



**CITY OF FLORA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
131 EAST SECOND STREET**

**MARCH 18, 2024 – 4:30 P.M.**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

Mayor Rick Slaughter called the Regular Council Meeting of the City of Flora to order and City Clerk Becky Burgess called roll. Present were Mayor Rick Slaughter, Commissioner Linda Spicer, Commissioner Jeremy Henderson, Commissioner Phil Wiley and Commissioner Jim Fehrenbacher.

Others in attendance were Chief of Police Guye Durre, City Administrator/Economic Development Director Mike Stanford, City Clerk Becky Burgess, Building and Zoning Official Chad Bayles and Superintendent of Public Services Toby Rinehart. City Attorney Bob Coble was absent. Two media representatives and several guests were also in attendance.

Mayor Rick Slaughter led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Phil Wiley offered the Invocation.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mike Gill addressed Council regarding the use of Charley Brown Memorial Park.

A MOTION TO ALLOW FLORA ROTARY CLUB TO USE CHARLEY BROWN PARK ON APRIL 20, 2024 (DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT) WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SPICER; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILEY.

- Vote: Yes – Slaughter, Spicer, Henderson, Wiley, Fehrenbacher
- No – None
- Abstain – None; Absent – None

Roy Smith was listed under Public Comments on the agenda; however, he was not in attendance.

Others engaging in Public Comments were Flora resident Anthony Woolever and Superintendent of Flora Schools Joe Hackney.

Mr. Woolever questioned rumors he had heard regarding Hucks purchasing the DiMaggio's building for a gaming facility and questioned if another license had been granted to put in gaming there. Mayor Rick Slaughter stated that there has not been anyone that has applied.

Dr. Hackney voiced his concerns on the rezoning of property across from Floyd Henson Jr. High. Hackney's concern is the type of facility that will be placed there, as it is a high traffic area. Hackney is concerned with the students' safety when walking to and from school, as well as the picking up and dropping off of students. Hackney stated that he hopes safety is discussed when making a decision on rezoning the property.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR MARCH 18, 2024 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FOR THE CITY OF FLORA WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER.

- Vote: Yes – Slaughter, Spicer, Henderson, Wiley, Fehrenbacher  
           No – None  
           Abstain – None; Absent – None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were listed under the Consent Agenda:

- ACCEPT POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2024
- ACCEPT BUILDING AND ZONING REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2024
- APPROVE TREASURER’S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2024
- APPROVE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 4, 2024
- APPROVE SCHEDULE OF BILLS FOR PERIOD ENDING MARCH 13, 2024
- APPROVE FARMERS’ MARKET AT LIBRARY PARK ON SATURDAYS FROM MAY 4, 2024 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28, 2024 (8:00 A.M. – 12:00 NOON)

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SPICER SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILEY.

- Vote: Yes – Slaughter, Spicer, Henderson, Wiley, Fehrenbacher  
           No – None  
           Abstain – None; Absent – None

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

City Administrator/Economic Development Director Mike Stanford presented two items for Council’s consideration.

A MOTION TO PASS A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY PERSONNEL TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER.

- Vote: Yes – Slaughter, Spicer, Henderson, Wiley, Fehrenbacher  
           No – None  
           Abstain – None; Absent – None

A MOTION TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 24-3334, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN EXTENSION OF THE CONTRACT FOR CLEANING SERVICES WITH PAULA FRUTIGER, d/b/a FRUTIGER’S CLEANING, WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SPICER.

- Vote: Yes – Slaughter, Spicer, Wiley, Fehrenbacher  
           No – None  
           Abstain – Henderson; Absent – None

Stanford took the time to thank the Tourism and Chambers members for working on planning the Solar Eclipse activities, noting that their volunteer effort is much appreciated.

City Clerk Becky Burgess presented a resolution regarding minutes.

A MOTION TO PASS A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE RELEASE OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SPICER; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILEY.

- Vote: Yes – Slaughter, Spicer, Henderson, Wiley, Fehrenbacher  
No – None  
Abstain – None; Absent – None

Building and Zoning Official Chad Bayles presented several items for Council to consider.

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FLORA POOL HOURS AND FEES FOR THE 2024 SEASON WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER.

- Vote: Yes – Slaughter, Spicer, Henderson, Wiley, Fehrenbacher  
No – None  
Abstain – None; Absent – None

After Bayles proposed the 2024 Pool employees and rates of pay, Commissioner Jeremy Henderson requested that this item be tabled, pending further evaluation. Mayor Slaughter questioned if someone was unhappy and had contacted him regarding the rate of pay, in which Henderson noted no. Henderson explained that he would like to have more time to review surrounding area wages and be fair in the pay, mainly the manager rate. Commissioner Wiley questioned if tabling this would postpone the opening of the pool, in which Bayles noted it would not. Commissioner Spicer asked that if this is tabled, will there still be adequate time to have everything in place. Bayles stated that the new lifeguards would still have plenty of time to certify their license and everything could still be accomplished by opening day.

A MOTION TO TABLE THE APPROVAL OF POOL EMPLOYEES AND RATES OF PAY FOR THE 2024 SEASON WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER HENDERSON; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER.

- Vote: Yes – Spicer, Henderson, Wiley, Fehrenbacher  
No – Slaughter  
Abstain – None; Absent – None

Bayles continued with Ordinance No. 24-3335 and requested Council to consider an ordinance regarding the rezoning of property on Stanford Avenue. This request went before the Zoning Board and was approved by them. Commissioner Jim Fehrenbacher requested tabling this ordinance regarding the rezoning of real estate, noting that this needs further review with City Attorney Bob Coble.

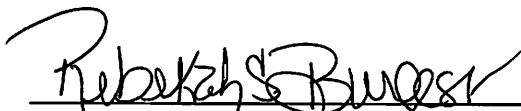
A MOTION TO TABLE ORDINANCE NO. 24-3335, AN ORDINANCE REZONING REAL ESTATE OWNED BY THE ESTATE OF MARGARET M. ETCHISON AND BEING PURCHASED BY E.J. LEWIS PROPERTIES, LLC TO C-2 NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (STANFORD AVE.), PENDING CONSULTATION WITH CITY ATTORNEY BOB COBLE, WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SPICER.


- Vote: Yes – Spicer, Henderson, Wiley, Fehrenbacher
- No – Slaughter
- Abstain – None; Absent – None

**ADJOURN**

At approximately 4:42 p.m. with no further business to discuss, Mayor Slaughter requested a motion to adjourn.

COMMISSIONER SPICER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILEY. COUNCIL MEMBERS CONCURRED AND MAYOR SLAUGHTER DECLARED SAID MEETING ADJOURNED.

  
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Rebekah S. Burgess, City Clerk

  
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Rick J. Slaughter, Mayor

Approved by City Council on: April 1, 2024