

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION REGULAR  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 9, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

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

**Member Absent:** Commissioner Patrick DeGrave

**Also Present:** City Manager Gary La Venia; City Attorney Anita Geraci-Carver; City Treasurer Jeannine Racine; Police Chief Erik Luce, Lieutenant Henry Rains, Sergeants Tim Ross, David Brown, Eugene Howard, K-9 Police Officers Brad Heidt and K-9 Rosco, Police Officers José Ortiz, John Simone, Jeremiah Ricketts, Michael Whitaker, Paul Sandbakken, and Kelly Cromwell, Police Department; Interim Fire Chief Donald Gilpin and Deputy Fire Chief Tim Yoder, Fire Department; Library Director JoAnn Glendinning; Human Resources Director Diana Kolcun and Deputy City Clerk Dana M. Coleman.

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

Mayor Cheshire called the meeting to order, Pastor Daryl Allen, Community United Methodist Church, gave the invocation and Police Chief Luce led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ACTION: 6:03:34 PM At Mayor Cheshire's request, Ms. Coleman called the roll and a quorum was present.

**On motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Mobilian and unanimously carried, the city commission excused the absence of Commissioner Patrick DeGrave at this evening's meeting.**

**2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**(a) NALC "Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive Proclamation**

On behalf of the city commission, Mayor Cheshire read into the record a proclamation recognizing Saturday, May 11, 2019 as *National Association of Letter Carriers' "Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive Day*. The city commission encouraged all citizens to support the food drive by placing a bag or can of non-perishable food next to their mailbox prior to their letter carrier's arrival on food drive day who will pick it up while delivering the mail—where together, help can be achieved to feed our hungry.

Mayor Cheshire extended his appreciation to Mr. Shane Ulbin, The National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 1091 Food Drive Coordinator, and the United States Postal Service workers and letter carriers for their dedication to the community.

ACTION: 6:02:29 PM Mr. Ulbin thanked the city commission and the citizens for their continued support in making the food drive a success.

**(b) Plaque Presentation**

On behalf of the police department, Chief Luce presented a plaque to Sergeant Howard with a token of appreciation to retired narcotics K-9 Bella for her service to the city and the community since being adopted in 2012.

ACTION: 6:07:31 PM Sergeant Howard and K-9 Bella expressed their gratitude for the recognition.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

**(a) Approval of Minutes**

April 25, 2019 regular meeting minutes.

ACTION: 6:10:26 PM **On motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Vice Mayor Gunter and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the consent agenda as previously cited.**

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**(a) ISO Rating Discussion**

Interim Chief Gilpin defined the city's Insurance Service Office Inc.'s Public Protection Classification Rating for structural fire suppression delivery system provided for the city which remains at 3 and addressed the goal of working towards the rating of 2 within the next five years.

ACTION: 6:10:41 PM For informational purposes.

**(b) Fruitland Park Library Bid Quotes**

The city commission considered its action to select and approve the following quotes:

- FLD Solutions' quote for public collection, \$6,515;
- National Library Relocations Inc. request for proposals for relocating, packing, and shelving, \$11,610 and
- PMI Corporation quote for tagging, shelving, packing, relocating, and unpacking materials \$6,520

Ms. Glendinning outlined reasons why staff is recommending PMI Corporation.

ACTION: 6:11:50 PM **On motion of Commissioner Bell and seconded by Commissioner Mobilian and unanimously carried the city commission approved staff's recommendation to select PMI Corporation as the most responsive bidder for tagging, shelving, packing, relocating, and unpacking materials for \$6, 520 for the new Fruitland Park Library.**



(c) **City Commission Meeting Schedule Discussion**

Mr. La Venia reviewed the FY 2019-20 Proposed Budget Calendar and recognized the scheduled city commission workshop dates of August 5 and 6 with August 7, as needed, to address the proposed budget and the September 12 first public hearing and September 26, 2019 second and final public hearing to adopt the budget and millage.

ACTION: 6:14:59 PM No action was taken.

(d) **March 2019 Financial Report**

Ms. Racine reviewed the March 2019 financial report.

