FLORA TOWN COUNCIL
September 8th , 2025

The Flora Town Council met Monday, September 8 , 2025 in the Board Room of the Flora Town Hall. Those present were; James Bishop, Mark Thomas, Randy Hoffman, Tyler Jenkins, Breezy Land, Kendra Linn, Darren Wells (Commonwealth), Gabrielle Taber (Commonwealth), James Wells, Bret Rinehart, Scott Miller, Jack Begley, Justin Hayes, Vince Seward, Brian Johnson, Barbara Pearce, Laurie Brower, Jessica Heater, Chris Albaugh, Rob Kauffman, Darrell Yoder, and Pam Beck - Clerk-Treasurer.

Meeting is streamed and can be viewed on line at townofflora.org.

Darrell opened the meeting with welcome.

PUBLIC HEARING-2026 BUDGET- 1ST READING Ordinance 2025-01- Rob made a motion to approve the 1st reading of 2026 BUDGET Ordinance 2025-01. Chris seconded. Motion carried.

Rob moved the minutes of the previous meeting August 4th , 2025 be approved as presented; Chris seconded. Minutes approved. Claims and payroll signed.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Commonwealth- WWTP Update- Darren Wells- Division A-Pay Application # 9 for $982,082.50. Rob made a motion to approve Division A Pay Application #9 for $982,082.50. Chris seconded. Motion carried. Division B-Pay Application #6 for $596,106.43. Chris made a motion to approve Division B-Pay Application # 6 for $596,106.43. Rob seconded. Motion carried. Division B- Change Order # 3 for $45,287.00. Rob made a motion to approve Change Order #3 for $45,287.00. Chris seconded. Motion carried. Progress Meeting #10 is scheduled for Thursday, September 11th @ 11:00 a.m. at the Flora Town Hall.

B. Brian Johnson- Ordinance- Spoke about the due process for the Town of Flora Public Nuisance Ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. James Wells- New CEO/Executive Director of the EDC- Wells brings over sever years of experience in economic development, public administration, and real estate finance.

B. Park- Prestigious Lawn & Landscape- quote for slit seeding- Quote for $1,250.00 for slit seeding at the park. Rob made a motion to approve the quote from Prestigious Lawn & Landscape for $1,250.00. Chris seconded. Motion carried.

C. Victory Church- Ryan Faye is planning a block party on Saturday, October, 11th. They will use their parking lot and wanted permission to close Elm Street between N. Willow and N. Washington Street. The time frame would 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. An Event Application needs to be filled out before this event.

D. Sound Advice- Quote to replace current computer equipment is running off of Windows 10 with an expiration date of October 15th for support $14,254. Monthly fee $820 for monitoring/service/cyber protection/labor/etc. Police Department upgrade-$16,254. Checking on monthly fee. Wastewater Treatment Plant quote to replace current computer and monitor- $1,500. Rob made the motion to approve the total amount of $32,008.00 from Sound Advice for replacement of computer equipment for the Town office, Police Department, and Wastewater Treatment Plant. Chris seconded. Motion carried.

E. Flora Community Club- Jessica Heater- Carnival rides at the County Fair- Asking for approval to bring back carnival rides to our County Fair. Jessica said the company would need to have access to electric at the park for their 2 bunkhouses and 10 trailers that they will be bringing in. Council told Jesscia to contact Trevor about the electric. Council approved for carnival rides to be at our County Fair for 2026.

F. Wastewater Treatment Plant- Truck estimates- 2025 Chevy Silverado w/ snow plow- Kelly Auto $64,779. Hare Chevrolet no plow-$54,545. Mann Chevrolet- 2021 w/snow plow and 15,825 miles is $44,900. Chris made a motion to approve 2021 Chevrolet w/snow plow for $44,900. Rob seconded. Motion carried.

G. Town Building- Outside painting and repair for the Town Office- Christian Brothers Painting- $18,850- Rob made a motion to approve Christian Brothers Painting for $18,850. Chris seconded. Motion carried.

H. Waste Management- Fall Clean-up- Cost about $5,000 with 4 dumpsters, no bulky items- Council agreed that Spring Clean-up is a success and that there is not a need for a Fall Clean-up.

REPORTS:

A. Police Department – Chief James Bishop submitted his report. There were 137 calls for service, 19 citations, 110 warnings, 6 arrests/misdemeanors, and 5 accidents. Mason is at the Police Academy and due to graduate at the end of November. Streets at the park do not have street names and they need to due to 911. Once the street names have been decided on James will go through Area Plan to get them in place. James thanked Trevor and the Town guys for helping with their quick response with getting the railroad crossing fixed on W. Columbia St.

B. Fire Department – Fire Chief Tyler Jenkins reported the department had 11 fire-related call, and 9 EMS runs. Tyler needs an updated list of residents that are on oxygen. This is necessary so the fire department can assist these residents when there is a power outage.

C. Plan Commission- 4 permits issued for September: Michael Schuster- Shed. Flora First Christian Church- Repair Concrete. Keith Faulkner- Demolition. Valenia' Bautista Martinez- Deck.

D. Park Department- Merry go round removed- Willy Goat quote to replace it and add a swing set with a couple of swings-$6,800- Rob made a motion to approve the new merry go round, swing set, and swings from Willy Goat for $6,800. Chris seconded. Motion carried. Scott reported he has been painting playground equipment.

E. Airport- Jack Begley reported the Fly-in went well. They had 15 planes and passed out 50 toy gliders. Thanked the Fire Department for coming out and bringing their trucks. Also, thanked the Town guys for mowing and weed eating.

F. Utility Manager/Water Foreman- Trevor's report included: Street Department: Replacing too many trash cans. Many customers are getting upset. Park and Street Department would like 12 barricade cones. Cost $1590. This would be split between all 4 departments. Water Department: 114 locates. 8 water leaks. 60 calls for services. Electric Department: Had 119 calls for service. 7 power outages. Changed 7 poles. Hoosier X truck caused a town outage. Brightspeed is wanting to add service to 46 of our poles. Transformers for the WWTP have been delivered. Need new safety cover up for wires cost is $2,000.

G. WWTP Superintendent – Randy report included: Concerns of sewer not flowing at 418 Maple St. Checked up and down stream manholes and the town mains were flowing. Replaced the storm grate on 3rd St. the old one was no longer in safe working order. The DeC12 pump went down and we used our last remaining repair kit for it.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Duke Energy- Town wide power outage November 22nd at 10 p.m. until November 23rd at 8 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Depot Days is Saturday, September 27th , 2025
2. The next Town Council meeting will be Monday, October 6th , 2025.
3. New Zoning

Rob moved to adjourn; Chris seconded; motion carried.

TOWN OF FLORA

Darrell Yoder, President

ATTEST:

Robert Kauffman, Vice President

Pamela J. Beck, Clerk-Treasurer

Chris Albaugh, Finance Chairman