1: Mr. Michael Allen – Florence, OR

Handout: Speaker's Card and Written Comments

Discussion: Mr. Allen discussed...

- League of Oregon Cities energy and environmental priorities.
- Selecting primary category priority – Investment in Community Resiliency and Climate Planning Resources.

Start Time: 6:45 p.m.

Commenter 2: Ms. Britt Kirsch – Florence, OR

Handout: Speaker's Card and Written Comments

Discussion: Ms. Kirsch discussed...

- Focusing on League of Oregon Cities priority categories of 1. Investment in Community Resiliency and Climate Planning Resources and 2. Lodging Tax Flexibility.

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- Selection of Invest in Community Resiliency and Climate Planning Resources as the fifth LOC priority.

Comments: All Councilors present.

Start Time: 6:51 p.m.

Action: Adopt five items as shown for the League of Oregon Cities legislative priorities.

1. Lodging Tax Flexibility
2. Shelter and Homeless Response.
3. Behavioral Health Enhancements
4. Infrastructure Funding
5. Investment in Community Resiliency and Climate Planning Resources

Motion: Councilor Meyer
Second: Councilor Wantz
Roll Call: Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'
Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'
Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'
Councilor Carp, 'Nay'
Mayor Ward, 'Aye'
Motion passes 4-1

CONSENT AGENDA

5. PAY ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES AND FRAMEWORK

Consider approving **Resolution No. 18, Series 2024**, a resolution amending Resolution No. 38, Series 2021 to amend the City's Pay Administrative Section of the Employee Handbook.

Start Time: 6:52 p.m.
Discussion: City Council discussed...

- No discussion.

Action: Approve the consent agenda as presented.
Motion: Councilor Meyer
Second: Councilor Beaudreau
Roll Call: Councilor Carp, 'Aye'
Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'
Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'
Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'
Mayor Ward, 'Aye'
Motion passes 'unanimously'

Council took a break from 6:53 p.m. to 6:59 p.m.

REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. RHODODENDRON DRIVE RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION UPDATE

Staff will provide a report on the Rhododendron Drive Right-of-Way Acquisition for the Rhododendron Drive Realignment and Improvement Project.

Start Time: 6:59 p.m.
Discussion: PWD Miller presented the staff presentation.
Handouts: Staff Presentation

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- No discussion.

7. DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR UPDATES

Start Time: 7:13 p.m.
Discussion: The Department Directors discussed...

- FloGro will be available Tuesday August 13, 2024.
- Update on Rhododendron Drive change of traffic pattern.
- Upcoming street striping project.
- Upcoming Movie in the Park event at Miller Park on August 21, 2024.
- Update on Flock camera alerts over four months since installation providing twenty-seven stolen vehicle alerts, fourteen stolen license plate alerts, and seven missing person alerts.
- Upcoming National Night Out event on August 6, 2024.
- Upcoming land use applications.
- Upcoming Black and White event for recycling tires, propane tanks, and appliances such as refrigerators.
- Update on employee recruitments.
- Upcoming City Council Work Session for interviewing Florence Urban Renewal Agency applicants and Emergency Management update.
- Upcoming events at the Florence Events Center.
- Update on Lane County Resiliency Hub grant.

Comments: PWD Miller, Police Chief Pitcher, CDD FarleyCampbell, HRD Ferguson, CR White, and ACM Messmer.

8. CITY MANAGER REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEM

- Lane County Resilience Hub Update

Start Time: 7:39 p.m.
Discussion: Staff discussed...

- Gratitude to the City Council for their support in recognizing the importance of our employees and their value.

- Thanking City Council for sponsoring and encouraging us to be good community members and engaging with the community for the Community Block Party.
- Upcoming City Council meetings and agenda items.
- Update on \$1.9 million grant for infrastructure construction from Oregon Business Development Department.

Comments: CM Reynolds

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS

Start Time: 7:45 p.m.

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

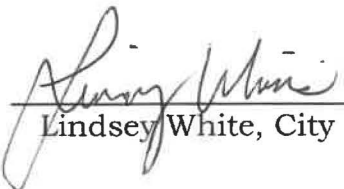
- Addressing hate crimes will not be tolerated in the City of Florence and hoping City Council is in agreement.
- Thanking public speakers for participating in the process and recognizing the work of the City Council.
- Agreeing with Councilor Wantz' comments on the destructive behavior.
- Thanking the City and staff for the Block Party.
- Inviting community to attend Sunkissed A Celebration of Summer artist reception at the Florence Events Center.
- Being a lifelong staunch supporter of law and order.
- Biggest takeaway from attending the Mayor's Conference is we have it so good compared to most cities in terms of the staff that runs this city and also the relationships we share as Councilors. We have an incredible City Manager that makes life easy for us.
- Having lunch with Congressman Boomer Wright who pointed the City of Florence in the direction of the \$1.9 million grant. His support is very appreciated.

Comments: All Councilors present.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

ATTEST:


Rob Ward, Mayor


Lindsey White, City Recorder