



**SPECIAL MEETING OF FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 2024 – 8:00 A.M.  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
324 WEST EVANS STREET  
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Pro Tempore George Jebaily, Councilwoman Lethonia Barnes, Councilman Chaquez T. McCall, Councilman Bryan A. Braddock, Councilman J. Lawrence Smith, II and Councilwoman LaShonda NeSmith-Jackson

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mayor Teresa Myers Ervin

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager; Mr. Clint Moore, Assistant City Manager of Development; Mrs. Amanda Pope, Director of Marketing, Communications and Municipal Services; Mr. Josh Whittington, Director of Utilities; Mr. Michael Hemingway, Director of Utility Planning and Economic Development; Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning; Mr. Robert Mott, Water Resources Manager; and Mr. Benjamin T. Zeigler, City Attorney

**MEDIA PRESENT**

Seth Taylor with the Post and Courier and a reporter with WPDE were present for the meeting.

Notices of this regular meeting of City Council were provided to the media and individuals requesting a copy of the agenda informing them of the date, location and time of the meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

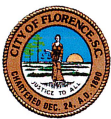
Mayor Pro tem Jebaily called the August 17, 2024 special meeting of Florence City Council to order at 8:04 a.m.

**INVOCATION**

Councilwoman Barnes gave the invocation for the meeting. The pledge of allegiance to the American Flag followed the invocation.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Pro tem Jebaily said Council will be entering into Executive Session to discuss information regarding a contractual matter.



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Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to enter into Executive Session and Councilman Smith seconded the motion. Council voted 6-0 to enter into Executive Session at 8:06 a.m.

Council resumed open session at 9:12 a.m.

Pro tem Jebaily asked Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager, to provide an update of the situation that occurred that led to taking the surface water plant offline. He asked Mr. Davis to address the health of the system and what measures are being taken to address the critical failures that led to the plant's shutdown. Mr. Davis said the system is healthy and explained the city is a dual system, operating both ground water and surface water treatment facilities. The surface water treatment plant is currently back online and both systems are functioning adequately.

Mr. Davis explained the incident occurred due to sediment in the water entering the system but was also due to a failure on staff's part. In-house standard operating procedures were not followed, and executive level staff should have been notified earlier of the incident but were not. The city is engaging in a contract with engineering firm CDM Smith to ensure these issues do not occur in the system again.

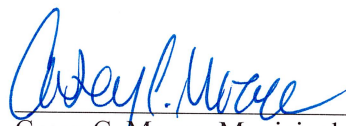
Mr. Davis said the system-wide boil water advisory is still in effect and staff anticipates that it will be lifted on Sunday. Water samples will be collected throughout the system and be sent for testing. Internal testing has indicated no biological infiltration in the water.

Councilman Braddock thanked Mr. Davis for taking ownership of the situation and coming up with a plan.

**ADJOURN**

Without objection, the August 17, 2024 special meeting of City Council was adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.

  
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Casey C. Moore, Municipal Clerk

  
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Teresa Myers Ervin, Mayor