



CITY OF FLORENCE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
October 21, 2019

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Ore called the regular meeting of the Florence City Council to order at 7:00pm.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Ore led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Ore	-	Present
Councilman Baker	-	Present
Councilman Cobler	-	Present
Councilman Knisley	-	Present
Councilman Vendetti	-	Present
Councilman Upton	-	Present
Councilman Villagrana	-	Present

4. **ALSO PRESENT:** City Manager, Mike Patterson; City Attorney, Matt Krob; Interim City Clerk, Jessica Griffith; Public Works, Martin Lancaster; Finance Officer, Lori Cobler; Planning Director, Wade Broadhead; and Water Department, Kevin Wertsbaugh.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Tim Jordan-844 Sumo Ave.**

Mr. Jordan questioned why the Police Departments budget had so many line items with zeros. Mr. Patterson explained that in previous years, the Police Department had paid for many things from fund one and this year those items had been moved over to fund three and would be paid from there.

**Marty LaCasse with the Florence Archives.**

Ms. LaCasse stated to the Council that she was there to present the Council with the annual report for the Florence Historical Archives. Ms. LaCasse provided the Council with a packet detailing the projects that the Archives had been working on through the last year. Ms. LaCasse stated to the Council that they did a presentation to the Pueblo Community College in Canon City on the McCandless Family. Ms. LaCasse was very pleased to announce that the Archives now has a searchable database with over 21,000 individual items. Ms. LaCasse continued by saying they have joined both the Coalition of Pikes Peak Historical Museums and the Pikes Peak Archivist and Museums Network. Ms. LaCasse went on to say the one of the most outstanding projects they have done was



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the Construction of a three dimensional, diorama of Fremont County and Phantom Canyon, featuring the route of the Florence and Cripple Creek Railway, requiring an additional 200 volunteer hours over two months. This educational tool is currently installed in the large display case in the Macon Street entry of the Fremont County building and will be on display thru December, then will be available for display elsewhere. Several Councilmembers commented and thanked Ms. LaCasse and the volunteers at the Archive's for their time and dedication to preserving the rich history of Florence.

**6. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:**

**7. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

- a. **Meeting Minutes for September 18, 2019**
- b. **Meeting Minutes for September 30, 2019**
- c. **Meeting Minutes for October 7, 2019**
- d. **Bills Allowed**
- e. **Liquor License Renewal for El Alazan Mexican Restaurant**
- f. **Table Second Reading 07-15-2019A - An ordinance annexing the New Florence High School to the City of Florence to November 4, 2019**
- g. **Table Second Reading 07-01-2019B to Approve the Meade Estates Addition Annexation to November 4, 2019**

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilor Baker and second by Councilor Upton, the City approved the Consent Agenda Items.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES**

Council Member	Villagrana
Council Member	Knisley
Council Member	Vendetti
Council Member	Baker
Council Member	Cobler
Council Member	Upton
Mayor	Ore



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**8. Recognition of Award for Fremont Elementary School**

Planning Director, Wade Broadhead addressed the Council by stating about a year ago, he had met with the elementary school principal and discussed project based learning. Mr. Broadhead continued by saying the students, kindergarten through fifth grade decided they wanted to retro fit the school to help fellow students with disabilities. Mr. Broadhead stated that he has been the chairperson for the American Youth Planning Association since 2016 and nominated the school for the award. Mr. Broadhead accepted the award on behalf of the school at the fall planning conference. Mr. Broadhead then presented the award to Fremont Elementary School's Principal, Connie Parker.

**9. DISCUSSION & ACTION MATTERS:**

**a. Public Hearing – A Vacation of Portion of Crawford Avenue Right of Way Vacation (VAC-2019-01)**

Planning Director, Wade Broadhead started by thanking the applicant, Brandon Angel for his patience with the process. Mr. Broadhead continued by saying Mr. Angel had brought this to his attention quite a while ago. Mr. Broadhead explained to the Council that the City would keep the street right of way and easements in the middle of the road. Mr. Broadhead stated the problem is with floodwater running through the corner of Crawford and the corner of Mr. Angel's property. Mr. Angel explained to the Council that he has developed a portion of the street already to help alleviate some of the water issues and damage to the foundation of his house. Mr. Broadhead explained to the Council this partial vacation would not interfere with any of the utility easements. Council Member Baker verified with Mr. Angel that he had spoken with his neighbors, to which Mr. Angel stated he had been in contact with them, and none of them have any issues with him developing that portion of the road to divert the water to an agricultural field to the north of Mr. Angel's property. Several Council Members commented and thanked Mr. Angel for his time.

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilor Villagrana and second by Councilor Baker, the City approved the Crawford Vacation (VAC-2019-01)

**ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES**

Council Member	Villagrana
Council Member	Knisley
Council Member	Vendetti-Absent
Council Member	Baker
Council Member	Cobler
Council Member	Upton
Mayor	Ore



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**b. Public Hearing - Special Events Permit for the Florence Elks #611  
Event to be held on November 23, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.**

Mrs. Griffith explained to the Council that the Elks club were going to have a dance party to the music of the Atomic Fireballs. Mrs. Griffith stated they had submitted all the required paper work also.

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilor Villagrana and second by Councilor Upton, the City approved the Special Events Permit for the Florence Elks

**ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES**

Council Member	Villagrana
Council Member	Knisley
Council Member	Vendetti-Abstain
Council Member	Baker
Council Member	Cobler
Council Member	Upton
Mayor	Ore

**c. School Resource Officer IGA**

City Manager, Mike Patterson explained to the Council that this year's agreement was the same as the previous year, with the exception of a 4 percent wage increase for the officers. Council Member Villagrana thanked the SRO's for all of their dedication noting he often times will see them working with the children well after school has been let out for the day. Lt. Shane Prickett explained to the Council that the SRO's going above and beyond, often working after school and cover things like school dances on their own time.

