

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
June 14, 2018**

A regular meeting of the City of Fruitland City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, June 24, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Chris Cheshire, Commissioners Christopher Bell, Ray Lewis and Rick Ranize.

Member Absent: Vice Mayor John L. Gunter, Jr.

Also Present: City Manager Gary La Venia, City Attorney Anita Geraci-Carver; City Treasurer Jeannine Racine; Chief Mike Fewless; Captain Eric Luce, Police Department; Interim Fire Chief Don Gilpin, Deputy Chief Tim Yoder, Lieutenant Michael Howard, and Firefighter Pablo Echevarria, Fire Department; Dale Bogle, Public Works Department Director; Michelle Yoder, Parks and Recreation Director; Community Development Director Tracy Kelley, Administrative Assistant Kelly Turner; Human Resources Director Diane Kolcun; and City Clerk Esther B. Coulson.

1. CALL TO ORDER

After Mayor Cheshire called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m., Captain Luce gave the invocation and Chief Fewless led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Cheshire requested that Ms. Coulson call the roll and a quorum was declared present.

By unanimous consent, the city commission excused Vice Mayor John L. Gunter Jr. from this evening's meeting.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Lewis and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the March 22, 2018 regular meeting and April 5, 2018 workshop meeting minutes.

4. REGULAR AGENDA

(a) Fire Department Equipment Vehicle Quotes

Consideration on the following quotes:

- Enforcement One Inc., Acme Auto Leasing LLC;
- AutoNation Chevrolet, Mooring Tech, and
- Alan Jay Fleet Sales, National Joint Powers Alliance, GM

In acknowledging the current budgetary constraints, Mr. La Venia noted that the fire department fully equipped vehicle is for a total amount of approximately \$55,500 from capital improvement program funds which can be carried over to FY 2018-19 budget and inquired whether the city commission wishes to proceed.

Interim Chief Gilpin pointed out the \$48,000 already budgeted for the fire department equipment vehicle. In referring to the \$10,000 already in a slush fund also earmarked towards a vehicle purchase, he recognized the shortfall when the time came to pay The Villages and mentioned the utilization of same in that regard. Interim Chief Gilpin requested that the remaining \$10,000 fire refund fee be transferred into the budget to purchase the vehicle.

After further discussion, Mayor Cheshire voiced his concurrence with Commissioner Bell's statements on the city commission's review on the likelihood of rolling over available funds and prioritizing same in the FY 2018-19 Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Commissioner Lewis, in questioning the shortfall of the CIP, recognized the large expenditures made that were not part of same as it related to the deficit of the library, front-end articulated loader, dump trailers truck, the aftermath of Hurricane Irma and without city commission consideration, a vehicle purchase by department heads.

In response to a previous question relayed by Commissioner Lewis, Mr. La Venia confirmed that the purchase, at this time, is not necessary for the effective operation of the fire department and that vehicle maintenance would cost less.

After discussion and in response to an inquiry posed by Commissioner Lewis, in recognizing that Interim Chief Gilpin uses his personal vehicle when responding to emergency calls, Mr. La Venia confirmed that a travel reimbursement expense form has not been completed by the code enforcement officer who also has been using her own vehicle.

Following the concerns in that regard voiced by Commissioner Lewis, Ms. Geraci-Carver recognized the travel authorization and voucher forms addressed in Florida Statutes, and Mayor Cheshire referred to Ordinance 2006-021, Personnel Policies and Procedures Amendment, Travel Expense and Mileage Reimbursement Policy and the form utilized by the city.

In answering Commissioner Lewis' question, Mr. La Venia confirmed his unawareness of the maintenance work required on the existing Ford Explorer utilized by the fire department.

At Commissioner Ranize' request, Commissioner Lewis recognized the city's liability for employees' actions when operating their personal vehicles on behalf of the city.

After Commissioner Lewis concurred with Mayor Cheshire's suggestion to repair the Ford Explorer to avoid the use of personal vehicles, Ms. Geraci-Carver agreed with Commissioner Ranize's statements that due to the potential liability of the Ford Explorer, the city be placed on notice and for Mr. La Venia to make arrangements for said vehicle to be completely inspected which includes it be taken out of service, if necessary, and not used, and revisit same at the next meeting.

On motion of Commissioner Ranize, seconded by Commissioner Lewis and unanimously carried, the city commission postponed its action to proceed with staff's recommendation to select a quote for the fire department equipment vehicle.

