

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION REGULAR  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 9, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Mayor Chris Cheshire, Vice Mayor John L. Gunter, Jr., Commissioners Christopher Bell, and Rick Ranize.

**Member Absent:** Commissioner Ray Lewis

**Also Present:** City Manager Gary La Venia, City Attorney Anita Geraci-Carver; City Treasurer Jeannine Racine; Police Chief Mike Fewless, Captain Eric Luce; Interim Fire Chief Don Gilpin; Deputy Fire Chief Tim Yoder; Fire Department; Michelle Yoder, Parks and Recreation Director; Community Development Director Charlie Rector; Public Works Dale Bogle; Fruitland Park Library Director JoAnn Glendinning, and City Clerk Esther B. Coulson.

**1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Cheshire called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

In the absence of Pastor Jim Keegan, New Life Presbyterian Church, and there being no one from the public, Chief Fewless gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**2. ROLL CALL**

At Mayor Cheshire's request, Ms. Coulson called the roll and a quorum was present.

**3. ANNUAL ELECTION**

**(a) Mayor**

Mayor Cheshire recognized the election for mayor for 2017.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Ranize that the city commission table the election of the mayor to the next meeting for consideration until Commissioner Ray Lewis is present.**

In response to an inquiry posed by Commissioner Bell, Ms. Geraci-Carver confirmed Commissioner Ranize's previous request to her; cited the city charter . . . *regular city election or as soon as possible thereafter* . . . under Subsection 3.07, Mayor and indicated that it would be the city commission's discretion to approve the motion which is not required.

Mayor Cheshire declared the motion died for a lack of a second.

**Vice Mayor Gunter placed in nomination the name of Chris Cheshire to serve as mayor for 2018. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Ranize.**

**There being no other names placed in nomination, the nomination was declared closed resulting in the unanimous reelection of Chris Cheshire as mayor for 2018.**

**By unanimous consent, Chris Cheshire was unanimously reelected as mayor for 2018.**

**(b) Vice Mayor**

Mayor Cheshire recognized the election for vice mayor for 2018.

**Commissioner Bell placed in nomination the name of John L. Gunter Jr. to serve as vice mayor for 2018. The nomination was seconded by Vice Mayor Gunter.**

**There being no further names placed in nomination, the nomination was declared closed resulting in the unanimous reelection of John L. Gunter Jr. as vice mayor for 2018.**

**By unanimous consent, John L. Gunter Jr. was unanimously reelected as vice mayor for 2018.**

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

**On motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Vice Mayor Gunter and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the following consent Agenda items:**

- (a) Approval of Minutes**  
Approved the October 26, 2017 regular meeting minutes

**and**

- (b) Resolution 2017-047 Board of Trustees Municipal Firefighters Pension Trust Fund Appointment – K Ducharme**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MUNICIPAL FIRE FIGHTERS PENSION TRUST FUND OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**Adopted Resolution 2017-047 as previously cited.**

**5. REGULAR AGENDA**

**(a) 2018 Meeting Schedule Discussion**

Mayor Cheshire referred to the 2018 city commission meeting schedule and indicated that the dates should read: “February 8 and 22” instead of “February 11 and 25”.

After discussion, Mayor Cheshire recognized that Mr. La Venia will not be able to attend the February 8, 2018 regular meeting and addressed the need to review after the New Year holding workshops for 2018 when Commissioner Lewis is present.

**On motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission agreed to reschedule its regular meeting from Thursday, February 8, 2018 to Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.**

**(b) Resolution 2017-046 CR 466A – Phase IIIA Improvements**

Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record proposed Resolution 2017-046 the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA AND THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THE CITY’S WATER AND SEWER LINES ALONG THE PROPOSED CR 466A PHASE IIIA ROAD PROJECT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

After Mr. La Venia described the proposed water and sewer lines installation, Commissioner Ranize cited reasons why he is recommending that Lake County remove the \$25,000 mobilization for CR 466A for Phase 3A Utility Adjustment in the engineer’s cost estimate and suggested adding 20 percent to said figure.

Following Vice Mayor Gunter’s concurrence with Commissioner Ranize’s recommendation, Mr. La Venia addressed his plan to write a letter to the county manager on the subject issue with a copy to the city commission.

In response to an inquiry posed Mayor Cheshire, Ms. Geraci-Carver addressed the city commission’s option of adopting the proposed resolution at this evening’s meeting with the recommended provision removing the \$25,000 mobilization or if it is unacceptable by the county, consider same at the December 14, 2017 regular meeting until Mr. La Venia has had an opportunity to communicate with them.

