

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
May 14, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Also Present: City Manager Gary La Venia, City Attorney Lewis Stone, Stone and Gerken, City Treasurer Tannette Gayle, Interim Police Chief Lake County Sheriff's Office Captain Todd English, Fire Chief George Fernandez, Captain Michael Laming, Donald Gilpin, Community Development Director Charlie Rector, Public Works Director Dale Bogle, and City Clerk Esther B. Coulson.

1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.; Pastor Aaron Hornsby, Eagle's Nest Baptist Church, gave the Invocation, and Interim Police Chief English 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. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

(a) May 17-23, 2015 "Emergency Medical Services Week"

On behalf of the city commission, Mayor Bell read into the record a proclamation designating the week of May 17-23, 2015, as *EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK* and encouraged the community to observe that week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

Mr. Jerry Smith, Lake EMS, accepted the proclamation with appreciation; recognized this year's motto as *EMS strong* and noted the newspaper article. He acknowledged the city's support; expressed appreciation with the capabilities of providing services to the citizens and partnership with the Fruitland Park Fire and Police departments recognizing them to be one of the best in Lake County.

Mayor Bell expressed his appreciation to Lake EMS on the efficient service and treatment they provided in response to a medical emergency for his father on May 9, 2015.

(b) Certificate of Recognition

In recognition of the May 9, 2015, 23 Annual Letter Carriers' Food Drive "Stamp-Out Hunger" and on behalf of the city commission, Mayor Bell recognized Mr. Shane Ulbin, National Association of Letter Carriers "Food Drive Coordinator Central Florida Branch 1091 and noted the presence of Ms. Hannah

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McClain, Beyond the Walls Ministry Food Pantry, Heritage Community Church, who was presented with the certificate of recognition.

Ms. McClain accepted the certificate with appreciation; reported that approximately 4,372 lbs. of food was delivered to the pantry and compared the monetary equivalent donated and expressed appreciation to Mr. Ulbin on behalf of the carriers.

Mr. Ulbin described the branch's jurisdiction and explained that they will break down the preliminary numbers of food donated; reported that the area finished second in the nation in 2014 which is continuing to break records due to the nonperishable foods that still remains undelivered, and expressed appreciation to the city.

By unanimous consent, the city commission recessed its meeting at 7:50 p.m. to the Community Redevelopment Agency meeting and reconvened at 7:59 p.m.

4. COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one from the public appeared at this time.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Commissioner Ranize, seconded by Vice Mayor Cheshire and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the April 23, regular meeting minutes as submitted.

Upon Mayor Bell's suggestion and by unanimous consent, the city commission took the following item out of order.

7. REGULAR AGENDA

(a) Anita Geraci-Carver - City Attorney Agreement

The city commission considered its action to approve a legal services agreement with Anita Geraci-Carver Esq. and authorize the mayor to execute same.

Upon Mr. Stone's request, Mayor Bell called for the public to be heard.

There being no-one from the public, and **on motion of Commissioner Lewis, seconded by Vice Mayor Cheshire and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the legal services agreement as previously cited.**

Mayor Bell requested that Mr. Stone relay the message that former City Attorney Mr. Scott Gerken attend the next regular city commission meeting.

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By unanimous consent and upon Mayor Bell's suggestion, the city commission took the fire assessment process presentation out of order at this evening's meeting.

(b) Presentation – Fire Special Assessments Overview

Ms. Sandi Melgarejo, Government Services Group Inc., Tallahassee, gave a power-point presentation regarding the benefits of using fire special assessments, its methodology and development, and implementation and collection; a copy of which is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

(c) Discussion – Parks and Recreation Fitness Activities

The city commission recognized the proposition made by Mr. Al Cardiello, Best Infinity Fitness and Spa Inc., to the parks and recreations department director regarding corporate fitness membership and the use of the City of Fruitland Park's Gardenia Swimming Pool for water fitness activities.

