

## FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 08, 2013

MEETING STATISTICS. A regular 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 08, 2013 beginning at 5:00 p.m

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Invocation delivered by Pastor Barry from Freedom Church followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner.

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

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

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

NEW BUSINESS. Interview of Esther Lewin-Coulson for City Clerk position & Interview of Tannette Gayle for City Treasurer Position

Interview - Esther Lewin-Coulson worked in government for 30 years. Has had 5 years FL City & County government experience. Ms. Lewin-Coulson worked as the assistant to the foreign embassy in the UK. Has helped to establish a new city in the UK and worked there for 6 months. Ms. Lewin-Coulson is currently employed in the Records for the Town of Hilton Head Island. She is still within her probationary period at the current employment. She has worked for large and small government offices. Has experience in Florida laws regarding records retention and proper disposal. Has experience in Municipal elections and has worked with the Supervisor of Elections in the past. In 2009 she became a Certified Municipal Clerk. She has been in a supervisory position with a staff of 3 subordinates. At present she has not indicated to her current employer her intention to leave. She is a member of the International City Clerks Association. She is committed to stay as long as she can within the government office if appointed to the position. She needs to give a month notice to current employer.

Vice-Mayor Kelly motioned to make a tentative offer to Ms. Lewin-Coulson contingent on background search. Commissioner Cheshire seconded. The motion carried with all voting aye.

Mayor Bell proposed that the salary be set at \$50,000 plus benefits with an additional \$3,000 to cover moving cost contingent on a minimal longevity timeframe to be worked out by Interim City Manager Rick Conner. The Commission in its entirety agreed. Ms. Coulson tentatively accepted.

Interview - Tannette Gayle, 27, resident of Grand Island, raised in Mt. Dora has a Bachelors Degree in Finance from the University of South Florida, currently pursuing a Masters in Business Administration through an online accredited school, Western Governors University based in Salt Lake City, Utah and looks to graduate by November. She is currently employed with Lake County Tax Collector. The position entails handling tangible taxes, develop contracts for business owners, work with Bob McKee to prepare the

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budget, work with trim, tax role collections, and work with sales tax with the Department of Revenue, State statutes, Muni Code, records retention, Florida Sunshine Law. Handle personal and confidential materials. In the tangible department she is in a supervisory position and delegates tasks to two staff members. Has payroll experience, verifying the payroll software files for accuracy. She has not used Munis. She currently uses Financial Edge software. Current salary: \$30,000. She is comfortable with working outside the parameters of an 8-5 job. She requires a minimal of 2 week notice to current employer. Has familiarity of CRA Funds and other Community Development terms. She is looking to further her career and there is not that availability currently. She is not familiar with the CAFR.

Mayor Bell asked if Interim Rick Conner has had an opportunity to speak with candidate Tannette Gayle. He stated that he felt she has tremendous composure and that based on her educational background, youth and the references she would be a favorable for the position.

Commissioner Gunter began discussions making an initial suggested offer of \$ 45,000. Mayor Bell would like to speak to Bob McKee's office first. Community Development Director Charlie Rector, suggested an offer of \$ 40,000 and then re-evaluate after a period of time. Commissioner Gunter was in agreement with CDD Rector that based on her current salary an offer of \$ 40,000 would be more reasonable starting point.

Mayor Bell suggested having the City Accountant Chet Ross to conduct an interview. Vice Mayor Kelly suggested speaking with the previous City Treasurer Jeannine Racine Michaud and ask that she conduct an interview with Tannette and then bring that information back to the Commission at the next Commission meeting and make a determination at that time.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Cheshire moved to adjourn the regular meeting, Commissioner Gunter seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

  
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Christopher J. Bell, Mayor

Attest:  
  
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Diane L. Gibson Smith, CMC, City Clerk  
*Acting City Clerk*