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**City of Florence
City Council Regular Session
Florence City Hall
250 Hwy 101, Florence, Oregon
Final Action Minutes
February 3, 2025**

Councilors Present: Mayor Ward, Councilors Robert Carp, Jo Beaudreau, Sally Wantz, and Bill Meyer.

Councilors Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Manager Erin Reynolds, City Recorder Lindsey White, Assistant City Manager Megan Messmer, Community Development Director Wendy FarleyCampbell, Police Chief John Pitcher, Public Works Director Mike Miller, Economic Development and Communications Analyst Chantelle Meyer, and Community Development Admin Assistant Nancy Ervin.

Guests Present: None.

Handout: 2.3.25 City Council Meeting Base Presentation

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This is an opportunity for members of the public to bring to the Council's attention any item not otherwise listed on the agenda.

Start Time: 5:32 p.m.

Commenter 1: Mr. Timothy Gilliam – Florence, OR

Handout: Speaker's Card and Written Comments

Discussion: Mr. Gilliam discussed...

- Requesting access to showers more than twice a week for homeless individuals.

- Access to larger trash cans for homeless individuals.
- Requesting access to drinking water in Gallagher Park.

Start Time: 5:35 p.m.
 Commenter 2: Ms. Ivy Medow – Florence, OR
 Handout: Speaker’s Card and Written Comments
 Discussion: Ms. Medow discussed...

- Former Prime Minister of Canada’s written essay about partnering with the United States in the past.

Start Time: 5:39 p.m.
 Commenter 3: Mr. Michael Allen – Florence, OR
 Handout: Speaker’s Card and Written Comments
 Discussion: Mr. Allen discussed...

- Update on climate petition.
- Requesting public/committee input to the Work Plan regarding the climate crisis.

Start Time: 5:43 p.m.
 Commenter 4: Ms. Patricia Burke – Westlake, OR
 Handout: Speaker’s Card and Written Comments
 Discussion: Ms. Burke discussed...

- Supporting the immigrant population in Florence and their contributions to the community.

Start Time: 5:45 p.m.
 Commenter 2: Ms. Linda Poppenheimer – Florence, OR
 Handout: Speaker’s Card and Written Comments
 Discussion: Ms. Poppenheimer discussed...

- The climate crisis and requesting City of Florence to declare a climate emergency and act accordingly.

ACTION ITEMS

2. 2025-2026 SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

Consider approving **Resolution No. 2. Series 2025**. A resolution authorizing the City of Florence, Oregon to accept a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation in the amount of \$892,966 for the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program for sidewalk improvements along 35th Street between Rolling Dunes Park and Kingwood Street.

Start Time: 5:47 p.m.
 Discussion: PWD Miller presented the staff presentation.
 Handouts: Staff Presentation

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- Where is the City’s match coming from?
- Estimating project start time.
- Appreciating information on how this project relates to the Work Plan.

Comments: Mayor Ward and Councilors Wantz and Beaudreau.

Discussion: Staff discussed...

- The remaining funds of \$102,204 will come from the street maintenance program.
- Once letter from State of Oregon is received giving okay to move forward, process will begin with developing plans with engineering firm and going out to bid later this summer with estimated completion in summer of 2026.
- PWD Miller provided an excellent timeline as part of refining the Work Plan for the next biennium.

Comments: PWD Miller and CM Reynolds.

Mayor Ward made a declaration that as a land surveyor and having a land surveying company in Florence, he has not been contacted by anyone related to this project. He does not believe it precludes him from voting on this project.

Action: Approve Resolution No. 2, Series 2025 and authorize City Manager to enter into the Safe Routes to School grant offer.