Mr. Cardiello described the proposed plan to enter into a partnership with the city to provide an instructor to teach a class once a week during the pool's normal operating hours; count the number of the fitness members who would be utilizing the pool at that time for a discounted monthly rate (\$2.50 for city residents and \$3.50 for non-city residents), and bill Infinity Fitness at the end of the month,

After considerable discussion, and **on motion of Commissioner Cheshire, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission approved entering into an agreement with Infinity Fitness and Spa Inc. for a ninety-day (90-day) period to provide an instructor to teach an aquatic exercise class once a week at the swimming pool at Gardenia Park during normal operating hours at a rate of \$1.50 and that either party can terminate the contract by giving thirty (30) days' notice.**

(d) FLC Legislative Policy Committee

The city commission considered its action to appoint city commission member(s) and/or city manager to serve on the following Florida League of Cities' Legislative Policy Committees:

- Energy, Environment and Natural Resources,
- Finance, Taxation and Personnel,
- Growth Management and Economic Affairs,
- Transportation and Intergovernmental Relations, and
- Urban Administration

Mayor Bell recognized the city officials serving on current committees and suggested that anyone who is interested to serve are submit their names to Ms. Coulson.

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After much discussion and **by unanimous consent, the city commission approved the city manager's request to serve on the Florida League of Cities' Growth Management and Economic Affairs Legislative Policy Committee.**

(e) Lake County Keep Lake Beautiful Committee

The city commission considered its action to recommend an appointment to serve on the Lake County Keep America Beautiful Committee.

Mayor Bell recognized Lake County Board of County Commissioners' invitation to governmental officials, community organizations, and citizens who are interested to help beautify public spaces by keeping the community clean and attractive to serve on Keep America Beautiful Committee. He explained that an affiliation meeting will be held on Friday, May 15, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. at the Lake County Emergency Operations Center to discuss planning and goal-setting.

After discussion, and recognizing the city's ongoing cleanup program, the mayor moved the agenda.

(f) City Commission 2015 Summer Meeting Schedule

The city commission considered its action on changes to the 2015 Summer Meeting schedule:

- July 9, 2015 – regular meeting cancellation
- August 13, 2015 – regular meeting cancellation, and
- September 24, 2015 Second Budget Public Hearing change to 15th, 17th, or 22nd September 2015;

After extensive discussions and **on motion of Commissioner Gunter, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission approved cancelling the August 13, 2015 regular commission meeting.**

Following further deliberations, and **on motion of Commissioner Lewis, seconded by Vice Mayor and unanimously carried, the city commission approved moving the Thursday, September 24, second budget public hearing to Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.**

At Mayor Bell's request and **by unanimous consent, the city commission approved holding a workshop on May 28, 2015 workshop meeting at 6:00 p.m. on redistricting maps and charter change for Runoff Elections.** (The city commission agreed to hold another workshop at a future date, if the subject workshop extends beyond the time.)

Mr. La Venia confirmed, in response to Commissioner Lewis' question, that Mr. Greg Beliveau, LPG Urban and Regional Planners Inc., will be attending the respective workshop to present the redistricting maps.

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(g) Infrastructure Surtax Distribution - ILA

Ms. Geraci-Carver addressed the city commission's awareness of Lake County's review in placing on the November 2015 ballot the additional one-cent sales tax. She referred to the provisions in the ILA on the percentage of distribution among Lake County School Board, Lake County, and individual municipalities based on population and the automatic termination if the referendum does not pass.

On motion of Commissioner Lewis, seconded by Commissioner Gutner and unanimously carried, the city commission approved an interlocal agreement among Lake County, Florida ("Lake County"), a political subdivision of the State of Florida, the Cities of Tavares, Umatilla, Astatula, Eustis, Clermont, Groveland, Howey-in-the-Hills, Mascotte, Minneola, Mount Dora, Fruitland Park, Leesburg, Montverde and Lady Lake, collectively the ("Cities"), and The School Board of Lake County, Florida ("School Board"), a body corporate existing under the laws of the State of Florida, regarding the distribution of the Local Government Infrastructure Surtax and authorize the mayor and the clerk to execute same.

(h) Engineering and Surveying Services WWTP – Proposal – BESH

Mr. La Venia reviewed the engineering and surveying services proposal from Booth, Ern, Straughan & Hiott, (BESH) Inc. to complete the Town of Lady Lake Water Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Connection Project (to include a surge tank and pump station at the current WWTP site, decommissioning of the existing WWTP, a force main connecting to an existing lift station in the town, and upgrades to the existing town's lift station).