ACTION: 6:17:44 PM **On motion of Commissioner Mobilian, seconded by Vice Mayor Gunter and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the March 2019 financial report as submitted.**

5. **OFFICER'S REPORTS**

(a) **City Manager**

i. **Economic Development Status Update**

Mr. La Venia gave a status update report on the economic development and Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Small Business Façade Improvement Matching Grant Program Applications he recently received. He pointed out his letter dated May 6 addressed to one of the applicants which identified deficiencies with the application. He addressed the plan for staff to meet with the other applicant on May 14, 2019 to subsequently review same and make a recommendation before the CRA at its future meeting. (Copies of the respective documents are filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

ACTION: 6:20:00 PM For informational purposes.

ii: **CS/CS/SB 426 Firefighter (Cancer Benefit)**

Mr. La Venia referred to Interim Fire Chief Gilpin's May 5 email accompanied with his supporting memorandum dated May 4, 2019 regarding HB 7129 Firefighters' Cancer Benefit Bill and noted the potential consequences; copies of which are filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

ACTION: 6:20:59 No action was taken.

iii. **Lake County Debris Collection ILA**

Mr. La Venia addressed the need for Ms. Geraci-Carver to draft a resolution for consideration at the May 23, 2019 regular meeting regarding the renewal of an interlocal agreement with Lake County to implement services as a result of a disaster for the collection and removal of debris from the city's streets and right-of-way.

ACTION: 6:21:41 PM For informational purposes.

**iv. Grizzard Street Fire**

Mr. La Venia gave a report on the fire that occurred on Sunday, May 5, 2019 at a house/trailer at 32 Grizzard Street which was subsequently declared condemned as unsafe and inhabitable by the building official and fire inspector retained by the city.

Mr. La Venia recalled Ms. Racine's previous identification of available CRA funds in this regard and addressed his plan to discuss with Ms. Geraci-Carver the procedures to take action in clearing the subject property to which she referred to Community Development Director Tracy Kelley's May 4, 2019 email regarding the International Property Maintenance Code where determination would be made as to whether the subject issue would be considered before the special magistrate. (A copy of the document is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

ACTION: 6:20:47 PM No action was taken.

**(b) City Attorney**

**i. Notice of Claim-James Hartson**

Ms. Geraci-Carver reported that there are no updates on Mr. James Hartson's Notice of Claim.

ACTION: 6:25:10 PM No action was necessary.

**ii. Notice of Claim-Michael Fewless**

Ms. Geraci-Carver reported that there are no updates on Mr. Fewless' appeal on the State of Florida Department of Management Services, Florida Retirement Services' (FRS') decision on the notice of claim and anticipated receiving a response in approximately 60 days.

ACTION: 6:25:16 PM No action was necessary.

**iii. Burke's-Bar-B-Que**

Ms. Geraci-Carver reported that she has received no updates from Mr. T. D. Burke, Burke's Bar-B-Q Company, on the developer's agreement to connect to the city's water and wastewater system.

ACTION: 6:25:26 PM For informational purposes.

**iv. FRS**

Ms. Geraci-Carver referred to documents (FRS Resolution 2014-015) she recently received from the city and confirmed that she intends to provide a report on whether the city could withdraw from the FRS.



In response, the city commission addressed the need to also review the ramifications; identify provision of similar services for law enforcement officers; and that information be provided on the establishment of a pension plan and what it would entail.

ACTION: 6:26:35 PM. No action was taken.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

After Mr. Mark Isom, City of Fruitland Park resident, made a compliment on the current condition on how the city's highways have been maintained, Mayor Cheshire commended Mr. Bogle in this regard and thanked Mr. Isom for the comment.

ACTION: 6:26:33 PM. No action was taken.

**7. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

**(a) Commissioner Mobilian - Conservation Trail and Kauska Way Intersections - Stop Sign Request**

In response to Commissioner Mobilian's inquiry, Mr. La Venia indicated that the stop sign request for the intersection of Conservation Trail and Kauska Way is being currently being worked on.

ACTION: 6:27:19 AM No action was necessary.

**(b) Commissioner DeGrave**

Commissioner DeGrave was not present at this evening's meeting.

ACTION: 6:27:19 AM No action was necessary.

**(c) Commissioner Bell**

**i. Lake County Annual Community Services Awards**

Commissioner Bell gave a report on the May 8, 2019 Lake County Annual Community Services Awards he attended along with Vice Mayor Gunter and Mr. La Venia and requested preference for the city to consider, prior to next year's event, making an effort to compile service award categories and seek deserving individuals who have made a difference within the community to be nominated.

