

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES**

February 27, 2020

City Hall Commission Chambers

506 W. Berckman Street

Fruitland Park, Florida 34731

6:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

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

Also Present: City Manager Gary La Venia; City Attorney Anita Geraci-Carver; City Treasurer Jeannine Racine; Police Chief Erik Luce; Lieutenant Henry Rains, and Sergeant Courtney Stewart Police Department; Public Works Director Robb Dicus; Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Yoder; Interim Fire Chief Donald Gilpin, Deputy Fire Chief Tim Yoder, Firefighters Stephen Odgen, Brandon Clutter, and Michael Howard, Fire Department; Human Resources Director Diana Kolcun; Deputy City Clerk Stevie Taub and City Clerk Esther B. Coulson.

1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ACTION: 6:00:23 PM Mayor Cheshire called the meeting to order, Pastor Don Miller, Eagles Nest Baptist Church, gave the invocation and Scout Troop 143 led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

2. ROLL CALL

ACTION: 6:01:41 PM After Mayor Cheshire requested that Ms. Coulson call the roll, where a quorum was declared present, he outlined the decorum for this evening's meeting and announced that no action will be taken on Item 6.(a) iii., Fire Protection and Rescue Services.as there is no contract.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

(a) 2020 Love Week

Pastor Sidney Brock, Heritage Community Church, highlighted the February 8 to 16, 2020 Love Week event hosted over the previous years where community organizations united to make a difference in the community; gave a video presentation on same, and mentioned the plans to host another event during the week of February 6 to 14, 2021.

ACTION: 6:02:53 PM No action was taken.

(b) 5K Love Run

After Ms. Yoder gave a report on the outcome and funds raised from the February 8, 2020 5k Love Run, on behalf of the city commission, Mayor Cheshire presented a check for \$989.11 to Beyond the Walls Ministries, the local food bank.

ACTION: 6:08:30 PM. Ms. Colleen Brooks, Beyond the Walls Food Pantry (Heritage Community Church), accepted the check with much gratitude.

4. CONSENT AGENDA
Approval of Minutes – February 13, 2020 Special Meeting

ACTION: 6:10:38 PM **On motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Vice Mayor Gunter and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the consent agenda as previously cited.**

5. REGULAR AGENDA

(a) Resolution 2020-014 Special Accommodation ADA – American Sign Language Services Inc. Contract

Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record proposed Resolution 2020-014, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, APPROVING ON-SITE INTERPRETING AND VIDEO REMOTE INTERPRETING AGREEMENT PREPARED FOR THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK BY AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE SERVICES, INC.; PROVIDING FOR RATES FOR SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ACTION: 6:48:17 PM After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner DeGrave and seconded by Vice Mayor Gunter that the city commission adopt Resolution 2020-014 as previously cited.

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

(b) Resolution 2020-013 Police Department Radios (Contingency) FY 2019-20 Budget Amendment

Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record proposed Resolution 2020-013, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET PURSUANT TO SEC. 6.07 OF THE CITY CHARTER TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM CONTINGENCY TO POLICE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE BUDGET; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ACTION: 6:12:34 PM After discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Gunter and seconded by Commissioner Bell that the city commission adopt Resolution 2020-013 as previously cited.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

By unanimous consent, Mayor Cheshire opened the public hearings.

- (c) **Resolution 2020-012 - Public Hearing - Clean Water Act Wastewater Facility Plan Urick Street Wastewater Force Main Facility Improvements - SRF Loan**
It being the time advertised to hold a public hearing, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the following proposed Resolution 2020-012, and Mayor Cheshire called for interested parties to be heard:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (FDEP) STATE REVOLVING FUND (SRF), ADOPTION OF THE WASTEWATER FACILITY PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF URICK STREET WASTEWATER FORCE MAIN IMPROVEMENTS, EFFECTIVE THIS DATE.

After discussion Messrs. Duane K. Booth and Mike Scullion, Booth Ern Straughan & Hiott Inc (BESH) Engineers, Surveyors, Land Planners retained by the city, outlined procedures involved after the initial small community wastewater construction grants program (Urlick Street Force Main Extension Wastewater permit) application process and confirmed the city meeting the state's qualification requirements for principal forgiveness on same.

After discussion and following Commissioner DeGrave's reference to the amendment to BESH's proposed Engineering Proposal/Agreement, Ms. Geraci-Carver referred to page 9, subsection III.B. where the Limitation Liability language ought to be stricken from the terms and conditions.

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

ACTION: 6:14:12 PM After much discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner DeGrave and seconded by Commissioner Moblian that the city commission approve striking the language under paragraph III.B., Limitation of Liability on page nine of the Engineering Proposal/Agreement with Booth, Ern, Straughan & Hoitt Inc. for Urick Street Force Main Extension and adopt Resolution 2020-012 as previously cited.

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

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

6. OFFICERS' REPORTS

(a) City Manager

i. Economic Development Status Update

Mr. La Venia explained that the city commission will be informed of the progress of the Community Redevelopment Agency Matching Grant Façade Improvement Program application.

ACTION: 6:22:58 PM No action was taken.

ii. Northwest Lake Community Park (Cales Memorial Complex) Multipurpose Soccer Field

Mr. La Venia reported that the Lake County Commission at its February 25, 2020 regular meeting approved the third amendment to the interlocal agreement to provide funding for concrete walkways, bleacher pads, accessible parking and other ancillary concrete work for the Northwest Lake Community Park Multipurpose Soccer Field Complex. He indicated that Ms. Yoder is currently acquiring bids for said work and recognized the available funds earmarked for said proposed project.

