



**CITY OF FLORENCE
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
May 22, 2020**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Upton called the special meeting of the Florence City Council to order at 12:02 pm.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** City Manager Mike Patterson led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL:**
 - Councilmember Wood
 - Councilmember Esquibel
 - Councilmember Knisley-Absent
 - Councilmember Hardy-Absent
 - Councilmember Allen
 - Councilmember Vendetti-Absent
 - Mayor Upton
4. **ALSO PRESENT:** City Manager, Mike Patterson; City Clerk, Jessica Griffith; Planning Director, Wade Broadhead; Police Chief: Shane Prickett
5. **FLORENCE BREWERY DISCUSSION**

City Manager, Mike Patterson stated that Hans Prah from the Florence Brewing Company had expressed that he felt the brewery was being discriminated against by the Fremont County Health Department. Mr. Patterson continued by explaining that due to the COVID-19 pandemic the brewery had not been open and because they have a manufacturer liquor license and they do not sell food they would not be able to open under the newest variance that has been granted to the County. Mr. Patterson went on to say that the City had found that the rules Fremont County was enforcing on the Florence Brewery are the same rules that other wineries and breweries were facing around the State. Mr. Patterson stated that Fremont County has applied to the State for a special variance for the wineries and the brewery to allow them to open for tastings and pointed out that no other County has done that. Mr. Pattersen went on to say the brewery is still allowed to sell alcohol to go, but they are not allowed to let customers consume alcohol on the premises.
6. **PREMISE MODIFICATIONS DISCUSSION FOR:**

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City Manager, Mike Patterson wanted to give an update to the Council about how the new variance granted to the County was going to impact the local restaurants in Florence. Mr. Patterson stated that himself and Planning Director, Wade Broadhead had spoken to each restaurant owner either by phone or in-person. Mr. Patterson went on to say restaurants will be able to open at 30% compacity and that the State is allowing restaurants to modify their liquor licenses to serve alcohol on sidewalks, parking lots and other spaces to aid in having more service areas.

Mr. Patterson also briefed the Council on the meeting himself and Planning Director, Wade Broadhead had with CDOT in regards to parking.

There being no further business, Mayor Upton adjourned the meeting at 12:37 P.M.

CITY OF FLORENCE, CO

BY: 
Richard Upton, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Jessica Griffith, City Clerk