

## FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 26, 2009

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, March 26, 2009 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Pastor Walter Martin of the Trinity Assembly of God Church delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice Mayor Kelly.

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 Darrel E. Martin, Vice Mayor Sharon Kelly, and Mayor Christopher J. Bell.

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS/OTHERS PRESENT. City Manager (CM) Ralph O. Bowers, City Treasurer (CT) Elizabeth P. Palmer, Public Safety Director (PSD) J. M. Isom, Sr., Recreation Director (RD) Sherry Bechtel, Community Development Director (CDD) Peggy Sue Newman, and City Clerk (CC) Diane Gibson Smith.

### 01. APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Commissioner Gunter moved and Vice Mayor Kelly seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously with all Commission Members voting aye.

The following items were approved: Minutes of the regular meeting of March 12, 2009 and the Memorandum of Agreement with Lake County Supervisor of Elections for Polling Places August 24, 2010 and November 2, 2010.

### 02. AGENDA UPDATE. None

03. HEARD AND ACCEPTED CITY TREASURER'S REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2009. CT Palmer presented the financial report for the period ending February 28, 2009. She noted the department budgets are beginning to level off. On a good note, the utility fund revenue will need to be increased at mid-year as revenues are higher than anticipated mainly due to Spring Lake Cove coming online.

04. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT. CA Gerken stated he had no report. Commissioner Kelly questioned if he had received information on CR466A. CA Gerken stated he was supposed to receive a report on the right of way, but is still waiting for this report. CA Gerken stated he will contact them.

### 05. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

- a. Update on Fruitland Park Days by Recreation Director Sherry Bechtel – RD Bechtel stated she has 41 5k runners; 35 parade entries; and 32 vendors signed up. She currently does not have a rock wall, but is working on finding one. The Daily

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Commercial is sponsoring the ads for free. The bounce rides are being advertised as free for kids Friday night and Saturday until 3:00 p.m. RD Bechtel also noted golf carts will be available for the Commissioners for the parade.

- b. Update on sewer system and possible fix – CM Bowers state he had a good meeting with Duane Booth (BESH) and John Bostic. A solution to make the system work is coming together. Smaller collector stations will be strategically placed.

### 06. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

### 07. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Adopted Resolution 2009-004 showing support for making the funding of Public Education a priority in the State's budget. CA Gerken read Resolution 2009-004 by title only as follows:

A resolution of the City Commission of the City of Fruitland Park, Florida, in support of making the funding of Public Education a priority in the State's budget; and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Bell introduced School Board member Roseanne Brandeburg. He requested an update on the schools. Mrs. Brandeburg reported funds had been held back in the budget over the past year, but Lake County is still being faced with 17.2% or \$42 million in cuts. Additional cuts and changes may still be needed.

Mayor Bell questioned the number of employees being let go. Mrs. Brandeburg stated 220 employees are being let go; although not all are teachers. Nothing has been set in stone. Lake County is in a better situation than surrounding counties.

Commissioner Kelly questioned if Mrs. Brandeburg knew the history of the funding of the schools. Mrs. Brandeburg stated the funding of the schools is going down. The State is supposed to be funding at the 2005/06 level in order to receive stimulus money, but the State is currently only funding at the 2003/04 level so may not receive stimulus money.

Commissioner Gunter questioned the education and requirements for a high school diploma as West Palm Beach County requires 20 hours community service. Mrs. Brandeburg stated the bright futures program requires 75 hours of community service. Possible service training classes are being reviewed.

Vice Mayor Kelly moved and Commissioner Goldberg seconded to adopt Resolution 2009-004. The motion carried unanimously with Vice Mayor Kelly, Commissioner Martin, Mayor Bell, Commissioner Goldberg, and Commissioner Gunter all voting aye.

- b. Heard request from Pastor Barry Hayes of the Freedom Community Church for additional usage of the Casino Building. Pastor Hayes requested an extension on using the Casino through July. He noted he had teenagers help paint the building which went very well. More community people are now coming to visit. His church is working on putting together a picnic for the Community on July 5<sup>th</sup>. The

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consensus of the Commission was to allow the group to continue to use the Casino through July.

- c. Set date for the employee picnic as May 2, 2009 – the Commission approved the date of May 2, 2009.

**08. CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

- a. Charlie Rector stated the American Legion is going to sell the building if anyone is interested.

**09. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**


- a. Vice Mayor Kelly - none
- b. Commissioner Gunter - none
- c. Commissioner Martin -none
- d. Commissioner Goldberg - none

- 10. MAYOR BELL'S COMMENTS. Mayor Bell stated the City of Minneola is looking for support for allowing gambling. He noted we can ignore the request or express opposition. The consensus was to ignore the request. Mayor Bell also reviewed the upcoming events.

- 11. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Goldberg moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

  
Sharon A. Kelly, Vice Mayor

Attest:

  
Diane L. Gibson Smith, CMC, City Clerk