Motion: Councilor Meyer

Second: Councilor Beaudreau

Roll Call Vote: Councilor Wantz, ‘Aye’
Councilor Carp, ‘Aye’
Councilor Meyer, ‘Aye’
Councilor Beaudreau, ‘Aye’
Mayor Ward, ‘Aye’
Motion passes ‘Unanimously’

3. 35TH STREET AND RHODODENDRON INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS REIMBURSEMENT DISTRICT REPORT

Receive report from Public Works Director regarding the completion of the 35th Street and Rhododendron Drive Reimbursement District and consider directing staff to notice a public hearing on the constructed improvements and final reimbursement schedule.

Start Time: 5:58 p.m.

Discussion: PWD Miller presented the staff presentation.

Handouts: Staff Presentation

- Discussion: The City Council discussed...
- Having had conversation with the new owners of the golf course?
 - Being able to use this Reimbursement District to extend multi-use path on Rhododendron Drive in the future?
 - Understanding the repayment of \$70,000 if in today's dollars.

Comments: Mayor Ward and Councilor Beaudreau.

- Discussion: Staff discussed...
- Have not been in contact with new owners about this and will need to contact them about Safe Routes to School project.
 - If the City decided to move ahead with the multi-use path extension, one of the requirements would be the property owners having to develop their frontage. The Reimbursement District would be reformed, identifying the benefitting properties, and allocating the costs accordingly.
 - The repayment would be in today's dollars.

Comments: PWD Miller.

Action: Direct staff to notice a public hearing consistent with the requirements of FCC 8-5-1-4 for the completed improvements and final project reimbursement schedule for the Rhododendron Drive and 35th Street Intersection Improvements Reimbursement District.

Motion: Councilor Wantz

Second: Councilor Meyer

Roll Call Vote: Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'

Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'

Councilor Carp, 'Aye'

Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'

Mayor Ward, 'Aye'

Motion passes 'Unanimously'

4. **THREE RIVERS GRANT REQUEST FOR FLOCK CAMERAS**

Consider authorizing staff to apply for a grant from the Three Rivers Foundation in the amount of \$33,250 for the purchase of five Flock cameras and two years of service.

Start Time: 6:15 p.m.

Discussion: Police Chief Pitcher presented the staff presentation.

Handouts: Staff Presentation

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- The locations of the new cameras.
- Sharing information with other agencies

 Comments: Councilor Carp

Action: Authorize staff to apply for a grant from the Three Rivers Foundation in the amount of \$33,250 for the purchase of five Flock cameras and two years of service.

Motion: Councilor Beaudreau
 Second: Councilor Meyer
 Roll Call Vote: Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'
 Councilor Carp, 'Aye'
 Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'
 Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'
 Mayor Ward, 'Aye'
 Motion passes 'Unanimously'

CONSENT AGENDA

5. TRAVELER’S COVE LIQUOR LICENSE

Consider recommendation of approval to the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) for a change of ownership commercial liquor license for Traveler’s Cove located at 1362 Bay Street.

6. CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Consider approval of the meeting minutes for the January 6, 2025 Regular Session of the Retiring City Council and the January 6, 2025 Regular Session of the Incoming City Council meetings.

Start Time: 6:22 p.m.
 Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- The translation of the owner’s business name as “if you believe, you believe.”

 Comments: Councilor Wantz

Action: Approve the consent agenda as presented.
 Motion: Councilor Meyer
 Second: Councilor Carp
 Roll Call: Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'
 Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'
 Councilor Carp, 'Aye'
 Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'
 Mayor Ward, 'Aye'
 Motion passes 'unanimously'

REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. GENERAL REPORTS – Council Question and Answer Only – No Presentations

- December Committee, Commission, and Volunteer Reports

Start Time: 6:23 p.m.

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- No discussion

8. DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR UPDATES

Start Time: 6:23 p.m.

Discussion: The Department Directors discussed...