Following much discussion, **and on motion of Vice Mayor Gunter, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission tabled Resolution 2017-046, as previously cited, to the December 14, 2017 regular meeting for more information.**

**(c) Proposed Recreation Fees Discussion**

The city commission discussed with Ms. Yoder the proposed fees for parks and recreation.

Answering Mr. La Venia's explanation on the purpose of the proposed recreation fees, Commissioner Bell gave reasons (with the exception of Cales Park), why he objects to the proposed fees noting the same fees charged for the use of Gardenia Park Swimming Pool for city residents and nonresidents to which Commissioner Ranize questioned city residents paying additional taxes to utilize same.

After discussion and in response to Vice Mayor Gunter's statements on the pool's operations noting other local municipalities' rates, Ms. Yoder recalled her appearance before the city commission at its May 11, 2017 regular meeting on the subject issue as well as the use for the former community building.

Following further discussion and **on motion of Commissioner Ranize, seconded by Commissioner Bell and unanimously carried, the city commission tabled the proposed fees for parks and recreation to the December 14, 2017 regular meeting and directed the parks and recreations director to report back with more information on the lowering of the residential rates.**

**(d) Janitorial Cleaning Service Bids**

Mr. La Venia reviewed the following janitorial cleaning service proposals submitted by Lake County Janitorial Services Inc. for \$37,500 respectively and Ultimate Contract Cleaning Inc. for approximately \$48,000. He recognized the city's current business endeavors with Ultimate Contract Cleaning, its larger staff, and contract with neighboring municipalities and relayed his recommendation to award a contract with said company as the most responsive bidder.

After Commissioner Ranize referred to his remarks at the July 13, 2017 workshop on the comparative annual cost benefits in retaining a full-time employee including benefits versus outsourcing janitorial services, Mr. La Venia compared the difference of retaining the subject service contracts for \$3,000 to \$5,000 more per year.

Following further discussions and **on motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the city manager's recommendation of approval to award the above-captioned bid to Ultimate Contract Cleaning, as the most responsive bidder and directed the city attorney to draft a contract for consideration on the December 14, 2017 regular meeting agenda.**

After discussion, Ms. Geraci-Carver addressed the need for a contract with Ultimate Contract Cleaning for review and concurred in the affirmative to Mayor Cheshire's inquiry that a resolution will be drafted in that regard for the next meeting.

- (e) **ITB 2017-001 New Public Library Facility Construction and Contract Award**  
The city commission considered its action on Invitation to Bid 2017-001 New Public Library Facility Construction and Contract.

Mr. La Venia referred to the detailed spreadsheet distributed by Ms. Racine reflecting the Fruitland Park Library's construction expenses up to November 8, 2017 revealing more than \$450,000 short fall in the city's funds includes ITB 2017-002 Site Development of a New Public Library Facility Construction costs shown under regular agenda item 5.(f); thus, the stormwater, impact fees for areas affecting the public safety building, costs due to the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, and other uncalculated costs. (Copies of the respective documents are filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

In anticipating the proposed library construction project to be approximately 300 days, Mr. La Venia requested that Ms. Glendinning communicate with Lake County on the availability of additional grant funds to reduce the proposed library construction cost and indicated that staff could require the architect to re-engineer same recognizing the potential costs involved, or borrow funds.

In response to Commissioner Bell's inquiry on the options and in answering Mr. La Venia's remarks, Mr. Rector explained that the 300 calendar-day project contract would commence from the notice to proceed.

Mayor Cheshire indicated that a plan is required from Ms. Racine as to how the city intends to proceed on the proposed library construction and until the city receives reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Hurricane Irma cleanup, staff is to report to the city commission to review various options to implement same.

Following Commissioner Ranize' concerns, Mayor Cheshire suggested tabling the subject item.

In response to Vice Mayor Gunter's inquiry on the deadline for the bids, Ms. Glendinning interjected on the ability for her to apply for a new grant opportunity available from the county on February 1, 2018 for \$250,000 in additional library impact fee to be submitted by March 1, 2018.

Subsequent discussions ensued, Mayor Cheshire relayed Ms. Coulson's reference to subsection 5.3, the acceptance of bid and award of contract to be within 120 calendar days after the opening of bids.

