

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 25, 2016**

A special meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Mayor Christopher Bell, Vice Mayor John L. Gunter Jr., Commissioners Chris Cheshire, Ray Lewis, and Rick Ranize.

**Also Present:** City Manager Gary La Venia, City Attorney Anita Geraci-Carver, City Treasurer, Jeannine Racine Michaud, Police Chief Michael A. Fewless; Deputy Police Chief Dennis Cutter, Police Department; Assistant Fire Chief Don Gilpin, Deputy Chief Tim Yoder, Fire Department; Community Development Director Charlie Rector, Public Works Director Dale Bogle, Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Yoder, and City Clerk Esther B. Coulson.

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

After Reverend "Pastor Daryl" W. Allen, Community United Methodist Church, gave the invocation and Police Chief Michael Fewless led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and Mayor Bell called the meeting to order.

**2. ROLL CALL**

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

**3. Local Planning Agency**

**By unanimous consent, the city commission recessed its regular meeting at 7:02 p.m. to the Local Planning Agency meeting and reconvened at 7:16 p.m.**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Peter J. Hurtt, City of Fruitland Park resident, referred to the February 20, 2016 "Meet and Greet" with the mayor and city manager and reported that it was interesting where he learned a great deal.

Mr. Hurtt pointed out Commissioner Ranize' comments made at a previous meeting regarding the city's current situation and the short and long term plan improvements for the city. Mr. Hurtt requested that the city commission provide their plans at a future meeting and whether much thought had been given on the city's future growth.

Mr. James Warren, City of Fruitland Park resident, expressed satisfaction with the meeting breakfast with the mayor which was well attended with feedback; requested that such event continues, and indicated that it would be ideal for the city commission to attend.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Approval of Minutes**

**On motion of Commissioner Rnaize, seconded by Commissioner Cheshire and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the January 28, 2016 regular meeting minutes as submitted.**

**6. REGULAR AGENDA**

**(a) Continuing Professional Architectural Services - Senatore Inc.**

**(i) Agreement**

The city commission considered its action to approve an agreement between Senatore Inc. for continuing professional architectural services and authorize the mayor and the clerk to execute same.

After Mr. Rector described the changes in the agreement, Ms. Geraci-Carver confirmed that she reviewed same.

After much discussion and **on motion of Vice Mayor Gunter, seconded by Commissioner Lewis and unanimously carried, the city commission approved an agreement, as amended, between Senatore Inc. for continuing professional architectural services and authorized the mayor and the clerk to execute same.**

**(ii) Resolution 2016-010 - Architectural Services - Senatore Inc.**

At Mayor Bell's request, Ms. Geraci-Carter read into the record the title of proposed Resolution 2016-010, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE CONTINUING SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SENATORE, INC. AND THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK RELATING TO ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**On motion of Commissioner Lewis, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission adopted Resolution 2016-010 as previously cited.**

After discussion, Mr. La Venia referred to the Lake County Library Impact Fees project application to be submitted for a \$200,000 grant fund for library equipment.

**(b) Fire Department – K12 Rescue and Ventilation Saws Equipment Replacement – Discussion**

Chief Laming requested approval to replace the K-12 and roof ventilation saw equipments at the fire department for \$4,500 utilizing capital improvement program funds.

After discussion and based on Ms. Michaud's suggestion to utilize the fire service fees general budget , **a motion was made by Vice Mayor Gunter and seconded by Commissioner Lewis that the city commission approve the request as previously cited.**

**Mayor Bell called for a vote on the motion and declared it carried unanimously.**

**(c) Resolution 2016-009 - Department of Corrections – MOU**

At Mayor Bell's request, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the title of proposed Resolution 2016-009, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND FRUITLAND PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

After Chief Fewless gave an overview of the service and following further discussion, **a motion was made by Commissioner Ranize and seconded by Commissioner Lewis that the city commission adopt Resolution 2016-009 as previously cited and approve Agreement A3675 between the Florida Department of Corrections, (“Department”), and the City of Fruitland Park Police Department (“Agency”), located in Lake County, Florida for sharing investigative information and collaborating enforcement efforts, and authorized execution of same.**

**Mayor Bell requested a roll call vote and declared the motion carried unanimously carried.**

**(d) January 2016 Financial Report**

Ms. Michaud reviewed the January 2016 end-of-the month financial report and referred to her memorandum dated February 25, 2016 regarding the draft Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Schedule with proposed budget workshops scheduled for July 11 and 12, 2016. (A copy of the memorandum is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

Ms. Michaud agreed with Mayor Bell's suggestion to consider the dates at the next meeting.

**QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING**

(e) **First Reading Ordinance 2016-002 – Boundary Amendment – 63.89 Acres**

At Mayor Bell's request, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the title of proposed Ordinance 2016-002, the substance of which is as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURE SET FORTH IN SECTION 171.044, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO INCLUDE WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS APPROXIMATELY 63.89 ± ACRES OF LAND GENERALLY LOCATED EAST OF US HWY. 27/441 AND WEST OF PICCIOLA ROAD; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PROVIDE CERTIFIED COPIES OF THIS ORDINANCE AFTER APPROVAL TO THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, THE LAKE COUNTY MANAGER AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (The second reading will be held on March 10, 2016.)

There being no public comments and **by unanimous consent, Mayor Bell closed the public hearing.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Cheshire and seconded by Commissioner Lewis that the city commission accept the Local Planning Agency's recommendation to approve Ordinance 2016-002 as previously cited.**

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

(f) **First Reading Ordinance - 2016-006 – Rezoning – 63.89 Acres**

At Mayor Bell's request, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the title of proposed Ordinance 2016-006, the substance of which is as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, REZONING 63.89 ± ACRES OF THE PROPERTY FROM LAKE COUNTY RURAL RESIDENTIAL (R-1) TO PUBLIC FACILITIES DISTRICT (PFD) WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF FRUITLAND PARK; PROVIDING FOR CONDITIONS AND CONTINGENCIES; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR



AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (The second reading will be held on March 10, 2016.)

There being no public comments and **by unanimous consent, Mayor Bell closed the public hearing.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Cheshire and seconded by Commissioner Lewis that the city commission accept the Local Planning Agency's recommendation to approve Ordinance 2016-006 as previously cited.**

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

- (g) First Reading Ordinance 2016-003 – Boundary Amendment – 0.96 Acres At** Mayor Bell's request, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the title of proposed Ordinance 2016-003, the substance of which is as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK FLORIDA, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURE SET FORTH IN SECTION 171.044, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO INCLUDE WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS APPROXIMATELY 0.96 ± ACRES OF LAND GENERALLY LOCATED NORTH OF CR 466A AND EAST OF MICRO RACETRACK ROAD; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PROVIDE CERTIFIED COPIES OF TIDS ORDINANCE AFTER APPROVAL TO THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, THE LAKE COUNTY MANAGER AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (The second reading will be held on March 10, 2016.)

There being no public comments and **by unanimous consent, Mayor Bell closed the public hearing.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Cheshire and seconded by Vice Mayor Gunter that the city commission accept the Local Planning Agency's recommendation to approve Ordinance 2016-003 as previously cited.**

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

- (h) First Reading Ordinance - 2016-004 – Comprehensive Plan – 0.96 Acres**

At Mayor Bell's request, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the title of proposed Ordinance 2016-004, the substance of which is as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM COUNTY RURAL TO CITY COMMERCIAL ON THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR APPROXIMATELY 0.96 + ACRES OF PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED NORTH OF CR 466A AND EAST OF MICRO RACETRACK ROAD; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND SAID COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (The second reading will be held on March 10, 2016.)

There being no public comments and **by unanimous consent, Mayor Bell closed the public hearing.**

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Gunter and seconded by Commissioner Ranize that the city commission accept the Local Planning Agency's recommendation to approve Ordinance 2016-004 as previously cited.**

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

**(i) First Reading Ordinance - 2016-005 – Rezoning - 0.96 Acres**

At Mayor Bell's request, Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the title of proposed Ordinance 2016-005, the substance of which is as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, REZONING 0.96 ± ACRES OF THE PROPERTY FROM LAKE COUNTY AGRICULTURE (AG) TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL (C-2) WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF FRUITLAND PARK; PROVIDING FOR CONDITIONS AND CONTINGENCIES; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (The second reading will be held on March 10, 2016.)