**MOTION:** On motion by Councilor Upton and second by Councilor Baker, the City approved the School Resource Officer IGA

**ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES**

Council Member	Villagrana
Council Member	Knisley
Council Member	Vendetti
Council Member	Baker
Council Member	Cobler
Council Member	Upton
Mayor	Ore

**d. St. Joseph Manor Resubdivision (SUB-02-2019)**

Planning Director Wade Broadhead explained to the Council that the resubdivision of the St. Joseph Manor is the main step in getting the



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building ready to sell and be redeveloped. Mr. Broadhead stated that at the next council meeting he and the City Attorney would have an ordinance drafted and present a plat of the proposed new subdivision for the Council's approval. Mr. Broadhead continued by saying the ordinance will create a two-lot subdivision, and noted that the manor would be required to be its own separate lot if a developer wanted to create an Urban Renewal District.

e. **Second Public Hearing Re: 2020 Budget**

Finance Officer Lori Cobler stated since the last public budget hearing, she had made a few adjustments to the budget. Mrs. Cobler stated staff had been working hard to get employees a 4 percent wage increase in the 2020 budget. Mrs. Cobler went on to say general fund revenue increased by \$126,000.00, which is 4 percent over last year's budget. Mrs. Cobler continued by telling the Council that increase comes from \$95,000 in general and sales tax increases and \$14,000 comes from shared revenues. Mrs. Cobler went on to say the expenditures increased by \$8,015. She noted some of that increase was due to taking \$3,500 from the City's advertising budget and putting those funds into the Chamber's budget, bringing the total budget for the Chamber to \$13,000 for the year. Mrs. Cobler stated she had a discussion with Mr. Kasa from the Chamber and he had agreed to the Chamber taking over advertising and marketing for the City, along with the Chamber getting more involved in the City's Fourth of July event. The Council expressed they would like to see the Chamber make a master calendar to better manage and coordinate multiple City events. The Council would also like to see a report from the Chamber on how much revenue their events increase things like sales tax. Mrs. Cobler went on to say she had moved all of the Police Department salaries back to fund 1, and this was in effort to separate salaries from fund 3 and keep better track of DRMO. Mr. Patterson stated there will be one more public budget hearing on November 4 and because it is an election year, the 2020 budget would be passed on December 2 with the new members of the City Council.

**MAYOR'S AND CITY COUNCIL REPORT:**

Council Member Upton stated he had recently attended the last School Board workshop where Mr. Upton learned the school had contracted with Energy Performance Contracting Company for an energy efficiency study of the schools. Mr. Upton continued by saying the finding of the study showed the schools could save a significant amount of money by installing and upgrading some of their current systems like HVAC, solar and



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boilers for example. Mr. Upton stated the school would have a ten-year payback, but any savings after that it would be a profit the school could use to improvements within the school district. Mr. Upton ended his report by saying the study is still in the presentation stages but he would keep the Council updated on its progress.

Council Member Baker reported he is on the Fremont County Board of Zoning adjustment (BOZA) and they are having their 3<sup>rd</sup> hearing of the year this week. Mr. Baker stated he will have more to report on this matter at the next City Council meeting.

Council Member Villagrana stated he feels very strongly that the two research centers in town are doing a fantastic job in brining not only people from out of town, but also out of state to visit and learn the history of our great little town.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

##### **Police Department, Lt. Shane Prickett,**

Lt. Prickett reported the National DEA drug take back program was happing this coming Saturday from 10am-2pm in the Police Department parking lot.

##### **Public Works, Martin Lancaster;**

Mr. Lancaster wanted to remind everyone that leaves must be bagged in order to be picked up by the City. Mr. Lancaster was happy to announce the Florence Huskies were 7-0 this year, and the final home game of the season will take place on Friday November 1, 2019. Mr. Lancaster encouraged everyone to attend and show their Husky pride.

##### **Water Superintendent, Kevin Wertsbaugh:**

No report

##### **Finance Officer, Lori Cobler;**

Mrs. Cobler stated to the Council that sales tax for the month of August was \$81,976.85. Mrs. Cobler continued by saying this was the 3<sup>rd</sup> best month of the year. Mrs. Cobler also stated sales tax in general was up 11%. Mrs. Cobler explained to the Council that the OHV license ordinance had gone into effect and in the first week, the City issued seven licenses.

##### **Planning Director, Wade Broadhead:**

Mr. Broadhead gave an update on the property located at 331 Denver St. Mr. Broadhead stated he and the City Attorney had been in contact with the Fremont County Assessors officer. Mr. Broadhead was able to get a ruling on the value of the property. Mr. Broadhead stated it may cost more to get an appraisal done than what the property is





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actually worth. Mr. Broadhead will keep the Council updated on this situation as he gets more information.

**Interim City Clerk, Jessica Griffith:**

No Report

**City Manager, Mike Patterson:**

Mr. Patterson added to Mrs. Cobler's sales tax report by saying that 5 out of the last 6 months have been the best sales tax revenues in the City's history. Mr. Patterson stated the City will be doing interviews for the police Chief position on Wednesday, November 13, 2019. Mr. Patterson continued by saying there will be a meet and greet with the candidates on Tuesday, November 12 at 6:00 pm and the community is invited to attend.

**ATTORNEYS REPORT:**

No Report

**There being no further business, Mayor Ore adjourned the meeting at 8:23 P.M.**

CITY OF FLORENCE, CO

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Keith Ore, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Jessica Griffith, Interim City Clerk