Following further deliberation, **a motion was made by Vice Mayor Gunter that the city commission table Invitation to Bid 2017-001 New Public Library Facility Construction and Contract to the January 11, 2018 regular meeting for more information from the city treasurer and the Fruitland Park Library Director.**

After Ms. Glendinning responded to Commissioner Ranize' inquiry that the existing state and county grants already attained will expire on September 30, 2019, **the motion on the floor was seconded by Commissioner Ranize.**

**Mayor Cheshire called for a vote on the motion and declared it carried unanimously.**

- (f) **ITB 2017-002 Site Development of a New Public Library Facility Construction and Contract Award**  
**On motion of Commissioner Ranize, seconded by Commissioner Bell and unanimously carried, the city commission tabled the Invitation to Bid 2017-002 New Public Library Facility Construction and Contract to the January 11, 2018 meeting for more information from the city treasurer and the Fruitland Park Library Director.**

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

**By unanimous consent, Mayor Cheshire opened the public hearing at this evening's meeting.**

- (g) **Second Reading and Public Hearing - Ordinance 2017-029 Floodplain**  
After Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record proposed Ordinance 2017-029 the substance of which is as follows, Mayor Cheshire called for interested parties to be heard:

AN ORDINANCE BY THE FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION AMENDING THE FRUITLAND PARK LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS CHAPTER 161.090 TO MAKE MODIFICATIONS TO BRING THE REGULATIONS INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE MOST CURRENT FEMA-APPROVED, CODE-COMPANION FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE FOR FLORIDA COMMUNITIES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (The second reading will be held on November 9, 2017.)

After discussion, **a motion was made by Commissioner and seconded by Commissioner that the city commission enact Ordinance 2017-029 as previously cited to become effective as provided by law.**

There being no comments from the public, and **by unanimous consent, Mayor Cheshire closed the public hearing.**

**Mayor Cheshire called for a roll call vote on the motion and declared it carried unanimously.**

## **END OF PUBLIC HEARING**

## **SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA**

### **(h) Police Department Vehicle Purchases – Bartow Ford**

Chief Fewless explained that since retaining two new law enforcement officers (one already started his employment with the city and the other to commence on November 20, 2017), the bid reveals Bartow Ford's quote for the purchase of two new vehicles for \$90,000, previously approved in the FY 2017-18 budget.

After discussion and **on motion of Vice Mayor Gunter, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the purchase of two 2017 Ford Interceptor Sports Utility Vehicles from Bartow Ford.**

### **(i) Police Department HG2 Emergency Lighting Quote**

After discussion and **on motion of Vice Mayor Gunter, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the quote for \$14,000 from HG2 Emergency Lighting for installation of equipment for the two 2017 Ford Interceptor Sports Utility Vehicles.**

## **7. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

### **(a) City Manager**

#### **i. Hurricane Irma Status Update**

Mr. La Venia addressed the forthcoming meeting arranged among Agri-Timber Inc., (storm debris management services retained by the city) Messrs. Bogle, Geoff Brewster, Finance Specialist, Ms. Racine, and himself to review the final figures as a result of the aftermath of the Hurricane Irma cleanup and prepare for the FEMA application to be subsequently reviewed by them.

Mr. La Venia pointed out the city commission's direction at its October 26, 2017 regular meeting to contact FEMA's monitor on the determination for staff to clear the county arterials; namely, Miller Street, Poinsettia and Dixie Avenues and gave a report of his following actions:

- his previous communication with the county on the status of the cleanup of the respective roadways;

- his authorization to city staff to cleanup same, was shortly halted by the county's contractors who contacted the county requesting that the city cease and desist immediately;
- the county manager's request to him to not pick up the debris on the roadways in question as they are relying on FEMA;
- his frequently follow-up calls with the county on the status who gave reassurance on a vehicle to pick up the debris on Dixie Avenue, CR 466A and CR 468 later this day or on November 10, 2017, and
- the regular announcements posted on the city's website and social media pages regarding the status of the debris pickup.

In response to Vice Mayor Gutner's concerns on tree services in his neighborhood, Mr. La Venia indicated that if healthy trees are being trimmed, they would need to be dealt with individually with the property owner; he recognized the placement of new foliage, unrelated to the storm debris, which would be addressed on a one-to-one basis, and reported that Waste Management Inc. has resumed its normal solid waste services.

