

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION REGULAR  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 11, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

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

**Members Absent:** Mayor Chris Cheshire

**Also Present:** City Manager Gary La Venia; City Attorney Anita Geraci-Carver; City Treasurer Jeannine Racine; Police Chief Erik Luce, Interim Fire Chief Donald Gilpin; Deputy Fire Chief Tim Yoder, Fire Department, Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Yoder, and City Clerk Esther B. Coulson.

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

**ACTION:** 6:00 p.m.. and 6:01:13 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**ACTION:** 6:01:33 p.m. and 6:02:03 p.m.

**By unanimous consent and upon Vice Mayor Gunter's request, the city commission excused the absence of Mayor Cheshire at this evening's meeting.**

Vice Mayor announced the decorum on public comments on this evening's agenda.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Approval of Minutes - May 14, 2020 regular**

**ACTION:** 6:02:16 p.m. **On motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner DeGrave and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the consent agenda.**

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**(a) CAFR 2019 Audit Presentation**

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for September 30, 2019 Presentation  
Matthew "Matt" Lee, McDirmit Davis & Company, Certified Public Accountants.

**ACTION:** 6:02:31 p.m. and 6:12:45 p.m. **By unanimous consent and at the city treasurer's request, the city commission laid on the table the subject power-point presentation to be given by Ms. Tamara "Tammy" Campbell, McDirmit Davis & Company, Certified Public Accountants, and took Item 4.(b) out of order on this evening's agenda.**

It being later in the meeting and **by unanimous consent, the city commission took Item 4.(a) from the table.**

After Ms. Campbell gave the power-point presentation, reviewed the opinions from the auditor general, and pointed out the CPA's recommendations, Mr. La Venia and Ms. Racine identified and addressed the plan to annually implement the firefighter's retirement trust pension actuarial valuations with Foster & Foster Consulting Actuaries Inc. (used by the state). and evaluate the vendors with open contracts.

The city commission recognized the need to address at its future Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget workshop the potential increase of the water wastewater treatment plant capacity reservation bulk treatment (an agreement with the Town of Lady Lake amending the impact fee) ensuring that it is subsidized by utilizing the utility fund and recalled the city commission's enactment of Ordinance 2019-010 Restructure Water Utility Rates (a surcharge of 25% to be increased each year over three years) with the agreement to review the recommended changes commencing July 26, 2019 and each year thereafter for three years.

**On motion of Commissioner DeGrave, seconded by Commissioner Mobilian and unanimously carried, the city commission accepted the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for September 30, 20219 as submitted.**

**(b) Resolution 2020-025 NW Lake Community Park Multipurpose Soccer Field FY 2019-20 Budget Amendment**

Earlier in the meeting, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record proposed Resolution 2020-025, 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 INCREASE LAKE COUNTY SOCCER GRANT REVENUE BUDGET AND THE RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS SOCCER FIELD EXPENSE BUDGET; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**ACTION:** 6:03:33 p.m. After extensive discussions, **a motion was made by Commissioner Bell and seconded by Commissioner Mobilian that the city commission adopt Resolution 2020-025 as previously cited.**

Following further discussion, **Vice Mayor Gunter called for a roll call vote on the motion and declared it carried unanimously carried.**

**(c) City Hall Emergency Generator Quotes**

Mr. Dicus referred to the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) Hazard Mitigation Grant -- acquired by the late Public Works Director Dale Bogle -- for an emergency generator at city hall, the police department and the emergency management

services/fire department for an estimated amount of \$57,261, totaling more than \$76,000. (A copy of the grant is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.) Mr. Dicus reviewed the following quotes:

- Electrical Works (electrical subcontractor), \$30,065, total contract \$70,658, out-of-pocket cost from the city \$13,424;
- Prime Electric LLC (electrical subcontractor), \$24,500, total contract \$65,120, city cost \$7,809;
- Cummings Inc. Power Generation, \$40,620, and
- RingPower CAT Power Systems, \$94,238.57

With the exception of the generator and transfer switch, Mr. Dicus acknowledged that the items listed under Prime Electric's May 19, 2020 Bid Package #16000-Electrical as not being included in its scope of work.

