



CITY OF FLORENCE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
March 2, 2020

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Upton called the regular meeting of the Florence City Council to order at 7:01 pm.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilor Esquibel led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Upton	-	Present
Councilor Allen	-	Present
Councilor Esquibel	-	Present
Councilor Knisley	-	Present
Councilor Vendetti	-	Present
Councilor Wood	-	Present
4. **ALSO PRESENT:** City Manager, Mike Patterson; City Attorney, Matt Krob; City Clerk, Jessica Griffith; Finance Officer, Lori Cobler; Public Works Director, Sam Elstun; Water Superintendent; Brandon Harris, Planning Director, Wade Broadhead; Police Chief: Shane Prickett;
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** N/A
6. **Rotary Club Presentation by Kevin Mahmalji and Dan Peterson**

Kevin Mahmalji thanked the Council and Staff for inviting the Rotary Club to do a presentation. Mr. Mahmalji explained to the Council that Rotary is an international service organization that has been around for one hundred and fifteen years and has over one point two million members worldwide. Mr. Mahmalji continued by saying Rotary clubs focus both on local and international projects. Mr. Peterson spoke about the local backpack food program that the Florence Rotary assists with. Mr. Peterson explained that this program helps get nutritious food for both Fremont Elementary and Penrose Elementary school students to take home each week. Mr. Peterson continued by saying he is going to do some fundraising for this program at the Fremont County Heart of Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days conference, scheduled for Sept. 23-25, 2020. Mr. Mahmalji spoke about the Duck Derby event which is a co- fundraising event with the Canon City Rotary club to raise money for local non-profit organizations in Fremont County. Mr. Peterson then spoke about the Fun Fest event which the Rotary hosts for the Florence High School seniors. Mr. Peterson explained this



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event is designed to provide the Seniors a night of fun in a safe environment on graduation night. Mr. Peterson stated that last year the Rotary guaranteed each senior one hundred dollars if they showed up and had all but two students from the entire senior class participate in the event. Planning Director, Wade Broadhead spoke about the Dictionary program which delivers dictionaries to the third-grade students at both Fremont Elementry and Penrose Elementry. Mr. Broadhead explained that they do exercises with the students by having them look up five to six words and the students seem to enjoy that.

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

City Manager, Mike Patterson asked the Council to extend the deadline for letters of interest for the open vacancy in ward two until March 13, 2020. Mr. Patterson explained the reason for the request was due to the public notice not being advertised in the newspaper until the day before the deadline date of February 28. Mr. Patterson stated staff felt it was important to advertise the vacancy in the local newspaper as not everyone uses Facebook or the City's website.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Esquibel and second by Councilor Allen, the City approved the Request to extend the deadline for the ward two vacancy to March 13.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES**

Councilor	Knisley
Councilor	Vendetti
Councilor	Wood
Councilor	Esquibel
Councilor	Allen
Mayor	Upton

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

- a. **Meeting Minutes for February 18, 2020**
- b. **Special Meeting Minutes for February 13, 2020**
- c. **Bills Allowed**
- d. **Continue Ordinance 07-01-2019B to Approve the Meade Estates Addition Annexation to March 16, 2020**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Allen and second by Councilor Vendetti, the City approved the Consent Agenda Items.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES**

Councilor	Knisley
Councilor	Vendetti
Councilor	Wood
Councilor	Esquibel
Councilor	Allen



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Mayor

Upton

**9. DISCUSSION & ACTION MATTERS:**

**a. Request for Trencher Purchase for Public Works**

Public Works Director, Sam Elstun explained to the Council this trencher purchase would be solely for Cemetery maintenance. Mr. Elstun stated the public works department will be adding sprinkler system lines to several new blocks as well bringing in some of the older blocks into perpetual care. Mr. Elstun continued by saying there is approximately three thousand feet of two-inch sprinkler system pipe to install and with the new trencher the department will be able to do this project with a much smaller footprint and have less impact on the surrounding ground.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Vendetti and second by Councilor Esquibel, the City approved the Purchase Request for a Trencher for \$13,968.00.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES**

Councilor	Knisley
Councilor	Vendetti
Councilor	Wood
Councilor	Esquibel
Councilor	Allen
Mayor	Upton

**b. Sign Code**

Planning Director, Wade Broadhead explained to the Council that he didn't push very hard for a sign code when he first started with the City because of the business owners were doing a great job with tasteful signs. Mr. Broadhead went on to say recently there had been more and more issues coming up and the staff felt the City should adopt a formal sign code and have a better process in place. Mr. Broadhead stated that his planning assistant, Janelle Dodd and himself put together a two side cheat sheet to help everyone understand the process along with some frequently asked questions. Mr. Broadhead continued by saying this sign code covers everything from public murals, community signage, signs in the right of way, and historic signs. Mr. Broadhead stated he wasn't looking to pass the sign code at this meeting but wanted to give the Council a chance to look at it and make any changes they felt necessary.

