

# FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 9, 2016

A regular meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, June 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Christopher Bell, Vice Mayor John L. Gunter Jr., Commissioners Chris Cheshire, Ray Lewis, and Rick Ranize.

Also Present: City Manager Gary La Venia, City Attorney Anita Geraci-Carver, City Treasurer Jeannine Racine Michaud, Police Chief Mike Fewless, Deputy Police Chief Dennis Cutter, Sergeants Erik Luce, David Brown, and Henry Rains, Officers Robert Vachon, Brad Heidt, Jenn Hutchins, and Stanley Rubin, Police Department; Fire Chief Michael Laming; Assistant Fire Chief Don Gilpin; Deputy Fire Chief Tim Yoder, Firefighters David Campbell, Chris Lewis, and Chris Stevens, Fire Department; Community Development Director Charlie Rector, and City Clerk Esther B. Coulson

## 1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

After Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., Reverend Dr. George A. Mulford III, Grace Bible Baptist Church, gave the invocation and Chief Fewless led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

## 2. ROLL CALL

At Mayor Bell's request, Ms. Coulson called the roll and a quorum was declared present.

## 3. PRESENTATIONS

### *Lifesaving Awards*

Chief Fewless gave a background of events that took place at a Fruitland Park residence on May 29, 2016 where a missing four-year-old child was found unresponsive in a swimming pool. He recognized and honored the following individuals who carried out lifesaving efforts before the firefighters arrived on the scene and acknowledged the presence of the survived child Bentley and his family:

- Ms. Kaley Koenig ( absent from this evening's meeting) pulled the child out of the pool;
- Ms. Kimberlee Pagan,-administered CPR to the child upon the direction of the 911 dispatcher;
- Ms. Krista Wood, Lake County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) 911 dispatcher, gave CPR instructions to Ms. Pagen until the arrival of the Fruitland Park Police Officer;
- Officer Heidt, who immediately arrived on the scene, began taking over CPR;
- Officer Rubin, arrived shortly also assisted with CPR, and
- Officer Rains, subsequently arrived, cleared obstructions from the child's throat.

Chief Laming recognized the following fire department personnel who worked jointly as a cohesive unit with the police department and Lake EMS:

- Firefighter Christopher Stevens;
- Firefighter Christopher Lewis;
- Firefighter Jonathan Sydenstricker who was absent, and
- Chief Laming, who described their assignments in assisting with transporting Bentley to the Pediatric Emergency and Trauma Care (Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children) in Orlando.

The following Lake EMS individuals were honored by Lake EMS Director Jerry Smith, who thanked the city commission for such honor and acknowledged the agency's accreditation in emergency dispatching:

- Dispatcher Krista Wood (Communications) finishing her training who was the call taker providing instructions (not being present at this evening's meeting);
- Dispatcher Jennifer Perez (Communications) the lead dispatcher on duty responsible for sending Unit 271 to the scene;
- EMT Jacob Merrow (Medic-271) drove the vehicle to the hospital;
- Paramedic Brian Clough (Medic-271) recently completed the provisional program;
- Captain Chris Smith (District 2) (absent), and
- Dispatcher Diane Burrows (Communications) (absent)

Mr. Smith, at Mayor Bell's request, addressed the intent for Lake EMS Board to provide assistance in promoting public awareness as it relates to children's safety and drowning prevention and to inform them if anyone is interested in CPR classes.

Ms. Pagen recognized the team effort demonstrated by everyone who was present at the time of the incident and voiced her heartfelt appreciation in saving the life of Brentley.

On behalf of the city commission, Mayor Bell expressed gratitude.

**Upon Mayor Bell's suggestion and by unanimous the city commission recessed its meeting at 7:23 p.m. and reconvened at 7:40 p.m.**

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- **Life Saving**

Mr. Peter J. Hurrt, City of Fruitland Park resident, voiced his gratitude to those involved who helped saved a life.