**ACTION: 6:31:49 p.m.** After further discussion and upon Commissioner DeGrave's suggestion, the city commission, **by unanimous consent, accepted the not to exceed budgeted amount for up to \$70,000 for the total project cost with the remaining balance from contingency funds.**

Following further discussion, **a motion was made by Commissioner DeGrave and seconded by Commissioner Mobilian that the city commission accept the public works director's recommendation to award the generator bid to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidders; Cummings Inc. at a cost of \$40,620 and Prime Electric LLC (electrical subcontractor) for \$24,500 and approve the total project cost not to exceed (the budgeted amount) of \$70,000 with the first \$57,261 funded by the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management Federal Emergency Management Agency's Hazard Mitigation Grant and with the remaining balance utilized from contingency funds.**

Subsequent to further discussion, **Vice Mayor Gunter called for a roll call vote on the motion and declared it carried unanimously.**

**(d) Public Works Truck Quotes**

After Messrs. La Venia and Dicus reviewed the following public works truck quotes with rack and lights

1. Bartow Ford, 2020 F-250 4x2 SD Super Cab 8' box 164" WB SRW XL, \$37,426.77;
2. Garber Ford Inc., 2020 Ford Super Duty F-250 SRW XL 2WL SuperCab 8' Box, \$37,724.90, and
3. GM 2020 Ford Super Duty F-250 SRW (X2A) XL 2WD SuperCab 8' Box, \$39,345.00;
4. Prestige Ford, 2019 Ford Superduty F250 2WD Crewcab XL (W2) 176" WB, \$37,207.61.

Knapheide Truck Equipment, Removal-Installation and Paint, F-250, \$8,824.23.

JCO Corporation, Low Profile Hexagonal LED Mini Light Bar, \$1,537.38;

and the following quotes without rack and lights:

1. Bartow Ford, 2020 F-150 4x2 SD Super Cab Styleside 6.5' box 145" WB XL, \$27,998.06;
2. Prestige Ford 2020 Ford F150 2WD, Supercab 146' WB XL (X1C), \$26,202.76;  
JCO Corporation, LED Strobe Light, \$1,031.76, and
3. Prestige Ford, 2019 Ford F150 2WD Supercab 145' WB XL (X1C), \$25,202.76;  
JCO Corporation, LED Strobe Light, \$1,031.76.

Mr. Dicus cited reasons to recommend the vehicles outlined in Mr. La Venia's June 11, 2020 memorandum to purchase the following vehicles and addressed the intent to retain the existing trucks (a copy of the memorandum is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting):

- Vehicle #1  
Sewer and water service vehicle at a total cost of \$37,207.61 to include light, ladder and pipe rack; budgeted amount of \$43,000; account number 30533 60640 (water capital improvement project fund, service truck) – recommendation: Prestige Ford 2020 Ford F-250.

and

- Vehicle #2  
Parks and Recreation (public works department) a total cost of \$25,202.16 to include lighting package, budgeted amount \$34,000.00, account number 05173 general fund - recommendation: Prestige Ford 2019 F-150.

**ACTION: 6:42:27 p.m. On motion of Commissioner Mobilian, seconded by Commissioner DeGrave and unanimously carried, the city commission accepted staff's recommendations outlined, as previously cited.**

## 5. OFFICERS' REPORTS

### (a) City Manager

#### i. Economic Development Status Update

Mr. La Venia noted the impending developments on economic development.

ACTION: 6:48:12 p.m. No action was taken.

ii. **COVID-19 Status Update**

Mr. La Venia gave a status update report on the Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19) and the initial “Phase 2: Safe, Smart, Step-by-Step Plan for Florida’s Recovery; described the safety measures currently implemented and indicated that staff will review reinstating water services delinquent and meter disconnection fees after August 15, 2020.

ACTION: 6:48:43 p.m. No action was taken.

iii. **Gardenia Park Phase III Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) Grant (Skate Park) Status Update**

After Mr. La Venia addressed the plan to proceed with the purchase of a ramp for Gardenia Park (Skate Park) Phase III Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) Grant (standard grant agreement adopted on January 24, 2019), Ms. Yoder referred to her email dated March 2, 2020 regarding the Skatepark/Biking Amenities, pricing and illustrations of the pumptrack and three-foot tall halfpipes; recognized the skateboard park renovations in grant funds of \$50,000; and described the dimensions and maintenance to the current equipment. (Copies of the respective documents are filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