ACTION: 6:23:14 PM and 6:24:25 PM No action was taken; however, at Vice Mayor Gunter's request, the city commission recognized the \$50,000 reimbursable amount from the county.

iii. Fire Protection and Rescue Services

Mr. La Venia indicated that the fire protection and rescue services contract is not available and that he will share same with the city commission once it is received.

ACTION: 6:23:34 PM and 6:32:09 PM No action was taken.

iv. New Public Works Director

Mr. La Venia introduced Mr. Dicus, the new public works director who has been with the city for more than six years.

ACTION: 6:23:43 The city commission extended congratulations to Mr. Dicus.

(b) **City Attorney**

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

Ms. Geraci-Carver announced that there are no updates on the James Hartson Notice of Claim.

ACTION: 6:24:45 PM No action was taken.

ii. **City of Fruitland Park v. T. D. Burke**

Ms. Geraci-Carver announced that there are no updates on T.D. Burke case.

ACTION: 6:24:45 PM No action was taken.

iii. **City of Fruitland Park v. State of Florida Department of Management Services**

Ms. Geraci-Carver announced that there are no updates on the State of Florida Department of Management Services claim.

ACTION: 6:24:45 PM No action was taken.

iv. **Michael and Laurie Fewless v. City of Fruitland Park**

Ms. Geraci-Carver announced that there are no updates on the Michael and Laurie Fewless case.

ACTION: 6:24:45 PM No action was taken.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

• **2020 Kids' Fishing Clinic**

Mr. Mark Knapp, Lake Griffin State Park, distributed the flyer on the March 14, 2020 Kids' Fishing Clinic for children ages 5 to 16 years old to be held at the Lake Griffin State Park's picnic area and boat dock; a copy of which is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

ACTION: 6:24:53 PM No action was taken.

• **Fire Protection and Rescue Service**

Mr. David Keim, City of Fruitland Park resident, gave his perspective of another fire department's annual budget and fire rescue operations; expressed concerns on the city commission's previous action to transfer the current fire rescue services to the county, and identified the number of fire rescue service calls in the county that were not operational.

ACTION: 6:26:05 PM. No action was taken.

- **GBBC 50th Anniversary**

The Reverend Dr. George A. Mulford III, Grace Bible Baptist Church, announced that the church was annexed into the city in 2004; explained that it was founded on March 8, 1970 in the City of Leesburg, and indicated that there will be a celebration on its 50th anniversary. He indicated that the church’s founding pastor Dr. William “Bill” Vansant is expected to be present on March 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and extended an invitation for the city commission to attend.

ACTION: 6:30:00 PM. No action was taken.

- **Fire Protection and Rescue Service**

Ms. Michelle Taylor, City of Fruitland Park resident, voiced support of the city’s fire department and cited reasons why its existing fire protection and rescue services ought to remain in the city.

ACTION: 6:31:06 PM No action was taken.

8. COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS

(a) Commissioner Mobilian

i. LS~MPO LOPPs

Commissioner Mobilian referred to the February 26, 2020 Lake~Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization (LS~MPO) Governing Board’s discussion on the status of the 2020 List of Priority Projects where the CR 466A Roadway Improvement Project has been placed high on said list; relayed the process involved on the funding acquisition to complete said project earmarked for Spring 2021, and indicated that the projects submitted are anticipated for final approval at its April 2020 meeting.

ACTION: 6:32:48 PM No action was taken.

ii. Homelessness

Commissioner Mobilian mentioned his awareness of the homeless camp on Lake County School District’s property adjacent to the Moyer Recreation Center in The Villages of Fruitland Park reported at the January 23, 2020 regular meeting and noted their return despite law enforcement’s repeated intervention.

In response, Chief Luce and Lieutenant Rains reported on the police department’s involvement, monitoring and enforcement of homeless activities together with the county’s law enforcement to date.

Chief Luce agreed, in the affirmative that he will relay Commissioner Mobilian's request to the district to remove some of the underbrush for visibility along the CR 466A corridor.

ACTION: 6:34:22 PM No action was taken.

(b) Commissioner DeGrave

Commissioner DeGrave announced that he will be absent from the March 26, 2020 regular meeting as he will be out of the country.

ACTION: 6:38:59 PM **By unanimous consent, the city commission accepted Commissioner DeGrave's request.**

(c) Commissioner Bell

Commissioner Bell had no comments at this time.

ACTION: 6:38:19 PM No action was necessary.

(d) Vice Mayor Gunter, Jr.

Vice Mayor Gunter had no comments at this time.

ACTION: 6:38:23 PM No action was necessary.

9. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Dates to Remember

Mayor Cheshire made the following announcements:

- March 7, 2020, City of Fruitland Park Cornhole Tournament, Fruitland Park City Hall, 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 at 9:00 a.m.;
- March 12, 2020, City Commission Regular at 6:00 p.m.;
- March 13, 2020, Movie on the Lawn, TBD, City Hall, 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 at 6:30 p.m.;
- March 26, 2020, City Commission Regular at 6:00 p.m., and
- March 28, 2020, Fruitland Park Day, City Hall, 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 at 10:00 a.m.

ACTION: 6:38:27 PM No action was necessary.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the March 12, 2020 regular meeting.

Signed _____
Esther B. Compton, City Clerk

Signed _____
Chris Cheshire, Mayor