

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 7, 2013**

MEETING STATISTICS. A budget workshop meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was conducted in the Commission Chambers of City Hall, 506 West Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida on Thursday, August 7, 2013 beginning at 7:00 p.m

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Chief Isaacs delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charlie Rector (CDD).

ROLL CALL. Mayor Bell asked City Clerk Marie Azzolino, Acting City Clerk to call the roll.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT. Commissioner John L. Gunter, Jr., Commissioner Chris Cheshire, Commissioner Albert O. Goldberg, Vice Mayor Sharon Kelly, Mayor Christopher J. Bell

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS/OTHERS PRESENT. Interim City Manager (ICM) Rick Conner, Police Chief (PC) Terry Isaacs, City Treasurer (ACT) Susan Parker, Community Development Director (CDD) Charlie Rector, and Acting City Clerk (CC) Marie Azzolino.

01. Budget Workshop continued:

Rick Conner stated that to this point, we transferred every number that we made corrections with the last two nights, we feel confident that the numbers here are correct. The \$25,000 increase to legal fees I feel should be put in the Contingency Fund instead. With the changes made we are in the black approximately \$8,000. The Capital Project Fund, we need to put \$2,000 for bids for the Library extension.

Commissioner Gunter asked if we are still at a million with our reserve.

Rick Conner stated yes.

Charlie Rector (CDD) stated that the property directly behind the Furniture Barn maybe available for sale. If things are going to happen here we will need space to expand. We cannot move the Public Works Department and this would be more efficient for the city. There are four individual lots and if he sells them out we will miss out on this opportunity. The property west of the Library is approximately 184 deep and 40 foot wide. The owner is asking \$50,000 but we would get an appraisal. The two houses in the back of City Hall have two appraisals, one in 2009 and one in 2012. The one in 2009 was \$130,000 and \$100, 00. The second appraisal in 2012 came in at \$48,000 and \$32,000, but did not price out the two lots. Charlie stated that he spoke to both parties and they would be interested if the City would agree to around \$130,000 and \$95,000.

Rick Conner stated that we would need to get updated appraisals.

Mayor Bell stated he would like to move forward to get the "Casino Park" started.

Charlie stated that we need to move on the properties for the Library and the Public Works. Charlie stated that the properties have bottomed out and is on the rise now.

Rick Conner stated that the \$300,000 is there now if we have to move forward with these properties.

Commissioner Gunter feels that we need to move on the property for the Library and Public Works.

Rick Conner stated that the summary sheets on the budget are correct.

Commissioner Gunter asked if they reflect the 4.8172 and the \$ 4.00 on Police and Fire.

Rick Conner stated that it does.

Mayor Bell stated the adjustment in wages to reflect \$50,000 for increases and or bonuses is in the budget.

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 7, 2013**

Vice Mayor Kelly that we should get some grants for these sidewalks. The county does a survey about the sidewalks that should be done for the safe trails.

Charlie stated that there are no lists of street repairs. There is that \$40,000 that we are using for street resurfacing now. Currently we have spent about \$17,000 on pothole repairs. Rick Conner stated that it is in the budget under a separate line item, the vast majority goes in the General Fund.

Commissioner Gunter asked if the \$50,000 covers the increases in the Christmas Bonus.

Rick Conner stated that he feels that has all been taken into account.

Mayor Bell stated that the new Pay Plan will be discussed during last meeting in September.

Rick stated that the 5% will be distributed in various ways.

Mayor Bell stated it will not be a flat 5% across the board.

Rick Conner stated that common raises are by merit but there are some small companies that are lazy and just give a raise across the board every year. The raise should be justified.

Water: Mayor Bell asked why it there \$2000 for a mini excavator.

Charlie stated that it should be taken out of the budget. Public Works does not need that now.

Commissioner Gunter asked about the \$20,000?

Charlie stated that the money should go to Well 6 at this time and well improvements.

Mayor Bell stated that we have \$97,000 in contingency.

ROADS & STREETS:

Mayor Bell asked Charlie if there are sidewalks that need repairs.

Charlie stated that with the "safe trails" for schools, Victoria has been done and Fountain has been done.

Commissioner Gunter stated that when John was here he had a list of streets that needed repairs.

Charlie stated that he did not agree with those lists and that he and Dale can go out and prepare a new list.

Commissioner Cheshire stated that a rating list would make sense.

Commissioner Gunter stated that there is money in the budget for lights on Cales field \$12,000 and Shiloh Street.