(b) Storm Debris Collection ILA – Discussion

After Mr. La Venia referred to the storm debris collection interlocal agreement (ILA) with Lake County, Ms. Geraci-Carver confirmed in the affirmative to his question that she has been in contact with the county in that regard.

Mr. La Venia pointed out the subject issue raised at the May 24, 2018 regular meeting and cited page three paragraph five of the ILA, regarding the calculations based on the volume of material collected on trip sheets from the site monitors; the length of time reimbursement may take, and the agreement on the division of costs for same.

For the fiscal benefit, Mr. La Venia addressed the possibility of considering the payment of only 25 percent initially for the cleanup; recognized the county's finalization of cleanup on the aftermath of Hurricane Irma recently, and acknowledged that the cleanup process would not be quick in comparison to the city retaining its own contractor; thus, at the same time, being responsible for the full cost of same during the cleanup effort.

Ms. Geraci-Carver recognized the ILA where the city can enter annually the selection of an option and notify the county during that time on what it desires.

After discussion, Ms. Geraci-Carver confirmed, in response to Commissioner Lewis' question, on the county's awareness of the time period default mechanism in one of the options and that the subject ILA was to be considered by the city commission at one of its meetings in June 2018; select the option at that time, and forwarded same to the county.

Mr. La Venia verified, in the affirmative, the city staff who has been trained with the United States United States Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency and the submittal procedures. He anticipated that the process of the city's public assistance application to be imminent as explained at the May 10, 2018 regular meeting recognizing the procedure to receive reimbursement, submitted to the State of Florida, to be the delay.

In response to Mayor Cheshire's inquiry on the initial clearing of roadways, Ms. Geraci-Carver indicated that the same question was asked of her earlier this day and explained that she will find out whether the city would be permitted to do so.

By unanimous consent, the city commission directed the city attorney to draft a resolution and provide more information at the next meeting.

(c) Resolution 2018-030 Vehicle Maintenance Program – VCDD Public Safety – MOU

Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record proposed Resolution 2018-030, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE VILLAGES PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT, A DEPARTMENT OF THE VILLAGES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS, AND THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

In response to Mr. La Venia's statements, Interim Chief Gilpin confirmed the inspection of the already repaired fire engine by The Villages Community Development District (VCDD) Public Safety Department whereby, according to his knowledge, is satisfied with same.

After answering questions posed by Commissioners Ranize and Lewis, Interim Fire Chief Gilpin confirmed that inspections for the pumps and ladders are due at the beginning of next year and without the adoption of the subject proposed resolution together with the accompanying agreement. He verified the ability to utilize the VCDD's department in an emergency and addressed the opportunity to take care of whatever is required if the fire engine is nonoperational and until the subject matter is finalized.

On motion of Commissioner Ranize, seconded by Commissioner Lewis and unanimously carried, the city commission postponed its action to adopt Resolution 2018-030 as previously cited to the next meeting for more information.

(d) Resolution 2018-032 Countywide Emergency Network Radios ILA

Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record proposed Resolution 2018-032, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE

AMENDED AND RESTATED INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND LAKE COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC., AND THE
MUNICIPALITIES OF LAKE COUNTY AND LAKE COUNTY
SHERIFF PEYTON C. GRINNELL FOR COUNTY-WIDE
EMERGENCY NETWORK RADIOS; PROVIDING FOR AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. La Venia gave background information on the countywide emergency network radios contract for the police, fire and public works departments; addressed the calculation of radio costs to the city to take place after the city's budget process and addressed the need to execute the maintenance agreement.

After Ms. Geraci-Carver referred to Exhibit B, County Provided End-User Communications Equipment reflecting the city's total radio equipment inventory and cost projections, she confirmed in response to the questions relayed by Mr. La Venia and Commissioner Ranize that impact fee funds can be utilized due to the additional new law enforcement officers and firefighters to meet the demand in population growth.

In response to Commissioner Ranize's question, Mr. La Venia mentioned the ability to review possible loan payment to the county using CIP funds.

After Mr. La Venia explained that no communication was received from the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) regarding charges for law enforcement dispatch services and Chief Fewless gave his understanding that there is no interest in proceeding towards same for FY 2018-19, Commissioner Ranize noted the consequences if same is not budgeted which ought to be addressed during the budget process.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bell and seconded by Commissioner Lewis that the city commission adopt Resolution 2018-032 as previously cited.