There being no public comments and **by unanimous consent, Mayor Bell closed the public hearing.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lewis and seconded by Commissioner Cheshire that the city commission accept the Local Planning Agency's recommendation to approve Ordinance 2016-005 as previously cited.**

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

**END OF QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING**

**By unanimous consent, Mayor Bell opened the public hearing at this evening's meeting.**

- (j) **Second Reading and Public Hearing - Solid Waste Collection Franchise Agreement Ordinance 2016-008 - Waste Management Inc. of Florida**  
After Mayor Bell requested that Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the title of proposed Ordinance 2016-005, the substance of which is as follows, he called for interested parties to be heard:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN EXTENSION OF ITS SOLID WASTE COLLECTION FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC. OF FLORIDA; ADOPTING RATES FOR THE PROVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS AND SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
(The first reading was held on February 11, 2016.)

There being no public comments and **by unanimous consent, Mayor Bell closed the public hearing.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Cheshire and seconded by Commissioner Lewis that the city commission enact Ordinance 2016-008 as previously cited to become effective immediately as provided by law.**

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

Mayor Bell recognized the presence of Messrs. Doug McCoy and Chris Beck, Waste Management Inc., at this evening's meeting

**END OF PUBLIC HEARING**

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to come before the city commission at this time.

8. **OFFICERS' REPORTS**

(a) **City Manager**

i. **Fire Department Bathroom Improvements**

Earlier in the meeting and at Mr. La Venia's request, Deputy Fire Chief Gilpin referred to the quotes received for the fire department's bathroom improvements for \$10,030 which was submitted to the finance department to be placed on a future agenda for consideration.

ii. **AVLs**

Chief Laming referred to his meeting with Lake County Public Safety Director'/Fire Chief John Joliff; relayed his conversations that the city could proceed with the purchase of the Automated Vehicle Locators (AVLs) for the fire department's vehicles and noted previous attempts to communicate with the Lake County Radio Shop to purchase same have been fruitless.

In response to Commissioner Ranize' question and after Ms. Geraci-Carver confirmed that the automatic aid agreement was submitted recently to Lake County; Mr. La Venia interjected that the mutual aid agreement, in its place, would be provided to the city for consideration on its next agenda and recognized the recent execution of the automatic aid agreement with the City of Leesburg.

Commissioner Ranize relayed his previous concerns to and the lack of response from District 2 Lake County Commissioner Sean Parks, District 5 Lake County Commissioner Welton G. Cadwell, and Mr. Joliff regarding the cancellation of the medical call for dispatch service earlier this month.

After extensive discussions and **by unanimous consent the city commission directed staff to contact the Lake Emergency Medical Services' Executive Director to expedite the installation of the Automated Vehicle Locators in the City of Fruitland Park Department's vehicles.**

iii. **Shiloh Cemetery Rededication Invitation**

Mr. La Venia referred to the March 5, 2016 Shiloh Cemetery Rededication invitation; anticipated the presence of The American Legion Auxiliary, Congressman Daniel "Dan" Webster, 10th District, to present the dedicated flag which was flown over the nation's capitol, and noted invitations that were sent to elected officials and other special guests who are expected to be in attendance.



**iv. Five-Year Plan**

Mr. La Venia reported on the development of a five-year plan for every department extrapolating feasible projects for FY 2016/17 for the city commission's review.

**v. Ordinance Niches Cemetery**

Mr. La Venia pointed out the city commission's discussions at its February 18, 2016 workshop; referred to a memorandum dated February 17, 2016 regarding the cemetery vaults/niches, and addressed the intent to place a draft ordinance in this regard on the next agenda for consideration. (A copy of the memorandum is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

**iv. Police Department Status Update Report**

Chief Fewless reviewed the completed UCR statistical reports on crime rates and gave an overview on the implementation of the following:

- new programs and involvement with the business and residential community including The Villages;
- updates to the city's social media network site and website,
- the plan to implement accreditation process during FY 2017/18;
- seminars and training activities for law enforcement employees;
- relationship development with other law enforcement agencies;
- promotional and additional changes in law enforcement personnel for the Community Oriented Policing Services grant for the city commission's consideration at a future meeting, and
- equipment changes in vehicles.

(A copy of the report is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

Chief Fewless described the benefits of the four-ten work schedule with plans to implement same and mentioned his appointments to various committees and boards.

In response to concerns raised by Mr. Warren, Chief Fewless addressed the intent for the police department to remain open and for personnel to be available to citizens during normal operational hours.

**(b) City Attorney**

**i. Legal Review - Municode**

Ms. Geraci-Carver reported that she has reviewed the Municode and the recent conference call with them. She addressed the plan to conduct further research and provide them with answers.

ii. **Casino Building**

Ms. Geraci-Carver announced that a Motion for Final Summary Judgment (MSJ) has been filed for the individuals who have signed waivers relating to the Casino Building; indicated that the second MSJ to file is with the defendants who did not believe that what the city is implementing, meets with the intention of the deed.