Charlie stated that the \$12,000 should not be there because the lights were installed already with a savings of \$40,000.

Mayor Bell said if the one penny tax goes through he would like to see the parks taken care of.

Charlie stated that the board of county commissioners were the ones that vote on it and then they are the ones that delegate how much money goes to each city.

SOLID WASTE: Mayor Bell stated that they have talked about raising solid waste rates.

Rick Conner stated that the City is not making any money on the money out. The city provides very good service but you are not making any money, really losing \$1,000. I'm suggesting you make it an enterprise fund and increase the rate by \$1.00.

Mayor Bell asked if the Commission was in favor of the increase.

Commission agreed on the increase.

Police Chief asked about the money for the police cars.

Commissioner Goldberg stated that law enforcement vehicle paid in CIP fund.

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 7, 2013**

Rick Conner stated that Scott said that law enforcement vehicles can be paid out of Redevelopment Fund.

Mayor Bell stated we have \$9000. for tree trimming, \$7,000 for Fruitland Park Day, \$3400 for Christmas lights, \$2000 for tables and chairs for the Casino, \$3,000 for Bounce Houses,

Commissioner Goldberg stated that with the bounce houses there was no supervision. The scouts were supposed to be helping supervise but they weren't.

Mayor Bell stated he would like to see some rides for the kids for free.

Charlie stated that Michele has different plans for this coming Fruitland Park Day.

Rick Conner stated that if you have faith in your Directors you should change your budget to departments instead of line items. The monthly report would show every dollar spent in that department.

Commissioner Gunter stated, he hated to say it, that in a way we micro manage each department.

Mayor Bell stated that he is in favor of getting some rides for these kids, with better supervision. We pay the scouts \$3,000 for the bounce houses and the scouts get the houses and keep the balance of the money as a fund raiser for them.

Mayor Bell stated he would like to split the money between Hometown Christmas, \$2,000 and Fruitland Park Days \$10,000.

POLICE VEHICLES:

Mayor Bell asked Chief how many vehicles they talking about.

Chief Isaacs stated five. Each car is around \$35,000 to \$40,000 each. They are all fully equipped. We were supposed to buy two cars a year which we haven't.

Mayor Bell stated that right now we have \$82,000 in budget for vehicles.

Chief Isaacs stated we have three to four cars right now that need repairs every month. The cars we are looking at both cars and SUV's, all Fords, this way after a few years we can hand down the SUV's to Public Works.

Rick Conner asked Chief how many cars are on the road at any given time.

Chief Isaacs stated that 8 cars are on the road at least 5 days a week.

Rick Conner stated that running large fleet operations can be a trap. You should not buy all your vehicles at one time. It makes sense to get a consistent source of buying two to three cars each year.

Mayor Bell suggested Chief Isaacs to come back with a quote on three cars or SUV's and also service on the cars.

Rick Conner stated that as of February 28th we had \$394,616 in that fund.

Commissioner Goldberg stated since we are not doing sidewalks that money can go to land purchase making it \$100,000.

Commissioner Cheshire stated that under salary and benefits if the rates go up that can make a major change in the budget.

Rick Conner stated that we are meeting with Lassiter Ware and getting quotes for the insurance. We are looking at a better policy costing less.

Commissioner Cheshire state that he feels since we are putting \$50,000 in the budget for raises and \$3,000 for bounce houses we should give the fire department their other \$2300 for their raise.

Mayor Bell stated that yesterday he was unsure of the budget but seeing today's budget he is in agreement of that increase.

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 7, 2013**

Vice Mayor Kelly stated that we have to pay the \$3200 in the development fund.

Commissioner Cheshire asked with the fire and police fees are we all in agreement that they are legal.

Mayor Bell stated that we are all in agreement that they are legal and no one has changed their view on this matter.

Commissioner Goldberg stated that the person who is suing us stated when he was on the board that he wanted to raise the police and fire fee instead of the millage, and that is on the record.

Rick Conner stated that with 5% increase across the board, it is not a good idea. With an employee who is making a large salary the 5% is great but with that employee that maybe is making \$8.00 an hour it is unfair. So I ask you to take that money and make it a value increase instead of a percentage increase.

Mayor Bell stated that the \$50,000 is to be determined and distrusted. Also is everyone on board with the tax rate of 4.8172.

02. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Cheshire moved to adjourn the regular meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:45p.m.



Christopher J. Bell, Mayor

Attest:



Marie A. Azzolino, Acting City Clerk