- **Shiloh Cemetery**

Mr. Hurrt referred to the Memorial Day Ceremony/presentation conducted by American Legion Post 219 at Shiloh Cemetery on May 30, 2016 and complimented Mr. Bogle and staff for the upkeep of Shiloh Cemetery.

**Five-Year Plan (Tax Rolls)**

Mr. Hurrt pointed out the June 1, 2016 Orlando Sentinel Commentary by Ms. Lauren Ritchie entitled "Higher Tax Rolls Tell Tale About Lake Growth" noting *Fruitland Park's total taxable value . . . with an increase of nearly 75 percent.* He recalled Commissioner Ranize's remarks at a previous meeting on the development of a five-year plan.

After discussion and in response to Mr. Hurrt's questions, Mayor Bell explained that later in this evening's meeting, the five year-plan will be addressed in Mr. La Venia's report.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Approval of Minutes**

**On motion of Commissioner Cheshire, seconded by Vice Mayor Gunter and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the May 26, 2016 regular meeting minutes as submitted.**

**6. REGULAR AGENDA**

**(a) Website Development Discussion**

Mayor Bell referred to the website proposals previously provided and suggested that the city commission review same.

After discussion, Mayor Bell explained that a list outlining departmental needs and accomplishments will be addressed on the July 2016 agenda

**(b) Resolution 2016-019 Calling for Election - November 8, 2016**

Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the title of proposed Resolution 2016-019, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, CALLING FOR A REGULAR ELECTION TO FILL VACANCIES ON THE CITY COMMISSION; SETTING AN ELECTION DATE; NAMING THE VACANCIES TO BE FILLED; ESTABLISHING A POLLING LOCATION; ESTABLISHING A QUALIFYING PERIOD; ESTABLISHING ELECTION PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR ELECTION ARRANGEMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**On motion of Commissioner Cheshire, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission adopted Resolution 2016-019 as previously cited.**

(c) **Resolution 2016-020 - FY 2015-16 Budget Amendment - Police Department Lease Vehicle**

Ms. Geraci-Carver read into the record the title of proposed Resolution 2016-020, the substance of which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE 2015/2016 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET PURSUANT TO SEC. 6.07 OF THE CITY CHARTER TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND CONTINGENCY TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND POLICE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT VEHICLES BUDGET; PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGET; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

After discussion and **on motion of Commissioner Cheshire, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission adopted Resolution 2016-019 as previously cited.**

(d) **April 2016 - FY 2015-16 Financial Report**

Ms. Racine Michaud reviewed the revenues and expenses for FY 2015-16.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

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

7. **OFFICERS' REPORTS**

(a) **City Manager**

i. **Five-Year Plan (Tax Rolls)**

Mr. La Venia pointed out the proposed five-year capital projects plan addressed at the May 5, 2016 workshop meeting. He mentioned staff's intent to proceed with and adhere to same as circumstances allow and that he would be willing to provide a copy of said document.

ii. **June 23, 9-12:00 Hazardous Waste from Lake County**

Mr. La Venia reviewed the June 23, 2016 Lake County - Hazardous Waste Mobile Unit announcement for Lake County residents which will be posted on the city's Facebook page.

iii. **Email**

Mr. La Venia referred to the email dated June 9, 2016 from Ms. Sandy Beckett, Lake County Public Works Department, relaying the request for Messrs Jim Stivender Jr. Public Works Department Director, and Fred Schneider, Public Works Department County Engineer, to attend one of the city commission meetings in September 2016 to give an update of CR 466A.

**By unanimous consent, the city commission agreed to the invitation for Messrs. Jim Stivender, Lake County Public Works Department Director and Fred Schneider, Public Works County Engineer, to appear at the September 8, 2016 regular meeting.**

**iv. Mutual Aid Agreement**

At Mayor Bell's request, Mr. La Venia reported that the Lake County Board of County Commissioners approved the Mutual Aid Agreement at its June 7, 2016 regular meeting a mirror of which the city has had for years. He noted that it was a pleasure to see how agencies could work together when there are lives and properties to be saved and indicated that the city's fire department should be able to do so which is being impeded by the county's fire department.