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

(e) 2018 Revised Meeting Schedule

The city commission considered the approval of the 2018 revised meeting schedule.

After discussion and **by unanimous consent, the city commission agreed to reschedule its August 23, 2018 regular meeting to hold a special meeting on August 30, 2018.**

Following further discussions, **the city commission agreed to hold its workshop meeting on Thursday, August 2, 2018 to address the Land Development**

Regulations and for the city clerk to communicate with LPG Urban Planners Inc.'s Executive Director to confirm his attendance.

Ms. Geraci-Carver confirmed, in response to several inquiries posed by Commissioner Ranize, that the date of the general election would be held on November 6, 2018 and that the swearing-in and installation of the new elected officials can take place at the city commission's November 8, 2018 regular meeting as long as the ballots are certified at that time.

Commissioner Ranize recognized the cancellation of the November 22, 2018 regular meeting due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

After discussion, the city commission determined to wait until the outcome of qualified candidates at the end of the qualifying period, June 22, 2018.

On motion of Commissioner Ranize, seconded by Commissioner Lewis and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the 2018 Revised Meeting Schedule with changes as previously cited.

Later in the meeting and after Ms. Coulson recognized that the Lake County Supervisor of Elections official results certificate would be signed on November 16, Mayor Cheshire mentioned the likelihood of not inducting the newly elected officers on November 8, 2018 and suggested addressing same at the next meeting.

(f) Resolution 2018-017 Lake County Fuel Tax

Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record proposed Resolution 2018-017, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE AMENDED AND RESTATED INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LAKE COUNTY, AND MUNICIPALITIES RELATING TO LOCAL OPTION FUEL TAX; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

After much discussion and a motion was made by Commissioner Bell and seconded by Commissioner Lewis that the city commission adopt Resolution 2018-017 as previously cited.

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

(g) Resolution 2018-021 Shiloh Street ILA

Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record proposed Resolution 2018-021, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LAKE COUNTY AND THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA FOR SHILOH STREET INFRASTRUCTURE AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Following considerable discussion, **a motion was made by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner Bell that the city commission adopt Resolution 2018-021 as previously cited.**

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

PUBLIC HEARING

(h) Second Reading and Public Hearing - Resolution 2018-018 Closing and Vacating 50' Platted ROW – Hurst Street

It now being the time advertised to hold a public hearing to consider the adoption of proposed Resolution 2018-018, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the following title and Mayor Cheshire called for interested parties to be heard:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA; CLOSING AND VACATING A 50' PLATTED RIGHT OF WAY KNOWN AS HURST STREET, THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE ABUTTING THE SOUTH LINE OF LOTS 2, 3 AND 4, BLOCK 43, AND THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE ABUTTING THE NORTH LINE OF LOTS 5, 6, AND 7, BLOCK 43, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 8, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAKE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTION TO THE CITY CLERK TO INCLUDE RECORDATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (First reading was held on May 24, 2018.)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bell and seconded by Commissioner Lewis that the city commission adopt Resolution 2018-018 as previously cited.

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

(i) Second Reading and Public Hearing – Ordinance 2018-005 Golf Carts

It now being the time advertised to hold a public hearing to consider the enactment of proposed Ordinance 2018-005, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the following title and Mayor Cheshire called for interested parties to be heard:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 73 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS AND LOW-SPEED VEHICLES WITHIN THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY AND CONFLICTS, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (The first reading was held on April 26, 2018.)

Ms. Geraci-Carver pointed out the city commission's direction at its May 24, 2018 regular meeting to resubmit proposed Ordinance 2018-005 with Dixie Avenue removed and she confirmed the change made in that regard.

Commissioner Bell recognized the removal of the designated golf cart crossings which impact area residents -- who travel on the route of Shiloh Street, Dixie Avenue, and Mirror Lake Drive, to access the convenience stores and the U.S. Post Office and the Family Dollar Store located on Miller Street -- and the business that sells golf carts.

Commissioner Bell, in response to Mayor Cheshire's concerns on safety, noted that throughout the past five years, there have been no incidents.

Ms. Geraci-Carver confirmed that there is no liability to the city if there is a problem with a golf cart and the user is involved in an accident and voiced her concurrence with Mayor Cheshire's statements on the individual's own responsibility to operate the golf cart provided that the city erects signage and identifies the crossing locations which would meet the statutory obligation of the city.