**ii. Hydromatic Pump - Lift Station — Spring Lake Cove**

Mr. La Venia referred to Utility Technicians Inc.'s proposal for \$6,610 and \$4,900 respectively which he received later this day for the inoperable pump at Spring Lake Cove Apartments' Lift Station; copies of which are filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

Mr. Bogle indicated that the existing pump, which staff reconstructed about three years ago, ceased to operate approximately two weeks ago; pointed out the proposals and the preference for the rebuilt price of about \$4,900, and cited reasons why he is requesting to install same as soon as possible.

After discussion and **on motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the public works director's recommendation to accept Utility Technicians Inc.'s rebuilt price of \$4,900 to install one hydromatic pump at the Spring Lake Cove Apartments' Lift Station.**

**iii. Pennsylvania Avenue - Terry Ross Duplex Project**

Mayor Cheshire recognized the presence of Mr. Terry and Mrs. Rachel Ross, City of Fruitland Park residents, at this evening's meeting;

After Mayor Cheshire referred to recent correspondence amongst Mr. La Venia, Ms. Geraci-Carver and Commissioner Ranize regarding the Terry Ross Duplex Project (copies of which are filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting), Ms. Geraci-Carver addressed the following:

- addressed her plan to provide to Mr. La Venia on November 10, 2017 a draft ordinance changing the comprehensive plan future land use



element (Sunset Way, Forest Street, and Pennsylvania Avenue) specifying allowable uses on the property and the advertising requirements and a draft resolution granting a special exception use in the R-2 zoning district to allow duplexes;

- recognized the need for same to be reviewed and considered as a small scale comprehensive plan amendment (SSCPA) under the expedited process before the Planning and Zoning Board, the Local Planning Agency, the city commission and at second reading transmitted to the Florida Department of Community Affairs after second reading as it is a SSCPA;
- pointed out her previous conversations with Mr. Greg Beliveau, LPG Urban and Regional Planners Inc., who is in agreement with her opinion that the “duplexes attached units” zoning category was eliminated from the city commission’s adopted comprehensive plan which prevents the city from proceeding with the special exception use as it would be inconsistent with the new comprehensive plan;
- relayed Mr. La Venia’s previous statements to her that Mr. Ross is seeking a temporary certificate of occupancy (CO) as the builder’s risk insurance is due to expire and they will need to be able to insure the existing buildings; her recollection of the city commission’s actions at its June 8, 2017 regular meeting that the two existing single-family attached residential dwelling units in Residential 2 (R-2) and (R-2A) zoning districts on Pennsylvania Avenue (Forest Avenue) not be demolished, and t
- referred to the conversations with Mr. La Venia on obtaining the city commission’s approval to grant a temporary CO, provided that the properties remain unoccupied until the completion of the approval process.

In response to Mayor Cheshire’s inquiry, Mr. Roos concurred in the affirmative to the process as explained by Ms. Geraci-Carver.

Ms. Geraci-Carver explained, in answer to Commissioner Ranize’ question, that she believed that Mr. Ross submitted applications for future construction of duplexes (special exception use) which would need to be included in the same process as previously cited (all the legal descriptions and special exception application with all the lots would be added to the SSCPA to be considered once, if they are aggregated by the city and not exceed 10 acres).

If Mr. Ross attests by approving that he is satisfied with the city initiating to proceed with the SCCPA and not submit a full application, Ms. Geraci-

Carver recommended that the city commission authorize Mr. Rector to issue a temporary CO.

**On motion of Vice Mayor Gunter, seconded by Commissioner Bell and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the city attorney's recommendation to authorize the community development director to issue a temporary certificate of occupancy to insure the existing buildings single-family attached residential dwelling units in Residential 2 (R-2) and (R-2A) zoning districts on Pennsylvania Avenue (Forest Avenue) until the approval process previously cited by the city attorney is complete.**

In response to Mayor Cheshire, Ms. Geraci-Carver addressed the intent to expedite the process.

**(b) City Attorney**

**i. Lawsuits**

**- James and Rita Homonai v. Foster, Crenshaw and City of Fruitland Park**

Ms. Geraci-Carver explained that the James and Rita Homonai case has been scheduled for depositions where she anticipated receiving recommendations from the attorney representing the city.

**- Green v. City of Fruitland Park, Hunnewell, Isom and Isaacs.**

Ms. Geraci-Carver referred to the two pending litigation where they are still waiting for the court to rule on the motions to dismiss on the hearing which was held on September 21, 2017 and indicated that she will provide an update.

