

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION MEETING AND WORKSHOP MINUTES
MAY 27, 2010**

MEETING STATISTICS. A regular meeting and workshop of the Fruitland Park City Commission were conducted in the Commission Chambers of City Hall, 506 West Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida on Thursday, May 27, 2010 beginning at 7:02 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. City Manager Bowers delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Kelly.

ROLL CALL. Mayor Bell asked City Clerk Diane Gibson Smith to call the roll.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT. Commissioner Albert O. Goldberg, Commissioner Sharon Kelly, Commissioner Jim Richardson, Vice Mayor John L. Gunter, Jr., Mayor Christopher J. Bell

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS/OTHERS PRESENT. City Manager (CM) Ralph O. Bowers, City Attorney (CA) Scott Gerken, Public Safety Director (PSD) J. M. Isom, Sr., Public Works Director (PWD) John Bostic III, Community Development Director (CDD) Charlie Rector, and City Clerk (CC) Diane Gibson Smith.

01. APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Mayor Bell presented the Consent Agenda for approval.

Vice Mayor Gunter moved and Commissioner Kelly seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously with all Commissioners voting aye. The minutes of the May 13, 2010 City Commission meeting were approved.

02. REAPPOINTMENT OF CATF MEMBERS AND APPOINTMENT ON TWO NEW MEMBERS. Mayor Bell announced several members had to be removed due to a change made in who is eligible to serve. The members being reappointed are: Kevin Violette, John Schaller, Connie Bame, Milton Kirby, and Colin Crews. New members being appointed are: Judy Mishoe and Myra Martin.

Vice Mayor Gunter moved and Commissioner Kelly seconded to approve the CATF members as presented. The motion carried unanimously with all Commissioners voting aye.

03. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

- a) CA Gerken stated Mr. Everts will be notified of the extension of the closing date of his property to coincide with the closing of the Coralluzzo property. If needed, Mr. Everts will be allowed time after closing to remove items.
- b) CA Gerken stated he received an email regarding a maintenance bond for Picciola Reserve. He noted a maintenance bond is normally due after final plat approval. The improvements have been in use for a number of years. Mr. Wagner is requesting to sign a guaranty for the improvements for two years and waiver of the maintenance bond.

Mayor Bell asked if the improvements have been inspected lately. CDD Rector stated yes, several times.

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Commissioner Richardson moved and Commissioner Goldberg seconded to waive the maintenance bond requirement as long as Mr. Wagner provides the written guaranty. The motion carried unanimously with all the Commissioners voting aye.

- c) CA Gerken stated CM Bowers distributed a memo regarding the generator for the WWTP. CA Gerken clarified any time we do not purchase off the State Contract, we must go out to bid. The discussion last week was about being able to purchase a generator cheaper than what is on the State Contract. Timing is an issue as we are currently in violation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

CM Bowers stated we may be able to claim the purchase as an emergency.

Vice Mayor Gunter stated he thought we had to go out to bid any time the item was over \$4,000. CA Gerken noted there is an exclusion included and that is if we purchase from State Contract.

CM Bowers stated if we decide to not use State Contract, we will go out to bid as soon as possible. This will be a discussion point for FDEP.

CA Gerken stated the normal bid time could be shortened due to it being an emergency purchase.

Mayor Bell questioned if we could still go with the State Contract if our bids come in higher. CM Bowers stated yes.

The decision was made to send out for bids for the generator using the normal timeframe.

- d) CA Gerken stated we are having WHH examine the review of the appraisal we received back from RW Beck for the electric system.

CM Bowers stated he has already authorized this review by our appraiser, our attorney, and the consultants we used. He noted he would like a motion approving the issuance to proceed.

CA Gerken stated the review of our appraisal done by RW Beck for Leesburg came back with a value that was \$2 million higher than our appraisal. Our consultant and appraiser are going to do a critique of the review and go back to Leesburg. CM Bowers has authorized the consultant to critique the review of the appraisal for a cost not to exceed \$6,000. This price does not include any money for the appraiser to examine the review.

CM Bowers stated we all want more money and need to point out to them the areas where their review of our appraisal was weak.

Commissioner Kelly moved and Vice Mayor Gunter seconded to ratify the City Manager's approval of funds not to exceed \$6,000 to the consultant. The motion carried with all Commissioners voting aye.

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05. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) CM Bowers stated he sent out a memo regarding the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. He stated he is not planning on presenting this unless the Commission requests it. CM Bowers stated he is not in favor of allowing this.

The Commission agreed with the conclusion.

06. PRE-BUDGET ITEMS

CM Bowers stated we have a large bill for the Public Safety Complex architect that we thought we would have grant funding to cover. We did not receive the grant and now need to find funds to cover the expenses so far.

Vice Mayor Gunter stated he thought they were only approved up to what was needed for the grant. CM Bowers stated no based on the contract.

Commissioner Goldberg questioned if this could be deferred to allow the City Attorney time to review the contract.

CM Bowers noted the problem arose due to buying property and the architect fees coming from the same source.

- a) CM Bowers stated \$104,000 was budgeted for street resurfacing and the projects are estimated at \$143,000. He stated he recommends authorization of doing all the projects except for Berckman Street resurfacing. The resurfacing will be piggybacked off the contract with Leesburg.