Following further discussion, Commissioner Ranize recognized the golf carts' rates of speed on the roadway to be impeding the traffic flow; addressed the likelihood of an incident and pointed out his concerns on same addressed before the Lake County Board of County Commissioners at its regular September 11, 2012 meeting.

After Commissioner Lewis expressed reasons and Mayor Cheshire gave his opinion that golf carts should not be permissible on Dixie Avenue, Commissioner Bell recognized the impact to his and Vice Mayor Gunter's districts and believed it important for Vice Mayor Gunter be present when the subject item is considered.

On motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Lewis and unanimously carried, the city commission postponed its action to a future meeting with Vice Mayor Gunter present.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

5. OFFICERS' REPORTS

(a) City Manager

i. Leesburg Aquatics Club – Swim Team Contract

Later in the meeting, Mr. La Venia addressed the existing contract between Leesburg Aquatics Club Inc. to utilize the Gardenia Park Swimming Pool for training and swim team practice. (A copy of the contract is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

Ms. Yoder reported that the City of Leesburg plans to close its Venetian Gardens Pool on July 16, 2018 and indicated that the club is seeking the use of a pool starting July 2016. She explained that the club did not enter into a contract with the City of Leesburg; however, the club paid a portion of the pool heater bill averaging approximately \$250 a month. Ms. Yoder recommended utilizing the existing March 10, 2016 contract with the club and modify it with the pricing of \$250. She recognized the presence of Ms. Helen Earley, Leesburg Aquatics Club Inc. who represents Titans Swim Team, at this evening's meeting.

After discussion, Ms. Yoder outlined the 12-month period on the club's use of Gardenia Park Swimming Pool which will depend upon the installation of the heater that is included in the budget for \$20,000 and described the potential revenue as a result of the planned programs and activities.

Following further discussion, Ms. Earley referred to the verbal contract, for the past 15 years with the City of Leesburg, to operate the swim team and utilize its facility; outlined the club's current good-faith arrangements with the city which involved using its coaches and lifeguards and indicated that due to the closure of its pool, the club needs a new home for the team.

After discussion, Ms. Geraci-Carver agreed with Mayor Cheshire's request for the city commission to review the existing contract with the change in the pricing.

Subsequent to several questions posed by Commissioner Ranize, Ms. Earley acknowledged The H.O. Dabney Pool (a smaller size than Venetian Gardens); described the Titans Swim Team, as a member of USA Swimming (USS) -- a national governing body for competitive swimming in the United States -- where the swimmers work in concert with Leesburg High School Swim team (a separate entity) and recognized the Leesburg Aquatic Club's responsibility for lifeguarding activities which she intends to address with the Leesburg Aquatics Club Inc.'s Board of Directors. After she mentioned the club's certificate of liability insurance with the USS, where the city is listed as an additional insured for \$1 million, Ms. Geraci-Carver addressed her intent to review same.

After discussion and unbeknownst to Ms. Earley, Commissioner Ranize recalled the appearance of Mr. Walter Birriel, City of Fruitland Park resident who was accompanied with his daughter at the April 12, 2018 regular meeting. Commissioner Ranize voiced concerns, after reviewing video footage, on allegations and inflammatory remarks made regarding the police department which were unfounded and referred to Mr. Birriel's subsequent email dated June 12, 2018 to the city commission requesting a meeting on his character and the subject item; a copy of which is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

Following much discussion, Ms. Earley verified that Mr. Birriel is the president of Leesburg Aquatics Club Inc. and currently has children who are involved in the program.

Subsequent to further discussion, Mayor Cheshire requested that Ms. Yoder address the issues with Mr. Birriel and Ms. Geraci-Carver and bring back the contract for the city commission's consideration.

Further discussions ensued and following Ms. Yoder's reference to the club's January 2018 transactions for the City of Leesburg reflecting the pool heater bill, Ms. Earley confirmed that the club has had no fiscal impact on the facility.

Ms. Earley explained that tentatively the proposed amended agreement would reveal a seasonal program; otherwise, if the pool heater is installed, it would be an all-year round program; indicated that she is not adverse to discussing the possibility of a municipal program. She recognized the program as a private 501(c)(3) Florida Non-Profit Corporation managed by a parent-organization where the board members are unpaid; acknowledged the team's coaches, who are independent contractors who receive compensation, and mentioned her background as a fulltime volunteer for more than 15 years.