**ii. Notice of Claims**

Ms. Geraci-Carver stated that there are no new matters on notice of outstanding claims.

**iv. Ethics Training**

Ms. Geraci-Carver announced that the four-hour ethics training is required to be fulfilled before December 31, 2017 and advised to let her know if any help is needed.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this time.

**9. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

**(a) Commissioner Ranize**

**i. Special Magistrate**

After Commissioner Ranize referred to the Code Enforcement Special Magistrate hearing held earlier this day, Ms. Geraci-Carver gave a report of

the August 8, 2017 hearing where a property -- according to the code enforcement officer's testimony -- revealed several violations of the city's code which was not brought into compliance. She pointed out this day's hearing where the property owner did not comply with the special magistrate's order of enforcement and upon the presentation of an affidavit of noncompliant, he assessed the fine which would be entered and would become a lien on the property; after three months, consideration would be made to foreclose on the property if chosen to do so, and referred to said proceedings which included the code enforcement officer's presentation of three requests for hearings which were granted with the anticipation to be heard at the December 14, 2017 special magistrate hearing.

ii. **McDirmitt Davis, Auditor - Presentation**

Commissioner Ranize referred to Ms. Racine's distribution of a spreadsheet reflecting the fund balances of FY 2016-17 as of September 30, 2017 (\$1.2 million in the financial institution); a copy of which is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting and requested that same be provided to McDirmitt Davis (auditor retained by the city).

In response to Commissioner Ranize' inquiry on the city commission's directive at its October 26, 2017 regular meeting, Mr. La Venia explained that McDirmitt Davis will be attending the December 14, 2017 regular meeting when Commissioner Lewis is expected to be present.

iii. **Grant Projects**

Commissioner Ranize pointed out his previous conversations with Ms. Racine regarding the timeliness of submitting the Grant Workplan for the Fruitland Park Capital Lift Station and Force Main.

After discussion, Mayor Cheshire requested that Mr. La Venia ensure that cooperation is received from staff and city vendors that various grant applications submittals are being met.

iv. **Non-Ad Valorem Assessment – Fire Services**

Commissioner Ranize referred to a telephone call he received from Mr. Randy Eastwood, City of Fruitland Park resident who owns ten mobile homes and a building, where he is being billed \$856 for non-ad valorem assessment for fire service on each property.

In response, Ms. Geraci-Carver explained that Mr. Eastwood is being assessed and billed for each residential unit separately which is according to the use of the property occupied for that purpose where she will have an answer on duplexes by the next regular meeting.

Since the special assessment notices were sent to the property owners, Mr. Rector referred to the numerous calls received in the community

development department and visits from City of Fruitland Park residents regarding their concerns on the special assessment and Truth-in-Millage Notice; relayed the communication Mr. Robert Ruiz (property owner that the city purchased vacant land for the Fruitland Park Library) had with Lake County who reverted the issue to the city.

Ms. Geraci-Carver suggested, in response to Mayor Cheshire's inquiry, that she meet with Ms. Sandi Walker, Governmental Services Group Inc. (consultant retained by the city) and report back to the city commission.

**v. Pennsylvania Avenue - Terry Ross Duplex Project**

Commissioner Ranize referred to discussions held at the August 24, 2017 regular meeting regarding the Terry Ross Duplex Project and noted the following:

- Mr. Ross' telephone call on August 25, 2017 regarding his intent to apply for a variance to the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Board on the remaining lots to be built;
- the conversations he had with Mr. La Venia, after not seeing any related items on the October 29, 2017 P&Z Board Agenda, and his questions on the status;
- the memorandum from Mr. La Venia regarding the Ross Property which indicated that Mr. Ross did not submit paperwork for consideration for the variance before the P&Z Board, and
- Mr. Ross' telephone call to him at the beginning of the week questioning reasons why the matter was not presented before the P&Z Board and his assurance, in response, that it was not the case of not turning the paperwork in.

Commissioner Ranize explained that had he been informed that there was an issue between the zoning district and the comprehensive plan and that it was being addressed, he would have relayed same to Mr. Ross when he called him.

Commissioner Ranize extended his apologies to Mr. Ross and requested:

- that such issues of importance ought to have been made known to him;
- that he be apprised of the status of the subject matter as well as any conflicts;
- that materials received from the applicant be validated, and

- the need to correct same if there are any problems.

(b) **Commissioner Lewis**

Commissioner Lewis was absent at this time.