- Updates on staffing and training of the Police Department.
- Navigating the “Deflection Program” and how it is working.
- Rainfall for January was 6.32” recorded at Public Works. Average is 10.94”.
- Public Works preparing for the upcoming storm.
- Central Lincoln PUD performing tree trimming under power lines. Tree trimming at the interpretive site removed more than planned, resulting in the need to replace red alders with paper bark maples that are a slower growing tree.
- Preparing for the new restroom facility at Rolling Dunes Park.
- Update on the opening date of the new Estuary Trail. Trail is closed and considered a construction zone.
- Homeless camp cleanup located south of the new parking lot on Highway 101 and Spruce Street encompassing about one acre of land. Camp could not be seen from the parking lot or the Estuary Trail. Contracted with Hazmat One, LLC out of Eugene to perform the cleanup estimating three days of work for a crew of four plus one equipment operator.
- Introducing Community Development Admin Assistant Ervin to City Council with a formal introduction at a later meeting.
- Update on Planning Commission applicants.
- Upcoming agenda items for Planning Commission.
- Upcoming EMAC meeting with a change of time for the meeting to 3:00 p.m.

- Applicant deadline for commission and committee vacancies has been reached. In the process of scheduling applicant interview times.
- Upcoming events at the Florence Events Center.
- Reporting storm related issues and reporting a burned out streetlighting.

Comments: Police Chief Pitcher, PWD Miller, CDD FarleyCampbell, CR White, and ACM Messmer.

Discussion:

The City Council discussed...

- Requesting to have a Work Plan on the Deflection Program.

Comments: Councilor Beaudreau.

9. CITY MANAGER REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEM

Start Time: 6:49 p.m.

Discussion:

The City Council discussed...

- Scheduling Planning Commission interviews.
- City offices closed for upcoming President's Day holiday on February 17th.
- Upcoming City Council meetings and Work Sessions.
- Upcoming City meetings and events.
- League of Oregon Cities hosting Central Coast President's Regional Meeting on February 19th at the Florence Events Center.
- Thanking staff for their contributions to the City's monthly newsletter.

Comments: All Councilors present.

10. CITY COUNCIL REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS

Start Time: 6:59 p.m.

Discussion:

The City Council discussed...

- Siuslaw Vision is seeking childcare providers. Interested parties can contact by email at childcare@siuslawvision.org.
- Reporting no incidents at the warming center for the unhoused located within the urban area during these dangerously cold nights.
- Upcoming 2025 Wine, Chowder & Glass Float Trail event on February 14th-16th sponsored by the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce.

- Councilor Meyer read a statement to the Council about his intentions to resign from the City Council position with the City of Florence, Oregon effective February 28, 2025, Councilor Meyer stated it has been a pleasure working with this Council and the staff of the City Florence.

Discussion: After Councilor Meyer’s resignation announcement, the City Council discussed...

- Appreciating Council Meyer’s many years of contribution.
- Being a pleasure to work with Councilor Meyer.

Comments: All Councilors present.

Discussion: CR White presented the staff presentation on the process of filling a City Council vacancy.
 Handout: Staff Presentation

Action: Open the recruitment process to fill the City Council vacancy effective February 28, 2025, and proceed with the outlined process and timeline as discussed.

Motion: Councilor Wantz
 Second: Councilor Carp
 Roll Call: Councilor Wantz, ‘Aye’
 Councilor Carp, ‘Aye’
 Councilor Beaudreau, ‘Aye’
 Mayor Ward, ‘Aye’
 Motion passes ‘unanimously’

Councilor Meyer did not participate in the vote.

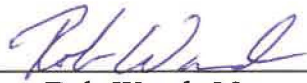
Discussion: The City Council continued discussing...

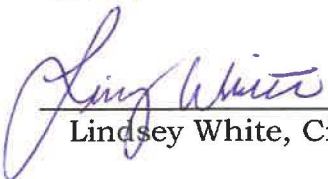
- Attending the Winter Music (Folk) Festival.

Comments: All Councilors present.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

ATTEST:


 Rob Ward, Mayor


 Lindsey White, City Recorder