

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
July 31, 2014**

A special meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, July 10, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

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

(Commissioner John L. Gunter, Jr. entered the meeting room during the minutes of this meeting.)

Also Present: City Manager Gary La Venia, City Attorney Scott Gerken, Police Chief Terry Isaacs, City Treasurer Tannette Gayle, Community Development Director Charlie Rector, Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Yoder, Public Works Director Dale Bogle, Human Resources Administrator/Deputy City Clerk Marie Azzolino, Finance Clerk Susan Parker, and City Clerk Esther B. Coulson.

1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.; Senior Pastor Mike Fordham, Community United Methodist Church, 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 a quorum was declared present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one appeared before the city commission at this time.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA
APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Commissioner Cheshire, seconded by Vice Mayor Goldberg and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the July 10, 2014 regular city commission meeting minutes as submitted.

By unanimous consent, Mayor Bell took the following items out of order on this evening's agenda.

5. REGULAR AGENDA

(b) FDOT Traffic Signal Maintenance and Compensation Agreement

After discussion and on motion of Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner Cheshire, the city commission approved the traffic signal maintenance and compensation agreement between the State of Florida

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Department of Transportation and the City of Fruitland Park for new traffic signals and additional warning beacons and other devices for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 and authorized the mayor and clerk to execute same.

(c) Soccer Contract

After discussion and **on motion of Commissioner Cheshire, seconded by Commissioner Kelly and unanimously carried, the city commission authorized the execution of a contract between the City of Fruitland Park and Kick it LLC for a soccer program for the period July 19, 2014 to December 30, 2014.** (The contract has been reviewed and approved by the city attorney's office.)

PUBLIC HEARING

By unanimous consent, Mayor Bell opened the public hearings.

(d) Second Reading – Ordinance 2014-017 Referendum to Amend the Charter

It now being the time advertised to consider the enactment of proposed Ordinance 2014-017 the substance of which is as follows, Mr. Gerken read the title into the record:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF THE CITY CHARTER; AMENDING SECTIONS 3.01 AND 3.02 OF THE CITY CHARTER RELATING TO THE CITY COMMISSION COMPOSITION AND QUALIFICATIONS; AMENDING THE CHARTER TO ADD SECTION 3.17 RELATING TO CITY COMMISSION DISTRICTS AND REDISTRICTING; AMENDING SECTION 3.03 RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF MAYOR; AMENDING SECTION 8.01 RELATING TO CITY ELECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 9.08 RELATING TO INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM; PROVIDING REQUISITE BALLOT LANGUAGE FOR SUBMISSION TO ELECTORS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CHARTER; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (The first reading was held on July 10, 2014 special meeting.)

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

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On motion of Vice Mayor Goldberg, seconded by Commissioner Kelly and unanimously carried, the city commission enacted Ordinance 2014-017, as previously cited, to become effective immediately as provided by law.

Upon Mayor Bell's suggestion and by unanimous consent, the city commission recessed its meeting at 5:47 p.m. and reconvened at 5:52 p.m.

Commissioner Gunter was present in the meeting room at this time.

5. REGULAR AGENDA

2014/15 Fiscal Year Budget Tax Rate

The city commission considered its action to set the 2014/15 Fiscal Year proposed millage tax rate for first submission.

After Mr. La Venia noted the current rate of 4.7371 for FY 2013/14 and the roll back rate of 4.5090, Ms. Gayle explained that the city would receive the same revenue as last year with the millage of 4.7371 and identified the increased costs to the city which did not stay the same.

Subsequent to some discussion, Mr. Gerken described the budget process after establishing the proposed millage rate at this evening's meeting.

Following further discussion, **a motion was made by Commissioner Gunter and seconded by Commissioner Kelly that the city commission approve the city manager's proposal to set the millage rate for Fiscal Year 2014/14 budget with the TRIM at 5.0371.**

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

6. NEW BUSINESS

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

7. OFFICERS' REPORTS

(a) City Manager

- Public Relations Brochure

Mr. La Venia pointed out the final copy of the public relations brochure for commission review.

- Town of Lady Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mr. La Venia reported on his recent preliminary meeting with the Town of Lady Lake staff to discuss the concept of running and treating the city's wastewater at the town's wastewater facility which was met favorably by the town commission and highlighted the benefits to the town and the city.

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- **Building and Zoning Hardware**

Mr. La Venia noted the recent meeting Mr. Rector had with The Villages representatives regarding the introduction of a new hardware program for the city's Community Development, Building and Zoning permitting and noted that training for staff would be required.

- (b) **City Attorney**

- **Library Expansion**

Mr. Gerken reported that on Friday, July 25, 2014, the city closed on the 207 West Berckman Street property (adjacent to the Fruitland Park Library) whereby the city will be ready to proceed with the library expansion; Monday, August 1, 2014, the city is scheduled to close on the 603 West Fountain Street property (adjacent to the Casino Building), and closing is anticipated at a later date for the property located at 600 Laurel Street as Mr. Eric A. Hughes, Property Owner, has already signed the contract.

- **Police and Fire Service Fees Class Refund**

Mr. Gerken announced that this day was the last day for refund applications for police and fire service fees and anticipated that the city commission will receive a report on the figures by the forthcoming budget workshop. He explained that staff will be working on what qualified users will receive for the next 60 days; gave a statistical account on the number of existing accounts, applications received, and the request for refunds, and described the second process (class action lawsuit) on the second application.

8. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- (a) **Vice Mayor Goldberg**

Vice Mayor Goldberg stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

- (b) **Commissioner Cheshire**

Commissioner Cheshire stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

- (c) **Commissioner Gunter, Jr.**

Commissioner Gunter referred to the public relations brochure and noted the location of City of Fruitland Park.

- (d) **Commissioner Kelly**

Commissioner Kelly stated that she has nothing to report at this time.

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9. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Bell referred to the Dates to Remember and noted the following:

- August 4 and 5, 2014 Budget Workshops at 6:30 p.m.;
- August 8, 2014, Lake County League of Cities, and
- August 14-16, 2014 Florida League of Cities Annual Conference in Hollywood, Florida

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 6:14 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