(c) **Commissioner Bell**

i. **Mayor Election**

Commissioner Bell extended congratulations to Mayor Cheshire on his election as mayor.

ii. **LCLC**

Commissioner Bell pointed out the November 3, 2017 Lake County League of Cities' (LCLC's) meeting where he was appointed as its president for 2018 for the third time.

iii. **Pennsylvania Avenue - Terry Ross Duplex Project**

With respect to the Terry Ross Duplex project, Commissioner Bell addressed his method of communication with Mr. La Venia. He recommended implementing issues of importance, if there are any problems to which Mr. La Venia confirmed that Commissioner Ranize' statements were correct.

(d) **Vice Mayor Gunter, Jr.**

i. **LCLC**

Vice Mayor Gunter addressed his plan to commend Commissioner Bell on his recent appointment as LCLC's president.

ii. **2017 Halloween Trick-or-Treat Event**

Vice Mayor Gunter extended his appreciation to the fire and police departmental staff for a job well done at the recent 2017 Halloween Trick-or-Treat event which was a success and recognized that more than 2,000 people were in attendance.

10. **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

(a) **Government Day**

Mayor Cheshire gave a report on the November 4, 2017 *Government Day* event at The Villages; recognized the city staff who were in attendance, and noted the residents' inquiries regarding the city's fire assessment fee and taxes. He addressed the method in which staff handle misinformation and solve inquiries from the public; recognized the commission's role with their efforts in assisting the public, and indicated the need, based on communication from residents, to be informed of the city's budget and attend and be involved with the city commission meetings.

Mayor Cheshire referred to the permit request submitted to the community development department from Ms. Meredith Cheshire, his wife, regarding a property that they own on 302 West Berckman Street and noted the current

proposition, in working with local faith-based communities and Ms. Yoder, to create a community garden to support local food pantries in the area to start in January 2018.

**(b) Dates to Remember**

Mayor, Cheshire recognized the following dates:

- November 10, 2017 City Offices Closed – Veterans Day.
- November 11, 2017 Veterans Day Celebration event at 11:00 a.m. with Captain Luce as a speaker on behalf of the city;
- November 20, 2017 Lake EMS Employee Issues Committee Meeting, Lake Board of County Commission Chambers, 315 West Main St, PO Box 7800, Tavares, Florida 32778 at 2:00 p.m.
- November 21, 2017 Lake EMS Finance Committee Meeting, Lake Board of County Commission Chambers, 315 West Main St, PO Box 7800, Tavares, Florida 32778 at 3:00 p.m.
- November 21, 2017 Lake EMS Operations Committee Meeting, Lake Board of County Commission Chambers, 315 West Main St, PO Box 7800, Tavares, Florida 32778 at 2:00 p.m.
- November 13, 2017, Parks. Recreation Trails Advisory Board, Lake County Library Services Conference Room, 2401 Woodlea Road, Tavares, Florida 32778 at 3:30 p.m.
- November 18, 2017 *Coffee with the Mayor*, Moyer Village Recreation Center, 3000 Moyer Loop, The Villages, Florida 32163 at 8:00 a.m. Mayor Cheshire announced that another event is planned to take place in the old Fruitland Park area during January 2018.
- November 23, 2017 Regular City Commission Meeting Cancelled
- November 23, 2017 –Thanksgiving - City Hall Closed
- November 24, 2017 – Day After Thanksgiving - City Hall Closed
- December 1, 2017 – Employee Holiday Party, Community United Methodist Church, 309 College Avenue, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 at 7:00 p.m.
- December 8, 2017 – *Hometown Christmas* at 5:30 p.m.;
- December LCLC Year-end Wrap-Up at Lake Receptions at 12:00 p.m.

- December 14, 2017 – Annual School Concurrency Meeting, Lake County District School Offices, 201 W Burleigh Boulevard, Tavares, Florida 32778 at 10:00 a.m.
- December 14, 2017 – City Commission/Employees and Operation Bless Fruitland Park Annual Luncheon, 509 West Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 at 11:30 a.m.
- December 15, 2017 – Movie on the Lawn “Elf” at 6:00 p.m.
- December 16, 2017 – Wreaths Across America, Shiloh Cemetery, Shiloh Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 at 12 noon
- December 25, 2017 – Christmas Day - City Hall Closed
- December 26, 2017 – Day After Christmas - City Hall Closed

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business and on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the December 9, 2017 regular meeting.

Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Esther B. Coulson, City Clerk

Signed

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Chris Cheshire, Mayor