After further discussion, Mayor Cheshire suggested that a meeting be held amongst Ms. Earley, Yoder, and Mr. La Venia to review the contract and report back to the city commission. Mayor Cheshire voiced support, on behalf of the city commission, for allowing the club at the swimming pool.

ii. Stormwater - Mirror Lake Village

Mr. La Venia reported on the number of attempts he made to communicate with St. John's River Water Management District (SJRWMD) and the State of Florida Division of Water Resource Management; mentioned the lack of acknowledgement to his January 18, 2018 letter regarding Permit IND-069-100697-4 and addressed his plan to contact District 12 Republican

Senator Dennis Baxley to find out what can be done to obtain a response from said agencies; a copy of the letter is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

Mr. La Venia pointed out the response received from Mr. Keith E. Riddle, Riddle Newman & Engineering Inc. (engineers previously retained for the subject project) who visited the location in question; reported on the efforts made by representatives of Avex Mirror Lakes LLC for the Mirror Lake Village project and the contractor, to rectify the situation. Mr. La Venia described the filling up of the retention pond after another rainfall and noted the impasse reached with the respective entities at this time.

Commissioner Lewis recalled the events since the April 12, 2018 regular meeting, the letter of agreement executed by Avex and Fruitland Park LLC to grant 10 permits to Avex and that no further permits would be issued until the project's planned unit development is resolved and voiced concerns that nothing has taken place to rectify same.

Ms. Geraci-Carver believed that Mr. Riddle would be present on the site to determine the resolution to the problem and submit the results of same to SJRWMD for permit modifications to carry out the corrective work. She recognized SJRWMD's jurisdiction for the owner to meet compliance.

Following considerable discussion, the city commission had no objections to Mr. La Venia's plan to contact Senator Baxley.

iii. Grease Trap and Discharges to City Systems

Mr. La Venia referred to Grease Trap and Discharges to City Systems Ordinance 2015-005. He addressed staff's plan to commence periodical inspections at facilities, educate business owners on the subject and require documentation on repair activities. Mr. La Venia requested the city commission's support on the necessity of such efforts as part of the wastewater treatment plant capacity reservation and bulk treatment agreement with the Town of Lady Lake.

iv. School Safety - SRO

Mr. La Venia referred to the city commission's May 24, 2018 discussions at its regular meeting regarding school safety and the School Resource Officer (SRO); mentioned his communications with the Lake County District Superintendent's Office with whom he anticipates hearing from and reported on the attempts he made to establish meetings in that regard. He reported on Chief Fewless' efforts to reach out to the school; the opportunity he had to hear the remarks from the LCSO relating to the school district's vote on the funding and need for a definitive answer -- after meeting with District Superintendent Dr. Diane Kornegay on the city's position. Mr. La

Venia addressed his awareness of the concerns relayed to the Fruitland Park Elementary School principal whereby he is still waiting.

(b) City Attorney

i. Notice of Claim – James Hartson

Ms. Geraci-Carver stated that there are no updates to the James Hartson notice of claim.

ii. Notice of Claim – Larry Odum

Ms. Geraci-Carver stated that there are no updates to the Larry Odum notice of claim.

iii. Traffic Control – County Road

Ms. Geraci-Carver referred to the May 31, 2018 email information from the county's senior graphic information systems (GIS) to Captain Luce regarding the Fruitland Park Streets and recalled the city commission's inquiries at its previous meetings regarding traffic control on county roadways. She outlined the following roadways within city limits where the city has jurisdiction:

- Lewis Road,
- Poinsettia Avenue,
- Pine Ridge Dairy Road, and
- Myrtle Lake

After Captain Luce gestured in the affirmative to Commissioner Lewis' statements identifying the city's jurisdiction at the "city limits" sign from the S-Curve travelling north on Poinsettia Avenue to Spring Lake Road, Commissioner Ranize concurred on the city's responsibility to maintain said roadway and questioned the jurisdiction to issue citations in that regard.

With reference to the GIS map utilized by the police department, Captain Luce described the area on said portions of Poinsettia Avenue which still limits law enforcement staff from administering traffic control.

Commissioner Bell recalled the city commission's previous actions on the annexation the Picciola Cutoff Road and US Highway 27/441 roadway prior to the location of city property along said roadway and extending beyond.

