

FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES
May 5, 2012

MEETING STATISTICS. A workshop of the Fruitland Park City Commission was conducted in the Commission Chambers of City Hall, 506 West Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida on Saturday, May 5, 2012 beginning at 9:03 a.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Commissioner Gunter delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Goldberg.

ROLL CALL. Mayor Bell asked City Clerk Diane Gibson Smith to call the roll.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT. Commissioner Albert O. Goldberg, Commissioner John L. Gunter, Jr., Commissioner Sharon Kelly, Mayor Christopher J. Bell. Vice Mayor Richardson arrived at 9:13 a.m.

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS/OTHERS PRESENT. City Manager (CM) Ralph Bowers, Police Chief (PC) Terry Isaacs, Public Works Director (PWD) John Bostic III, City Treasurer (CT) Jeannine Racine Michaud, Community Development Director (CDD) Charlie Rector, Recreation Director (RD) Sherry Bechtel, and City Clerk (CC) Diane Gibson Smith.

01. MID-YEAR REVIEW

CM Bowers thank CT Michaud for her work on the mid-year budget. He noted things are in good shape and budget amendments are not necessary unless the Commission wishes them to be done. From the work already done, a rough expenditure budget for next year could be completed. CM Bowers stated this year's budget will be presented based on a millage that requires only a four to one vote. Personnel cuts would be loss of people who can't be replaced. CM Bowers stated he expects to do some reallocation of funds to be able to do some tasks better.

Vice Mayor Richardson arrived at 9:13 a.m.

CT Michaud explained the rationale for her proposed changes to revenues and expenditures in the mid- year budget review. She noted redevelopment taxes were much lower than expected.

CDD Rector requested no change be made to the Planning and Contractual Fees as additional charges are expected.

Vice Mayor Richardson questioned if it pays to write a traffic ticket anymore. Chief Isaacs stated only on the safety side of things; not the financial side.

Mayor Bell questioned if the County had looked at a traveling judge. Chief Isaacs stated the issue is that they are also trying to cut costs. There have been discussions on video conferences which will save fuel and maintenance on the vehicles. The public is challenging more and more tickets as departments are cutting back on sending officers to court.

Mayor Bell noted camera systems are not expensive to set up.

Chief Isaacs stated most of his department's overtime is from court time.

Mayor Bell suggested court fines and fees need to be worked on by the various Lake County Chiefs.

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Commissioner Gunter questioned if a representative could attend court instead of the officer. Chief Isaacs indicated no. They have the right to face their accuser.

CM Bowers noted any money to be taken out of reserves will be brought back to Commission.

The decision was made to do the mid-year budget amendment resolutions.

Commissioner Kelly noted nothing was done for the firefighters when the bonus was given to the other employees. CM Bowers to review and bring back a recommendation to the next meeting.

Mayor Bell recessed the meeting at 9:57 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:06 a.m.

02. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REVIEW

CM Bowers provided a memo of suggested projects. He reviewed the items listed. He recommends spending about \$400,000 of the CRA fund.


- a. Reserve \$100,000 for the CR466A light. We would like to have the State pay for this but need to be prepared in case we are asked to participate.
- b. Purchase of 2 additional properties (Fountain and Laurel Street). Discussion and decision was to get appraisals (about \$450 each) of the 2 parcels and put \$100,000 in the budget for purchase of both properties. This is a CRA project
- c. Leave in the demolition of houses on all the parcels.
- d. Mid-Lake Motors lift station – this is for operational issues. More information will be determined before placing a cost on this item. This lift station should resolve the issues along the highway. Hold off on this until later.
- e. Sidewalks – develop a phase plan on this. CM Bowers suggested Commissioner Goldberg and Commissioner Kelly will be part of a committee to determine which sidewalks to develop in Valley of the Springs. Commissioner Kelly noted sidewalks are needed near the school (Victoria Avenue) – suggestion was made for Safe Routes to Schools funds.
- f. Cooke to Spring Lake Cove water line – looking at economic development grant to do this. Need a commitment from Smart Fuels or Phillips. CM Bowers stated we will not charge impact fees to whoever commits to helping us get the grant.
- g. Mini excavator – need to do something about this, but can come back with better information.
- h. Two police vehicles – this would be for SUV style vehicles. Assistant Chief Borst stated SUVs were less expensive than cars and they are rear-wheel drive. Approved.
- i. Police Video Cameras – approved purchase of three video cameras from the same vendor as used by Lake County Sheriff's office.

03. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Richardson moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.



Christopher J. Bell, Mayor

Attest:


Diane L. Gibson Smith, CMC, City Clerk