**(b) City Attorney**

Ms. Geraci-Carver stated that she had nothing to report at this time.

**8. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

**(a) Commissioner Ranize**

**i. Lifesaving**

Commissioner Ranize expressed his appreciation and thanked the police, fire departments and EMS for their work during the course of the week and recognized that they are underpaid and overworked.

**ii. Mutual Aid Agreement**

Commissioner Ranize voiced his satisfaction on the county's approval of the mutual aid agreement.

**iii. Police Vehicles**

Commissioner Ranize referred to Chief Fewless' report on police vehicles addressed at the May 26, 2016 regular meeting; referred to the Police Department's Vehicle Replacement Plan which was subsequently provided, and requested that the department heads provide a similar plan outlining the lifespan of equipments and city buildings at the forthcoming budget meeting.

**(b) Commissioner Cheshire**

In concurring with the remarks relayed by Commissioner Ranize and Mr. La Venia, Commissioner Cheshire commended the police and fire departments for a job well done and for the city commission to consider its position on said departments during the budget process.

**(c) Commissioner Lewis**

**i. Casino Community Center**

Commissioner Lewis complimented Mr. La Venia on the May 31, 2016 letter he wrote to the State of Florida Department of State's Bureau of

Historic Preservation/Division of Historic Resources Compliance Review Supervisor outlining the grant funding and the casino building; a copy of this letter is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

**ii. Swim Lessons**

Commissioner Lewis recognized the ongoing Parks and Recreation Department's swim lessons program and noted the opportunity for a public information officer to feature its availability as a safe environment for children to learn how to swim.

In response, Mr. La Venia recognized the "*Water Safety Day*" that Ms. Michelle Yoder, Parks and Recreation Director, promoted and the overwhelming response received by participants in swim lessons. He explained that Ms. Racine Michaud and he reviewed the budget to determine the need for more part time lifeguards to accommodate same.

With respect to the water safety press release, Mr. La Venia explained that no one is available to highlight the progress made and that staff will review same.

Chief Laming explained that the fire department is working with The Villages Fire Department to train city staff to become CPR instructors to which Commissioner Ranize stated could be offered in-house.

**iii. Code Enforcement**

In answering Commissioner Lewis' concerns, Mr. La Venia explained that Mr. Rector and himself are currently addressing the concept of retaining code enforcement individual under contract which will be addressed in the budget.

**(d) Vice Mayor Gunter, Jr.**

**i. CR 466A/Miller Street Improvements**

Mr. Rector addressed, in response to Vice Mayor Gunter, plans regarding Florida's Safe Routes to School Program; the improvements on CR 466A and Miller Street, and the decision to retain a crossing guard in the area for school children to cross safely.

In concurring, Chief Fewless address the need for an additional traffic light at College and Rose Avenues to which Mr. La Venia indicated needs to addressed.

**ii. DUI**

At Vice Mayor Gunter's request, Mr. Fewless reported on the number sworn law enforcement agency personnel who participated in the May 27, 2016 vehicle checks and the arrests that were made as a result.

**10. MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

**(a) Dates to Remember**

Mayor Bell noted the August 12, 2016, Lake County League of Cities Luncheon Meeting – "Ethics Training Class" and the August 18-20, 2016, Florida League of Cities' 90th Annual Conference in Hollywood,

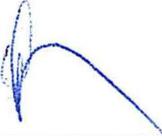
**(b) Lake EMS Board Meeting**

Mayor Bell referred to his attendance at the June 7, 2016 Lake EMS Board meeting and relayed the members' gratitude on the invitation received requesting attendance at this evening's meeting to receive the lifesaving awards.

**11. 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 7:58 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the June 23, 2016 regular meeting.

Signed   
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Esther B. Coulson, City Clerk

Signed   
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Christopher Bell, Mayor