

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL
MEETING MINUTES**

April 16, 2020

City Hall Commission Chambers

506 W. Berckman Street

Fruitland Park, Florida 34731

6:00 p.m.

A special meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Chris Cheshire, Commissioners Patrick DeGrave and John Mobilian. Vice Mayor John L. Gunter, Jr. and Commissioner Christopher Bell were available by telephonic conference call.

Also Present: City Manager Gary La Venia; City Attorney Anita Geraci-Carver; Police Chief Erik Luce; Officer Jeremiah Ricketts, Police Department, Interim Fire Chief Donald Gilpin; Deputy Fire Chief Tim Yoder, Fire Department, and City Clerk Esther B. Coulson.

1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ACTION: 6:00:00 PM Mayor Cheshire called the meeting to order and Chief Luce led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

2. ROLL CALL

ACTION: 6:01:44 PM Mayor Cheshire requested that Ms. Coulson called the roll where a quorum was declared present.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

The city commission considered its action to approve the following consent agenda items:

(a) Approval of Minutes

March 26, regular and February 13, 2020 joint workshop meeting minutes.

(b) Resolution 2020-018 - Calling for Regular Election – Districts 3,4, and 5

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, CALLING FOR A REGULAR ELECTION TO FILL VACANCIES ON THE CITY COMMISSION; SETTING AN ELECTION DATE; NAMING THE VACANCIES TO BE FILLED; ESTABLISHING A POLLING LOCATION; ESTABLISHING A QUALIFYING PERIOD; ESTABLISHING ELECTION PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR ELECTION ARRANGEMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ACTION: 6:01:09 PM **On motion of Commissioner Mobilian, seconded by Commissioner DeGrave and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the consent agenda as previously cited.**

4. SPECIAL AGENDA

(a) MuniTemps Agreement Discussion

Mayor Cheshire recognized staff's request to postponed discussions on MuniTemps Agreement to the next meeting .

ACTION: 6:01:29 PM By unanimous consent, the city commission approved the city manager's request to postpone discussions on MuniTemps for more information to the next meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

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

(b) Second Reading and Public Hearing – Ordinance 2020-003 Solid Waste Rates Increase

It now being the time advertised to hold a public hearing to consider the enactment of proposed Ordinance 2020-003, 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 OF FRUITLAND PARK, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA AMENDING SECTION 99.40 TO INCREASE THE SOLID WASTE RATES BY 2% WITH RATES EFFECTIVE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2020; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ACTION: 6:02:06 PM. A motion was made by Commissioner DeGrave and seconded by Commissioner Mobilian that the city commission enact Ordinance 2020-001, as previously cited, to become effective as provided by law with the refuse collect rate adjustments to be implemented January 1, 2020.

Mr. David Serdar, Fruitland Park Unincorporated Area of Lake County resident, gave reasons for his support of the subject item.

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.

QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING

(c) **Second Reading and Quasi-Judicial Public Hearing – Ordinance 2020-003 – Rezoning – CUMC**

It now being the time advertised to hold a public hearing to consider the enactment of proposed Ordinance 2020-003, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the following title and Mayor Cheshire called for interested parties to be heard:

ACTION: 6:04:21 PM. A motion was made and seconded by that the city commission enact Ordinance 2020-001 as previously cited to become effective as provided by law

Commissioner DeGrave disclosed his recent tour of the subject site.

Mr. David Serdar, Fruitland Park Unincorporated Area of Lake County resident, gave reasons for his support of the subject item.

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 QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

7. OFFICERS' REPORTS

(a) **City Manager**

i. **Economic Development Status Update**

Mr. La Venia had no status updates on the economic development.

ACTION: 6:08:36 PM. No action was necessary.

ii. **COVID-19 and Declaration of Emergency Proclamation**

Mr. La Venia referred to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) status reports previously provided to the city commission; a copy of which is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

ACTION: 6:08:36 PM. No action was necessary.

(b) **City Attorney**

Ms. Geraci-Carver indicated that there are no updates other than what is shown on the agenda summary report:

- i. Notice of Claim – James Hartson
- ii. City of Fruitland Park v. T. D. Burke
- iii. City of Fruitland Park v. State of Florida Department of Management Services

ACTION: 6:08:55 PM. No action was necessary.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. David Serdar, Fruitland Park Unincorporated Area of Lake County resident, voiced concerns on governmental entities' roles and the implications of harmful waste to the environment.

ACTION: 6:09:06 PM. No action was necessary.

9. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

(a) Commissioner Mobilian – LS-MPO

Commissioner Mobilian reported that there are no forthcoming Lake-Sumter Metropolitan Planning Organization meetings as they have been postponed

ACTION: 6:12:37 PM No action was necessary.

(b) Commissioner DeGrave – COVID-19 First Responders

Commissioner DeGrave acknowledged the Fruitland Park police, fire and staff for their perseverance on their encounters with the public and encouraged them to remain healthy.

ACTION: 6:12:47 PM No action was necessary.

(c) Commissioner Bell

i. Fruitland Park Elementary Teachers' Appreciation Recognition

After Commissioner Bell echoed the sentiments raised by Commissioner DeGrave, he referred to the email received earlier this day from Operation Bless Fruitland Park and conveyed the request for a video presentation from each elected official expressing their appreciation to the Fruitland Park Elementary school teachers and faculty staff in recognition of their commitments to the students.

Commissioner Bell addressed the inability, due to COVID-19, for Operation Bless Fruitland Park to host the annual April 22, 2020 Teachers' Appreciation Breakfast; noted the initiation of a *Fruitland Park Bucks* coupon drive accompanied with a letter to local area restaurants where the owners have agreed to participate and support same, and recognized May 4 to 8, 2020 as *Teacher Appreciation Week*.

ACTION: 6:13:09:10 PM By unanimous consent, the city commission supported the request of Operation Bless Fruitland Park for the city commissioners to submit a video presentation recognizing the Fruitland Park Elementary School teachers and faculty staff for their commitment and hard work in meeting the students' needs and agreed to proclaim May 4 to 8, 2020 as *Teacher Appreciation Week*.

ii. Excused Absence

Commissioner Bell noted the unlikelihood of not being able to attend the May 14, 2020 regular city commission meeting.

ACTION: 6:17:38 PM Upon Mayor Cheshire's suggestion, the city commission, by unanimous consent, agreed to accept Commissioner Bell's request to be excused if he is unable to attend the May 14, 2020 regular meeting.

(d) Vice Mayor Gunter, Jr.

Vice Mayor Gunter stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

ACTION: 6:18:00:10 PM No action was necessary.

10. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

(a) COVID-19 - Parks and Recreation Social Media

Mayor Cheshire voiced his concurrence with Commissioner DeGrave's earlier statements relating to the resilience of the police and fire department staff. After Mayor Cheshire referred to the recent live-stream interactive educational video featuring family games on the city's social media platform, he commended the Parks and Recreation Department staff for a job well done to which Mr. La Venia described the various daily activities from the recreation center which have been well-received by the community.

ACTION: 6:18:15 PM For informational purposes .

(b) Dates to Remember

Mayor Cheshire announced the following:

- April 30, 2020 regular city commission meeting – cancelled
- May 14, 2020 regular city commission meeting

ACTION: 6:19:24 PM. No action was necessary.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the city commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the May14, 2020 regular meeting.

Signed 
Esther B. Coulson, City Clerk

Signed 
Chris Cheshire, Mayor