

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

**July 1, 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 Phil Wiley and Commissioner Jim Fehrenbacher. Commissioner Jeremy Henderson was absent.

Others in attendance were City Attorney Bob Coble, 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 Treasurer Kim Adair was absent. One media representative and four guests were also in attendance.

Mayor Rick Slaughter led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chief of Police Guye Durre offered the Invocation.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

On behalf of the Clay County Farm Bureau Young Leaders, Kristen Logan addressed Council with a request to use Charley Brown Memorial Park. Logan stated that they are planning their annual rodeo again this year.

**A MOTION TO ALLOW CLAY COUNTY FARM BUREAU YOUNG LEADERS THE USE OF CHARLEY BROWN MEMORIAL PARK ON JULY 19, 2024, WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SPICER.**

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

On behalf of Flora Tourism Committee, Amy Allen made a request regarding the use of City property, including road closures and several new events for Kriskindlemarket.

**A MOTION TO ALLOW FLORA TOURISM COMMITTEE THE USE OF THE LIBRARY PARK AREA AND THE CITY HALL AREA, WITH APPROVED EVENTS AND ROAD CLOSURES, ON DECEMBER 13-14, 2024, WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SPICER; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILEY.**

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

On behalf of the Coon Club, Brody Burdine addressed City Council. Burdine thanked the City for hosting their events in the past and presented Council with a plaque for hosting Black and Tan Days this year. Burdine explained that his goal is to restore the relationship between the Coon Club members and the City, and encouraged everyone to stop in during their events. Burdine further noted that there is a lot of money spent in Flora while the events are in town. He requested the use of Charley Brown Memorial Park for the 2025 Black and Tan Days (April 28<sup>th</sup> through May 4<sup>th</sup>), as well as 2025 English Days (June 4<sup>th</sup> through June 8<sup>th</sup>). Burdine took the time to ask Council to look into changing the tent camping policy for special events, noting that several of their members utilize tents. Mayor Rick Slaughter stated that Council would take his requests under advisement and will act upon it at a later date.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE JULY 1, 2024, REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FOR THE CITY OF FLORA WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER.

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

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were listed under the Consent Agenda:

- APPROVE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2024
- APPROVE SCHEDULE OF BILLS FOR JUNE 13, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 25, 2024

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

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

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

Mayor Rick Slaughter presented two resolutions for Council to consider.

A MOTION TO PASS A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING (SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2024) WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SPICER; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILEY.

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

A MOTION TO PASS A RESOLUTION APPROVING INCREASE IN ALLOWANCE FOR VOLUNTEERS OF ESDA AND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT (FROM \$75.00 UTILITY CREDIT PER MONTH TO \$100.00 UTILITY CREDIT PER MONTH) WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILEY.

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

Commissioner Linda Spicer reminded everyone to stay safe over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and then presented a resolution for a new bank signature.

A MOTION TO PASS A RESOLUTION APPROVING FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SIGNATURE OF CITY TREASURER (KIM ADAIR) WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER.

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

In the absence of Commissioner Jeremy Henderson, City Administrator/Economic Development Director Mike Stanford presented a lease agreement.

A MOTION TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 24-3359, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF FLORA AND CLINT GREEN (LITTLE TOOT RAILROAD FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2024 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2025) WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER.

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

Commissioner Phil Wiley gave a run down of the events taking place on July 4<sup>th</sup> and noted that if it rains, the fireworks will be held on July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Chief of Police Guye Durre announced that applications are being accepted for the Police Eligibility List. Durre noted where applications may be obtained and stated that the deadline is July 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

City Administrator/Economic Development Director Mike Stanford allowed Lee Beckman to address Council on the various grants that Milano & Grunloh Engineers are completing for the City. Beckman gave a brief update on each of the grants that are currently being pursued. Following his presentation, Stanford presented several items for Council to consider.

A MOTION TO PASS ORDINANCE NO. 24-3358, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AGREEMENTS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECT, IDOT DESIGN PHASE 1 (\$27,848.00) AND IDOT CONSTRUCTION PHASE 1 (\$20,886.00) WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SPICER.

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

Stanford noted that due to the dealerships not having pickup trucks in stock that he would like to reject the bids that we received for the new Building and Zoning truck.

A MOTION TO APPROVE REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR THE NEW TRUCK FOR BUILDING AND ZONING WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SPICER; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILEY.

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

A MOTION TO APPROVE WAIVING THE FORMAL BIDDING FOR A NEW TRUCK FOR BUILDING AND ZONING WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER.

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

A MOTION TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FROM JIM HAYES INC. FOR A NEW 2024 DODGE RAM 1500, 4X4 CREW CAB (\$41,297.52) FOR BUILDING AND ZONING WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SPICER.

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

Next Stanford requested waiving formal bidding for a truck for Public Works, noting that the current vehicle was totaled in a deer incident.

A MOTION TO APPROVE WAIVING THE FORMAL BIDDING FOR A NEW TRUCK FOR PUBLIC WORKS WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILEY; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SPICER.

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

The next item listed on the agenda was seeking approval to purchase a 2024 Ford Maverick for Public Works in the amount of \$27,115.00. Due to that vehicle being sold, Stanford sought Council approval to purchase a different 2024 Ford Maverick from the same dealer, but at the lower price of \$26,060.00.

A MOTION TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FROM JIM HAYES INC. FOR A NEW 2024 FORD MAVERICK (\$26,060.00) FOR PUBLIC WORKS WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILEY.

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

Stanford noted that the insurance has paid off a little more than \$27,000 on the wrecked vehicle, so the new truck will be covered by that cost.

Stanford updated Council on the Downtown Parking Lot project noting that the lot has been striped. The final payout of \$27,660.57 is ready to be paid. The City will be responsible for adding lights and that process will begin soon.

Other updates that Stanford announced included the milling of Main Street, which will begin the week of July 7<sup>th</sup>. This should take approximately three days and after that the asphalt will be laid. He stated that all the ADA sidewalk approaches have been installed.

Stanford also explained that the basketball parking lot and the tennis court parking lot will be receiving the millings from the Main Street project.

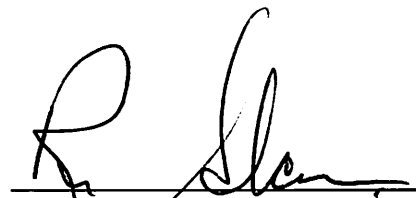
The last item Stanford mentioned was that construction of the pickleball courts are moving along as scheduled.

**ADJOURN**

At approximately 4:58 p.m. with no further business to discuss, Mayor Slaughter requested a motion to adjourn.

COMMISSIONER FEHRENBACHER 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: July 15, 2024