

# March 12, 2024

## Minutes

The Florence City Council met on March 12, 2024, with Mayor Mary Condon presiding and Council members Debra Bartos Cahill, Mike Harrell, Denise Deichmann and Lesa Ragsdale present. Amy Hansson was absent.

Staff members present: Mary Dixon, Josh Teitge, Daniel Ortiz, Cameron Barnard

Legal Counsel present: None

Guests present: Ben Daniel, Cristy Daniell, J.T. Atkinson, Eric Gulbranson, Jodi Martell, Mark McIlheran, Cilicia Bickhem, Sharon Finch O'Maley and Angelica Lombardi.

Mayor Mary Condon called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Alderman Mike Harrell provided Invocation.

Mayor Mary Condon asked any Guests addressing the Council to speak at this time. **No comments.**

### Consent Agenda-

5. a. Denise Deichmann made the motion to approve the February 6, 2024 and February 8, 2024 minutes; as stated. Debra Bartos Cahill seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for

Lesa Ragsdale- for

Mike Harrell - for

Amy Hansson- absent

Debra Bartos Cahill-for

Motion carried.

### Committee, Council Members, and City Staff Reports:

6. **Mayor/Council Report-** Mayor reported that a meeting with TxDOT about the future sidewalk is schedule on 3/13/2024 at 10:00 A.M. and that the CDBG was finished.

7. **Municipal Court, Ramona Batchelor-** See report.

8. **City Secretary (Interim), Mary Dixon -** See Report.

9. **Police Department, Chief Josh Teitge –** Chief reported over 100+ junked vehicles in town. Would start a courtesy notice before proceeding with Council taking the appropriate measures; per the Ordinance. See Report.

10. **Public Works Department-** See Report.

11. **Florence Chamber of Commerce-** Cristy Daniell reported Chamber Afterhours would be 3/14/24 at Sereno Farms, Chamber meeting on 3/26/24 and update on 2024 Gala / Fundraiser. Also stated they were working on revised plans for the Chamber building renovations; to be completed in phases.

12. **Florence Planning and Zoning Committee-** No Report.

13. **Florence ISD Afterschool Centers on Education-ACE- Angel Callan-** Absent; No Report.

14. **Florence Community Garden Project –** Absent; No Report.

15. **Building Services Director, Mary Dixon -** See Report.

**16.** Debra Bartos Cahill made the motion to approve implementing the collections portions of the contract with MVBA, LLC for past due and uncollectable utility accounts; per the agreed collection fee. Lesa Ragsdale seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried.

**17.** Debra Bartos Cahill made the motion to accept and adopt Resolution No: 03122024-01 to approve a contract with Government Capital Corporation for the purpose of financing generators WWTP, Well #2 and Well #4; as stated. Lesa Ragsdale seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried.

**18.** Debra Bartos Cahill made the motion to accept the clarification of the approval of the three (3) 100 KW generator for WWTP, Well #2 and Well #4 to meet TCEQ requirements; per Section 252.022 General Exemptions of the Texas Local Government Code. Denise Deichmann seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried.

**19.** Debra Bartos Cahill made the motion to request a quote for the cost of a timer to operate the lights within the pool area and the issuance of a Memorandum of Understanding to the Florence Youth Baseball Softball Association to allow the lights to be turned on at the baseball fields over the batting cages for practices. The differences in the cost of the electric bill will be reimbursed to the City. Electricity is only needed thru May 2024. Denise Deichmann seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried.

**20. No action** was taken on the Masonic Lodge #358 utility account. No one was present to represent.

**21.** Discussion, consideration, and possible action on allowing Chase Wooldridge to film at the Eula Hunt Beck Florence Public Library was **TABLED**.

**22.** Debra Bartos Cahill made the motion to have Daniel Ortiz research alternatives for the funds with Wilmington Trust and bring back options at a future City Council meeting. Denise Deichmann seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon ask to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried

**23.** Discussion, consideration, and possible action on replacing the joint meter for Florence ISD; located at 401 FM 970 was **TABLED**; to allow more quotes to be obtained.

**24.** Debra Bartos Cahill made the motion to accept the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation to allow a child daycare facility at 301 Brewster Avenue with no conditions; as stated. Lesa Ragsdale seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried

**25.** Denise Deichmann made the motion to accept and adopt Resolution No: 03122024-02 to approve an agreement with Williamson County Elections to utilize the required voting systems per Section 61.012 of the Texas Election Code; as stated. Lesa Ragsdale seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried

**26.** Debra Bartos Cahill made the motion to approve the Joint Election Agreement between the City of Florence and Florence ISD. Denise Deichmann seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried

**27.** Debra Bartos Cahill made the motion to approve the order of election for May 4, 2024; for the purpose of electing a Mayor and 2 council members. Denise Deichmann seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried

**28.** Denise Deichmann made the motion to approve authorizing City Staff to prepare and advertised RFP for mowing certain city facilities. Debra Bartos Cahill seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried

**29.** Discussion, consideration and possible action on the first reading of Ordinance 03122024-01 was **TABLED.**

**30.** Debra Bartos Cahill made the motion to approve hiring Angelica Lombardi for the City Secretary position, at an annual salary rate of \$65,000, and allowing the required continuing education classes to keep her court clerk certification active. Denise Deichmann seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried

**31.** Debra Bartos Cahill made the motion to approve hiring Sharon Finch O'Maley as a consultant, at a rate of \$18.00 per hour, not to exceed 24 hours per week, to assist with training manuals, organization of ordinances for codification and other administrative tasks; as needed. Denise Deichmann seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon asked to poll the Council.

Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried

**32.** Denise Deichmann made the motion to approve the expenditures. Debra Bartos Cahill seconded the motion. Mayor Mary Condon ask to poll the Council.

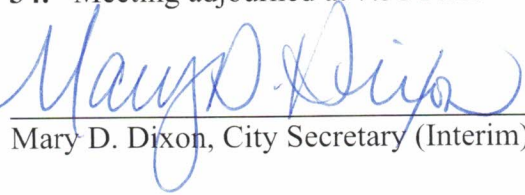
Denise Deichmann- for  
Lesa Ragsdale- for  
Mike Harrell - for  
Amy Hansson- absent

Debra Bartos Cahill-for  
Motion carried

**33.** The next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Mary Condon polled the Council to see who would be present at the next meeting.

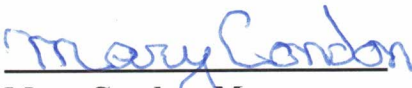
Lesa Ragsdale- confirmed  
Denise Deichmann- confirmed  
Mike Harrell- confirmed  
Amy Hansson- absent  
Debra Bartos Cahill- confirmed

**34.** Meeting adjourned at 7:51 P.M.

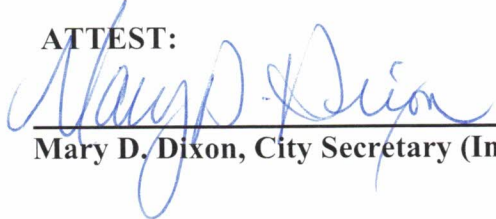
  
Mary D. Dixon, City Secretary (Interim)

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**PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE, TEXAS, this  
2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2024.**

  
Mary Condon, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Mary D. Dixon, City Secretary (Interim)