

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
MINUTES
August 4, 2014**

A budget workshop meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Monday, August 4, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Christopher Bell, Vice Mayor Albert Goldberg, Commissioners Christopher Cheshire, and Sharon Kelly.

Also Present: City Manager Gary La Venia, City Treasurer Tannette Gayle, Police Chief Terry Isaacs, Community Development Director Charlie Rector, City Library Director Jo-Ann Glendinning, Public Works Director Dale Bogle, Interim Fire Chief Steve Whitaker, Human Resources Administrator/Deputy City Clerk Marie Azzolino, Finance Clerk Susan Parker, and City Clerk Esther Coulson.

1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.; Interim Fire Chief Steve Whitaker gave the invocation, and Chief Isaacs led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

2. ROLL CALL

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

3. 2014/15 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

After Mr. Le Venia indicated that the Fiscal Year 2014/15 projected budget reflects an ad valorem rate of 4.7371 representing \$38,000 more in revenues than FY 2013/14, Ms. Gayle reviewed the budget, a copy of the book is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

- Finance

The city commission discussed breaking down the current budget to reflect expenses for the prior three years.

Office Supplies

After discussion and in response to Mr. Rector's reference to the four color toners for building and zoning with the unit cost of \$400, the city commission agreed to include the additional \$1,200 in the total requested amount of \$1,600.

Fruitland Park Scholarship

The city commission discussed the \$1,000 Fruitland Park scholarship request; recognized, in previous years, the city's annual scholarship awarded to the Fire Department's fire explorers to help with school costs, and noted the eligibility requirements from Lake-Sumter Community College's Scholarship in partnership with and administered by Phi Theta Kappa.

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In response to Mr. La Venia's suggestion of selecting a male and female student with the highest grade-point-average to attend the college, the city commission requested that staff report back with more information.

Law Enforcement

With reference to the \$22,000 and **by unanimous consent and at the police chief's request, the city commission agreed to allocate an additional \$16,000 for reserve police officer positions** (\$10 per hour without health benefits).

Capital Outlay

After discussion, Mr. La Venia addressed the need to review the computer terminal, server equipment, operating systems, staffs' workstations, and accessibility to data to which Mayor Bell mayor suggested that more information be provided to the city commission prior to the conclusion of the budget process.

- Fire Control

In response to interim Fire Chief Whitaker's presentation, the city commission suggested staggering, in future, the equipment purchases and that staff transfer same from capital outlay into the operating expense account.

By unanimous consent, the city commission recessed its meeting at 7:45 p.m. and reconvened at 7:50 p.m.

- Building and Zoning

Messrs. Rector and La Venia agreed with Commissioner Kelly's suggestion to consider a maintenance agreement with The Villages.

Equipment and Software

Mr. Rector referred to a recent meeting staff had with The Villages representatives regarding equipment and software and the ability to interface inspection programs. He noted the annual licensing fees after construction of The Villages development; mentioned the requirement for staff training when permits are issued for residential and commercial properties, and addressed his intent to retain an individual for October 1, 2014 which is not included in the FY 2013/14 budget.

Mr. Rector explained that Mr. Jeffry Gerling, Building Official, will be providing information on related programs used by the Cities of Groveland, Mascot and The Village of Lady Lakes.

- Fruitland Park Library

After the city commission discussed the increase in the wages request of \$76,960 and the overtime line item, Ms. Glendinning noted the utilization of overtime hours by individuals to cover periods when library staff is away on sick or annual leave; identified the two positions that are currently frozen, and referred to her previous request for same to be filled.

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In response to the question posed by Mayor Bell, Ms. Glendinning requested a part-time aide position for 20-30 hours for \$11 an hour (\$13,000) and replacements for the two frozen positions.

After Ms. Gayle clarified the increase in wages, Ms. Glendinning requested that the full-time children's librarian position be placed back in the future.

Library Expansion

Following further discussion, Mayor Bell explained that the library expansion construction (architect design-built) will be reviewed and a determination made to provide what is needed. The city commission agreed for staff to monitor the allocation of the \$50,000 or \$60,000 for architect services; enter into negotiations for request for proposals, and work with the city attorney on the specifications.

Kiwanis of Lady Lake

With respect to the Kiwanis of Lady Lake Club, Ms. Glendinning explained the following:

- she will be designated as the first member and Ms. Michelle Yoder, Parks and Recreation Director, would be the second;
- the cost of membership would be \$140;
- the plan to start recruiting for the City of Fruitland Park's Kiwanis Club;
- the intent to request, at the club's budget meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 12, 2014, the amount of \$250 to assist with the children's library program and \$200 for the Easter Egg Hunt, and
- the members' requirement to assist in volunteering with the club; namely, Bingo at The Villages and reading at the elementary school.

Vice Mayor Goldberg noted the club's monetary contribution to the city's fire and police departments for the holidays.

- **Solid Waste**

After extensive discussion, in recognizing the ongoing increases, Mayor Bell suggested that a future budget amendment may be necessary to cover the expenses.

Mr. Bogle submitted for the record a list describing vehicles utilized by public works and noted the current use of the F-700 (Chipper truck). A copy of the list is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

After reference was made to the "Welcome to Fruitland Park" highway sign on CR 466A, Mr. Bogle suggested utilizing grant funds for same and that he would meet with the church representative for the "Welcome to Fruitland Park" signs on CR 436A.

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With respect to the insurance budgeted at \$9,000 and \$600 in 2014, Mr. La Venia explained that he will conduct a review on what currently exists on the market.

Facility Repairs Maintenance

Regarding the Casino Building and the city commission's previous position in semi-remodelling the building, Mr. Bogle requested \$30,000 and recalled the \$3,000 already allocated towards same.

Veterans Park

After Mr. Bogle gave a report on complaints received and identified the structural problems with Veterans Park, Mayor Bell recalled previous discussions on the relocation of the tennis courts which will be addressed at the August 5, 2014 budget workshop.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

The August 5, 2014 Budget Workshop will be held at 6:30 p.m.

5. 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 9:00 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the August 28, 2014 special city commission meeting.

Signed _____
Esther B. Coulson, City Clerk



Signed _____
Christopher Bell, Mayor