ACTION: 6:50:39 p.m. and 6:51:41 p.m. After much discussion on the size of the ramps and **by unanimous consent, the city commission directed the staff to report back identifying additional funding sources and more information on options for Gardenia Park Skatepark at the next meeting.**

iv. **Planning and Zoning Board**

Earlier in the meeting, Mr. La Venia announced that Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Board Vice Chair Philip Pearle tendered his resignation effective June 1, 2020; a copy of his letter dated May 28, 2020 is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

Mr. La Venia noted Mr. Pearle will no longer be a member at the July 16, 2020 P&Z Board meeting and mentioned the city clerk’s awareness of the issue where notification of the vacancy will be posted on the city’s notice board, website <https://www.fruitlandpark.org/pzb/page/planning-and-zoning-board-vacancy> and social media page <https://www.facebook.com/CityofFruitlandPark/> for individuals who are interested to serve.

ACTION: 6:51:05 p.m. No action was taken.

**(b) City Attorney**

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

Ms. Geraci-Carver reported that the motion for summary judgement previously filed by Defendant T. D. Burke with the hearing scheduled for June 10, 2020 and cancelled by the judge will be rescheduled to July 27, 2020.

ACTION: 6:59:25 p.m. No action was taken.

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

Ms. Geraci-Carver reported that the State of Florida Division of Administrative Hearings previously scheduled the tentative date of May 4 to 6, 2020 to hear the above-captioned case, has been tentatively scheduled for mid-August 2020 to take place in Tavares. She explained that the commission will be advised when a firm date is received.

ACTION: 6:59:48 p.m. No action was taken.

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

With respect to the pending case filed by Michael and Laurie Fewless against the city in the Like County Court, Ms. Geraci-Carver referred to the city's motion filed to dismiss the complaint. She explained that the city is waiting on a hearing date; indicated that the judge has not yet scheduled hearings and explained that information will be provided to the city commission once a date is received.

ACTION: 7:00:09 p.m. No action was taken.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. "Dave" David Serder, City of Fruitland Park Unincorporated Area resident, addressed his appearance before various governmental entities regarding his ideas on environmental issues.

ACTION: 7:00:40 p.m. No action was taken.

**7. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

**(a) Commissioner Mobilian**

Commissioner Mobilian stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

ACTION: 7:04:48 p.m. No action was taken.

**(b) Commissioner DeGrave**

Commissioner DeGrave stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

ACTION: 7:04:54 p.m. No action was taken.

**(c) Commissioner Bell**

Commissioner Bell addressed Lake County Tourist Development Council's plans to hold a future meeting.

ACTION: 7:05:02 p.m. No action was taken.

**(d) Vice Mayor Gunter, Jr. – Dates to Remember**

Vice Mayor Gunter recognized the following dates:

- June 25, 2020 City Commission Meeting regular at 6:00 p.m.;
  - July 3, 2020 City Hall closed in observance of July 4, 2020 Independence Day;
  - July 6, 2020, Lake County Tourist Development Council regular meeting (TBD),
  - July 9, 2020 City Commission Meeting regular at 6:00 p.m.;
  - July 23, 2020 City Commission Meeting regular at 6:00 p.m.;
  
  - August 3, 2020 City Commission Workshop (provisional);
  - August 4, 2020 City Commission Workshop (provisional);
  - August 13, 2020 City Commission Meeting regular at 6:00 p.m.;
  - August 13 – 14, 2020 (in-person and/or remote attendance) Florida League of Cities (FLC) 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference (TBD)
- Commissioners DeGrave, Bell and Vice Mayor Gunter addressed their plan to be in attendance at the abbreviated meeting, if open.

After discussion regarding the four-hour ethics training normally held at the annual FLC conference, Ms. Geraci-Carver addressed the importance of completing the training by the end of the calendar to be identified in CE Form 1 Statement of Financial Interests for the prior year and Ms. Coulson announced the June 18, 2020 four-hour "Mandatory Ethics Training – Virtual and Engaging!" Webinar Training.

and

- August 27, 2020 City Commission Meeting regular at 6:00 p.m.

ACTION: 7:05:36 p.m. **By unanimous consent, the city commission directed the city clerk to register the city commission members to attend the above-captioned webinar training.**

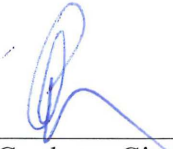
**8. MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Cheshire was absent from this evening's meeting.

ACTION: 7:05:36 p.m. No action was taken.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**  
**There being no further business to come before the city commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.**

The minutes were approved at the June 25, 2020 regular meeting.

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

Signed  \_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Cheshire, Mayor