In response, Ms. Geraci-Carver addressed her intent to review the language relating to Poinsettia Avenue ILA; communicate with the county attorney's office on the issue and bring it back to the city commission at its next meeting.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

After Mr. Brian Gillet, Southern Cart Works LLC, referenced the outcome of proposed Golf Cart Ordinance 2018-005, he questioned whether the designated crossings on Dixie Avenue would be identified.

Commissioner Ranize, in confirming in the affirmative, recognized Berckman, Griffin, Fruitland, and Urick Streets.

After Commissioner Bell pointed out the community map not revealing the designated crossings on Dixie Avenue, the city commission concurred in the affirmative on the need to include same.

Mr. Bogle recalled staff's previous placement of designated golf cart community/crossing signs that were subsequently removed by the county who erected their own; recognized the original crossings into Myrtle Lake Avenue, Berckman Street and CR 468 (red road) county-owned and designated roadways where golf carts are not permissible and addressed his plan to find out further in that regard.

Following brief discussion, Mr. Gillet outlined, in response to Mayor Cheshire's inquiry, the potential negative impacts to his business and the community. He noted the lack of sidewalks on Dixie Avenue and dedicated bicycle lanes on US Highway 27/441 as a safety concern to which Commissioner Ranize recognized the State of Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT's) permission allowing same which he considers to be dangerous.

Mr. Gillet relayed his questions previously with individuals on the mandatory requirement to carry insurance and wear seatbelts, similar to motor vehicles and recognized the income generated if the golf carts and low speed vehicles were tagged and registered.

Mr. Gillet acknowledged that not all operators possess vehicles which exceed the posted speed of 30 mph (low speed vehicles cannot exceed 26 mph or golf carts attain 45 mph) on roadways that the city commission is referring; recognized the difference of six miles per hour between said vehicles and indicated that street legal vehicles can travel on Dixie Avenue but low speed vehicles cannot. He addressed the unfairness of the subject issue and suggested that operators possess insurance coverage and wear seat belts to which Commissioner Bell recognized is currently part of the city's existing Golf Carts and Low Speed Vehicles Ordinance 2012-018, subsections 73.02(2) and 73.04(1) enacted on February 23, 2012 and Mr. Gillet confirmed same.

After Mr. Gillet pointed out Commissioner Ranize' comments on the likelihood of an accident; recognized the lack of sidewalks on Dixie Avenue for bicyclists and pedestrians to which Commissioner Ranize pointed out his previous requests to the city commission at past meetings as it relates to Berkman Street to Cales Park, he cited reasons on the need for same.

In response to Mayor Cheshire's inquiry, Ms. Geraci-Carver indicated that the city would need to comply with what is referenced in Florida Statutes.

Following Mr. Gillet's reference to the city commission's actions at its February 23, 2012 regular meeting on the enactment of Ordinance 2012-018 which included the requirements for insurance coverage and seat belts, Ms. Geraci-Carver, in response to Mayor Cheshire's request, agreed to review same and report back to the city commission.

Mr. Gillet confirmed in the affirmative to Commissioner Lewis' remarks on the city remaining north and south on Dixie Avenue allowing access for golf cart crossings where said roadway intercept city streets. After he identified Catawba Street running adjacent to his business; shared his customers' concerns on the routes they need to take to reach him and suggested allowing a parallel road or alternatively use another less-travelled route to his business, Commissioner Lewis recognized the problem of not being able to cross on Dixie Avenue which he stated needs to be corrected.

If there is no golf cart access on Dixie Avenue, Mr. Gillet recognized the number of customers who have physical conditions limiting their movements to travel to stores and the post office in the area and addressed the potential impacts to his business and the community to which Commissioner Ranize indicated makes sense.

7. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

(a) Commissioner Ranize

i. Second Reading and Public Hearing – Ordinance 2018-005 Golf Carts

As the county currently allows golf cart access on Dixie Avenue, Ms. Geraci-Carver indicated, in response to Commissioner Ranize' request, that it should not be an issue where she would check with the county attorney's office for the county to allow more golf cart crossings on the city's roadways.

ii. Storm Debris Collection ILA

Commissioner Ranize referred to the Storm Debris Collection ILA addressed earlier on this evening's agenda. He mentioned where the city hall would be utilized as the city's emergency operation center; recognized that the city does not have emergency backup power and anticipated that grant funds could be sought and utilized towards the installation of same.

iii. School Safety - SRO

Commissioner Ranize conveyed his discussions with District 1 Bill Mathias, Lake County School Board District Chair, and Lake County Sheriff Peyton C. Grinnell, regarding the SRO and the school board permitting the inclusion of participating in the school guardian program and mentioned his conversations with several municipal police chiefs.