Ms. Geraci-Carver explained that both hearing dates are scheduled for April 26, 2016 and by that time, the city would receive indication as to whether the judge would require the case to go to trial; otherwise, she anticipates that it would be avoided by providing affidavits and demonstrating evidence that it meets the requirements in the deed.

9. **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

(a) **Commissioner Ranize**

i. ***Love Week 2016 Volunteers***

On behalf of the city commission, Commissioner Ranize expressed appreciation to the volunteers and those affiliated with Operation Bless Fruitland Park for -- in commemoration of *Love Week 2016* -- donating their time to assist with the cleaning up and painting of Cales Field Park's dugout and concessions during the week of February 10-20, 2016.

ii. **SB 130, Discharging a Firearm**

Upon Commissioner Ranize's suggestion and **by unanimous consent, the city commission directed the city manager to send a letter, on behalf of the city commission, to District 23 Senator Garrett Ritcher thanking him for sponsoring Senate Bill 130, Discharging a Firearm as well as the Criminal Justice Committee for their support in that regard which has helped the City of Fruitland Park and the State of Florida tremendously.**

iii. **CR 468 Speed Limit Reduction Warning Signs**

Commissioner Ranize thanked Chief Fewless for the erection of warning signs on CR 468 notifying motorists of the speed reduction.

iv. **Casino Building**

Commissioner Ranize referred to his statements at the June 25, 2015 regular meeting on the implementation of a scale-model of the casino building and his willingness to donate \$100 where the model could be placed on display in the new library.

(b) **Commissioner Lewis**

**CR 468 Speed Limit Reduction Warning Signs**

Commissioner Lewis acknowledged the CR 468 speed limit reduction warning signs as the most effective method to notify drivers; thus, they have been made aware by reading same in the media.

- (c) **Commissioner Cheshire**  
Commissioner Cheshire stated that he has no comments at this time.
  
- (d) **Vice Mayor Gunter, Jr.**
  - i. **CR 468 Speed Limit Reduction Warning Signs**  
Vice Mayor Gunter, in concurring with previous comments, indicated that the CR 468 speed limit warning signs have been noticed by motorists and he expressed his appreciation to staff.
  
  - ii. **Operation Bless Fruitland Park**  
Vice Mayor Gunter referred to the Operation Bless Fruitland Park meeting he attended earlier this day; relayed the request for needed volunteers for projects planned for next year, and encouraged those, in attendance at this evening's meeting to volunteer.

After Vice Mayor Gunter recognized the improvements to Cales Field Ball Park concession stand, Mr. La Venia expressed gratitude to the volunteers who provided assistance and others involved including the donation of supplies from individuals from Sherwin-Williams Home Improvement and Ro-Mac Lumber & Supply Inc.

#### 10. **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

- i. **Operation Bless Fruitland Park**  
Mayor Bell referred to the Operation Bless Fruitland Park's budgetary figures for 2015 with proceeds donated to the Fruitland Park Elementary School and noted the likelihood of same increasing during 2016; relayed the remarks from the school's principal Ms. Tammy Langley on the difference it has made to the school as they are not earmarked to receive any funding until the year 2021/22, and noted the need to support the school.
  
- ii. **Coffee with the Mayor**  
In recognizing the outcome of the Coffee with the Mayor events recently, Mayor Bell stated that a provisional date for the next event would be on April 23, 2016 which would need to be verified with the Fruitland Park Library Director.
  
- iii. **Dates to Remember**  
Mayor Bell noted the following events:
  - March 5, 2016, Shiloh Cemetery Rededication at 10:00 a.m. as previously referenced by Mr. La Venia where everyone was encouraged to attend.
  
  - April 2, 2016 Fruitland Park Cleanup Day at 10:00 a.m. which was addressed earlier this day at Operation Bless Fruitland Park meeting and organizations and businesses were persuaded to get involved.


In response to Commissioner Ranize' question and after Mr. La Venia confirmed that press releases would be sent to the media regarding the event, Mr. McCoy concurred in the affirmative that a banner displaying the event would be provided for the city.

· April 16, 2016, Fruitland Park Day.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the city commission at this time, on motion made, second and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the March 10, 2016 regular meeting.

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

Signed   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Bell, Mayor