**c. Special Events Permit for The Florence Chamber of Commerce Banquet Dinner. Event to be held at the Emergant Campus on March 14, 2020, from 12:00 pm to 12 am**



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John Miller from 111 Church Ave explained this Special Events Permit was for the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet dinner. Mr. Miller stated they will serve beer and wine and invited everyone to attend.

Mayor Upton verified with the City Clerk, Jessica Griffith that all paperwork and fees had been submitted and paid.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Vendetti and second by Councilor Allen, the City approved the Special Events Permit for the Florence Chamber of Commerce.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES**

Councilor	Knisley
Councilor	Vendetti
Councilor	Wood
Councilor	Esquibel
Councilor	Allen
Mayor	Upton

- a. **Special Events Permit for the Special Forces Motorcycle Club**  
**Events to be held on March 21, 2020, from 6:00 pm to 12:00 am**  
**April 25, 2020, from 12:00 pm to 12:00 am**  
**June 20, 2020, from 12:00 pm to 12:00 am**

Special Forces Motorcycle Club President, Jeff Ross, explained to the Council they had recently purchased solid barriers that they will be used to close off the sidewalk in front of their building during their special events.

Mayor Upton verified with the City Clerk, Jessica Griffith that all paperwork and fees had been submitted and paid.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Esquibel and second by Councilor Vendetti, the City approved the Special Events Permit for the Special Forces Motorcycle Club.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES**

Councilor	Knisley
Councilor	Vendetti
Councilor	Wood
Councilor	Esquibel
Councilor	Allen
Mayor	Upton

**1. MAYOR'S AND CITY COUNCILS REPORT:**

- a. **Mayor:** Mayor Upton reported he had attended the Gold Belt byways meeting where they discussed four items. A mentoring program from the Colorado Tourism Office. The Rambler 500 event on September 18, 2020, where you



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can bring an old clunker car not worth more than five-hundred dollars and do a road rally around the Pikes Peak area. A run/walk event up Mount Pisgah in Cripple Creek on September 26, 2020. Finally, Mayor Upton explained the Gold Belt Byways is working with Fremont County to address the issue of illegal camping and trash dumping along the shelf road and other parts of the Gold Belt.

**b. Council Committee Reports:**

Councilor Wood reported she had attended the first Housing Committee meeting on February 19, 2020, where she was made chairperson. Mrs. Wood feels this is a good, generalized group to brainstorm and address the affordable housing issues in Florence. Mrs. Wood also reported on the Historic Preservation Committee meeting she attended on February 26, 2020, where they discussed establishing a Historic Register and that the Council would be seeing that at a future meeting.

Councilor Esquibel reported on the UAACOG meeting he attended on February 26, 2020, where they discussed hiring two more people to assist with the Rural Jump-Start Program, grant writing classes, and the two new buildings that Fremont County is planning on putting at Pathfinder Park.

**c. Other Council Comments:** No other reports

**ATTORNEYS REPORT:** No Report

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Police Department, Chief Prickett:** No Report

**Public Works Director, Sam Elstun:** No Report

**Water Superintendent, Brandon Harris:** No Report

**Finance Officer, Lori Cobler:**

Mrs. Cobler spoke about the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> of July event and the fundraisers that the staff is working on. Mrs. Cobler stated that while the City does budget for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event, we also rely on fundraising and donations. Mrs. Cobler continued by saying the first fundraiser will be the bowling for fireworks event on March 21, the chili and pie cookoff on April 25 and a street dance at the Elks Lodge is also in the works.

**Planning Director, Wade Broadhead:** No Report



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**City Clerk, Jessica Griffith:** No Report

**City Manager, Mike Patterson:** Mr. Patterson wanted to thank the Council, City Staff and the citizens for being so kind to him and his family.

Mr. Patterson requested one executive session and asked the Council to invite the City Manager, Mike Patterson, City Attorney, Matt Krob, City Clerk, Jessica Griffith, Finance Officer, Lori Cobler, Public Works Director, Sam Elstun, Planning Director, Wade Broadhead and the Police Chief, Shane Prickett into the session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

An executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators.

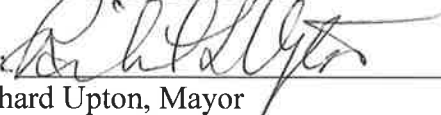
**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Vendetti and second by Councilor Esquibel, the City approved moving into Executive Session at 7:52 p.m. and adjourned from Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES**

- Councilor Knisley
- Councilor Vendetti
- Councilor Wood
- Councilor Esquibel
- Councilor Allen
- Mayor Upton

**There being no further business, Mayor Upton adjourned the meeting at 8:22 P.M.**

CITY OF FLORENCE, CO

BY:   
Richard Upton, Mayor

ATTEST:   
Jessica Griffith, City Clerk