Commissioner Ranize addressed his plan to ask for an SRO for Fruitland Park Elementary School at the city commission's forthcoming budget workshop for FY 2018-19 and requested consideration on same, if the School Board District of Lake County is willing to enter into a partnership

with the city and provide approximately \$34,000. He expressed reasons why he prefers to utilize the city's law enforcement officer than a county deputy sheriff.

**(b) Commissioner Lewis
FY 2018-19 Budget**

Commissioner Lewis addressed his predictions on the challenges faced in the forthcoming FY 2018-19 budget and suggested that Mr. La Venia and Ms. Racine be allowed to work on its details and present same and for the city commission, whose fiduciary responsibility in making decisions on expenditures and to be on target in accomplishing how the city is managed financially.

(c) Commissioner Bell

i. Veterans' Plaque

Commissioner Bell recalled the city commission authorizing the former city clerk at its November 11, 2004 regular meeting to consider a plaque (currently displayed in the city hall lobby) for the area residents' service men and women and noted the previous inquiries made on the application and qualification requirements.

After discussion and **by unanimous consent, the city commission directed the city clerk to provide a general statement of requirements for a United States veteran residing in the city to be considered for a plaque.**

ii. Second Reading and Public Hearing – Ordinance 2018-005 Golf Carts

Commissioner Bell mentioned his efforts in advocating that dedicated bicycle paths on US Highway 27/441 were not required when the State of Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) presented plans at a previous city commission regular meeting and mentioned FDOT's acceptance of keeping same on a 55 mph arterial as well as golf carts on a 30 mph roadway.

Commissioner Bell believed that if the city commission allowed designated crossings along Dixie Avenue, golf cart users would be restricted in their travel to nearby stores, the post office and the ball fields.

After discussion, Commissioner Bell believed that the city commission ought to reconsider Old Dixie Avenue.

(d) Vice Mayor Gunter, Jr.

Vice Mayor Gunter was absent from this day's meeting.

8. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

(a) FY 2018-19 Budget

Mayor Cheshire voiced his concurrence with Commissioner Lewis' earlier suggestions regarding the FY 2018-19 budget and recalled his concerns expressed at the July 12, 2017 city commission workshop on the law enforcement dispatch system and the water and wastewater treatment plant connection interlocal agreement with the Town of Lady Lake for 2018 and the funds in the FYs 2017-18 to 2018-19 budget for same.

Mayor Cheshire voiced additional concerns on the city department head's budget requests initially proposed for the FY 2018-19 budget; addressed the need for them to work diligently with Mr. La Venia and emphasized that the city is not going to support a tax increase at this time. Mayor Cheshire stressed the need for the fire impact fee to be reduced and for Mr. La Venia and the fire department to work together in that regard and present same before the city commission.

(b) Second Reading and Public Hearing – Ordinance 2018-005 Golf Carts

With respect to the golf cart issue, Mayor Cheshire outlined reasons why he is more for individual rights.

(c) Dates to Remember

Mayor Cheshire recognized the following events:

- June 28, 2018, City Commission Regular at 6:00 p.m.
- July 4, 2018, Independence Day – City Offices Closed
- July 10, 2018, City Commission Budget Workshop at 6:00 p.m.
- July 11, 2018, City Commission Budget Workshop at 6:00 p.m.
- July 12, 2018, City Commission Regular at 6:00 p.m.
- July 13, 2018, LCLC 2018 Legislative Session Update – Lake Legislative Delegation, Lake Receptions 4425 N Highway 19-A, Mount Dora, Florida 32757 at 12:00 p.m.
- July 13, 2018, Movie on the Lawn, City Hall Lawn, TBD
- July 25, 2018, City Commission Special at 6:00 p.m.
- July 26, 2018, City Commission Regular at 6:00 p.m. – CANCELLED

9. ADJOURNMENT

On motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the August 9, 2018 regular meeting.

Signed

Esther B. Coulson, City Clerk

Signed

Chris Cheshire, Mayor