In response, Mayor Cheshire suggested that Ms. Coulson be informed, when she returns to the office, to identify the categories.

ACTION: 6:27:43 PM No action was taken.

**ii. Annual Volunteer and Employee Appreciation Picnic**

Commissioner Bell reported on his attendance at the May 4, 2019 Annual Volunteer and Employee Appreciation Picnic which he indicated was a nice occasion experienced by all and conveyed his disappointment on the low employee attendance. He addressed his plan to make a recommendation,

during the FY 2019-20 budget cycle, to temporarily postpone the event for 2020, to which Vice Mayor Gunter and Mayor Cheshire shared similar views.

ACTION: 6:29:06 No action was taken.

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

**i. Lake County Annual Community Services Awards**

Vice Mayor Gunter, in concurring with Commissioner Bell's comments, agreed for the city commission to start considering the placement of nominating deserving individuals and businesses to be recognized for the 2020 Lake County Community Services Awards.

ACTION: 6:29:43 PM No action was taken.

**ii. Annual Volunteer and Employee Appreciation Picnic**

Vice Mayor Gunter explained how he and other families enjoyed the May 4, 2019 Annual Volunteer and Employee Appreciation Picnic and concurred with Commissioner Bell's recommendation to postpone the event for a year due to low employee turnout. Vice Mayor Gunter relayed his appreciation to Ms. Yoder and staff for their efforts in this regard.

ACTION: 6:30:22 PM No action was taken.

**8. MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

**(a) Annual Volunteer and Employee Appreciation Picnic**

With respect to the May 4, 2019 Annual Volunteer and Employee Appreciation Picnic, Mayor Cheshire expressed his satisfaction with the Gardenia Park Swimming Pool's heater and anticipated extended seasonal programs and increased usage of the pool. He thanked Mr. Bogle and Ms. Yoder for their assistance and indicated that he looks forward to getting a lot more use out of the pool.

ACTION: 6:30:52 PM No action was taken.

**(b) FY 2019-20 Budget**

Mayor Cheshire anticipated the city starting the FY 2019-20 Budget from the rollback rate.

ACTION: 6:31:23 PM No action was necessary.

**(c) Dates to Remember**

Mayor Cheshire announced the following events:

- May 10, 2019, Lake County League of Cities (LCLC), Diane Kornegay, Superintendent of Lake County Schools, Lake Receptions, 4425 N Highway 19-A, Mount Dora, Florida 32757 at 12:00 p.m.

- May 10, 2019, Movie on the Lawn *Big Hero*, outside City Hall 7:00 p.m.
- May 13, 2019, Lake County Park, Recreation and Trails Advisory Board, Office of Parks and Trails Conference Room, 2401 Woodlea Road, Tavares, Florida 32778 at 3:00 p.m.  
Commissioner Bell relayed his request to Mr. La Venia that Ms. Yoder and Mr. Bogle attended the board meeting and noted the time to be 3:30 p.m. and not 3:00 p.m.
- May 14, 2019, National Elementary Honor Society, Fruitland Park Elementary, 304 W. Fountain Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 at 6:00 p.m.  
Mayor Cheshire mentioned the effort for the city commission to attend.

It was announced that the May 22, 2019 Lake-Sumter County Metropolitan Planning Organization Governing Board Meeting has been rescheduled to June 26, 2019, 225 W Guava Street, Lady Lake, Florida 32159 at 2:00 p.m.

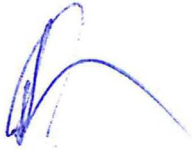
- May 23, 2019, City Commission Meeting Regular at 6:00 p.m.
- May 27, 2019, City Hall closed in observance of Memorial Day

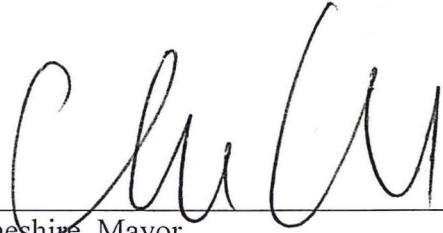
ACTION: 6:31:32 PM Submitted for informational purposes.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the city commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the May 23, 2019 regular meeting.

Signed   
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Esther B. Coulson, City Clerk

Signed   
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Chris Cheshire, Mayor