Commissioner Richardson questioned the cost for police officers on the resurfacing project. PWD Bostic stated no officers have been requested so no cost will be included for police officers.

Commissioner Kelly moved and Commissioner Goldberg seconded to approve the resurfacing projects except Berckman Street for \$66,877.50. The motion carried unanimously with all Commissioners voting aye.

- b) CM Bowers requested information on any other capital projects. Berckman Street resurfacing will be added as a CRA project. He recommended not buying any more properties. Sidewalks can be done next year.

Commissioner Kelly questioned if we needed to include bus shelters. She stated the first ones are being put in by Lake County. The decision was made to not put in additional ones. Commissioner Kelly also stated she would like to see aerators (or fountains) for the two lakes.

Mayor Bell stated he would really like to see a new Gardenia Park sign. CM Bowers stated prices are already being requested.

CM Bowers stated the water line across Cooke Street to Spring Lake Cove is eligible as a grant project with Smart Fuels. Smart Fuels has agreed to come up

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with \$75,000 (which we will finance) for going across the road so we will be looking for a grant to relieve them of that \$75,000 obligation. Tommy Smart agreed to that plan.

CM Bowers stated we are working on the Capital Improvement Plan and will be recommending putting in a well with a ground service tank on the Logan property. CM Bowers stated this will be necessary if Smart Fuels continues to grow as expected.

Vice Mayor Gunter questioned the fire control in that area. PSD Isom stated foam is necessary to fight fires there. This type of foam takes a lot of water.

CDD Rector questioned the current bid for the sidewalks, the length of those sidewalks and FDOT standards. CDD Rector stated FDOT standards will put the prices out of reach of most local people. Also the length of those sidewalks is cost prohibitive. He noted the best way to bid this is to go for a shorter length and then add more if needed. CM Bowers stated the bid will be cancelled and rebid so it is not cost prohibitive.

CDD Rector stated the Valley also has the most water issues so he is not sure why we would want to put sidewalks in that area at this time.

Commissioner Kelly questioned the pool and the decisions that need to be made. CM Bowers stated we have information on the repair and this can be brought back next week.

Vice Mayor Gunter stated he recommends not doing the sidewalks this year and possibly not the resurfacing. CM Bowers stated we are planning on pushing the sidewalks to next year and only plan on doing the smaller resurfacing project.

Mayor Bell questioned how next year is looking budget wise. CM Bowers stated nothing has been put in yet. Vice Mayor Gunter stated he expects revenues to be down around 15 - 20%.

CM Bowers stated we are going to try to reduce the General Fund by moving things out of Other General Government that really belong in other funds. CM Bowers stated he may go through the historical and proposed budget line by line for reasonableness and proper location.

Mayor Bell asked if we are possibly looking at reducing any personnel. CM Bowers stated he cannot forecast that at this time. He stated he is going to try to keep everything going next year.

Mayor Bell noted health insurance is one of the biggest expenses, is that something we can cut or alter in order to help. CC Gibson Smith stated we are looking at bringing an Agent of Record on board to help with looking at the health insurance especially with all the changes coming up.

CM Bowers stated all the changes which have been made have been brought before the employees in advance. This allows the employees to have a voice in changes.

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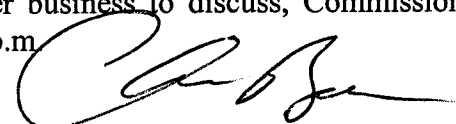
Commissioner Kelly stated health insurance is not a good area to cut, but perhaps come of the insurances we carry on some of the recreation items.

CM Bowers reminded the Commission that even when we lay off people, we still pay two thirds of their pay for unemployment compensation.

Vice Mayor Gunter stated perhaps we cut out the capital projects next year to balance the budget. CM Bowers stated most capital projects come out of restricted funds, not General Fund.


Vice Mayor Gunter noted the past few years have been easy for reviewing the budget.

09. CITIZENS' COMMENTS - Tommy Smart questioned what the City could do to raise revenue for the budget. Mayor Bell stated raising taxes is one way. Last year we implemented the fire and police user fees. Tommy Smart stated he would like to speak with PSD Isom regarding cutting fuel costs.
10. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS
- a. Vice Mayor Gunter –stated he attended the Veterans Memorial Groundbreaking Ceremony Saturday. This is a nice project. The employee picnic was very nice. He really liked the bubble things. Prizes were better.
 - b. Commissioner Goldberg – none.
 - c. Commissioner Kelly – MPO meeting on Wednesday and there was discussion about what is going to pay for transportation since impact fees are on hold until March. A new impact fee study is available. MPO is also looking at a 5 cent gas tax, etc. in order to fund transportation in the future. Transportation is a key issue. The next MPO meeting about transportation is scheduled for June 10, 2010 in the afternoon.
 - d. Commissioner Richardson – questioned the appraisal of the Baugh property. He stated the comparables go very far back in time. He questioned how to not use this appraiser again. CM Bowers noted this is already being reviewed. The Commission requested CA Gerken write a letter to the appraiser stating their disappointment in the appraisal. Mayor Bell stated this price is lower than the price being asked by the owner.
11. MAYOR BELL'S COMMENTS. Mayor Bell reviewed the upcoming events.
12. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Richardson moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



Christopher J. Bell, Mayor

Attest:



Diane L. Gibson Smith, CMC, City Clerk