Mr. La Venia referred to communications he had with Mr. "Rob" Robert A. BESH, and pointed out an email dated May 13, 2015 received from Ms. Kristen Killgaard, Town of Lady Lake Manager, regarding the WWTP agreement requesting an amendment to subsection 5(3), Wastewater Quality. (A copy of the email is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

Mr. La Venia addressed the town's desire to have the ability to notify the city on materials it sends which causes issues with the readings to the town's WWTP and provide 30 days' notice to correct same otherwise the agreement would be terminated.

Mr. La Venia relayed his discussions with Messrs. Gerken and Rector and indicated that he has not spoken with Ms. Geraci-Carver on the consequences to the city, recognizing its expenditure and not having any WWTP. He believed that termination of the contract would not be feasible as the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) would not permit the city to be without a WWTP and 30 days to identify and find a cure for the problem is not realistic or feasible; however, he concurs that the city would be responsible for

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any problems and damages that would occur and would make good to correct same.

Mr. La Venia suggested the need for language to include the problem to be identified by professionals whereby the city and the town would need to collaborate on identifying the problem, find and initiate a procedure to implement the cure and proceed to perform the work in a reasonable period of time. He noted the existing clause indicating that the city would not be entirely responsible for the damage that would be incurred if there is a problem and addressed his intent to review same with the attorney whereby FDEP would be notified and comment on same.

After discussion, Mr. Rector recalled discussions at the April 23, 2015 special meeting regarding staff's plan to enact an ordinance similar to the town's as its existing waste material ordinance is of main concern as it is outdated and not as stringent as the town's. He mentioned staff's current review on what needs to be corrected; recognized the town's concerns on the possibility of food establishments in the city that could generate pollutants and cause an offset in chemistry imbalance to the town's plant, and acknowledged the city's current biodiesel plan which is not operational.

After describing the procedures involved with the plant's operations, Mr. Rector relayed conversations he had earlier this day with Messrs. La Venia and Beliveau recognizing the town's request to be fair and that abandoning the plant, according to FDEP's point of view, is not feasible. He explained that the town would oblige the city to work together with them.

Commissioner Ranize suggested directing Mr. La Venia to obtain a copy of the town's disposal ordinance and work on including a stringent language for the agreement as a good faith effort to the town.

Following extensive discussions, and upon Commissioner Ranize' suggestion, **the city commission, by unanimous consent, agreed to direct staff to obtain a copy of the Town of Lady Lake's disposal ordinance and draft a stringent language replacing the city's current Waste Materials Deposit Ordinance.**

Mr. La Venia addressed the next step to proceed on the proposal of \$204,270 from BESH at the next city commission meeting, once the language is in place and after review by Ms. Geraci-Carver. He explained that the additional \$151,000 for the lift station is the money borrowed.

After much discussion, and **by unanimous consent, the city commission agreed upon execution of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Connection Project agreement by the Town of Lady Lake Council, to postpone its action on the proposal from Booth, Ern, Straughan & Hiott, (BESH) Inc. to the next**

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meeting and directed the city attorney draft the **Waste Materials Deposit Ordinance for consideration**

(i) **Water Meters - HD Supply Water Works Ltd**

The city commission considered its action to approve the amount of \$22,493 for water meter installation from HD Supply Water Works Inc. (Budgeted from the utility fund.) (Piggyback contract with Lake County or any of the Lake County municipalities; thus, waiving the city's procurement procedures.

After discussion, **and on motion of Commissioner Gunter, seconded by Vice Mayor Cheshire and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the amount of \$22,493 for water meter installation from HD Supply Water Works Inc.** (Funding from building impact fees.)

(j) **CIP/CRA Discussion**

Mr. La Venia reviewed the Capital Improvement Program/Community Redevelopment Agency (CIP/CRA) for FY 2014/15 priority list; recognized the CIP projects outlined on the first page, and made recommendations to utilize \$224,402 for the following:

- **Administration**

Later in the meeting and **on motion of Commission Lewis, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the city manager's recommendation to expend up to \$35,000 from general funds for the new computer equipment including new services for the police department and six new upgraded computers for administration.**

- **Recreation**

- o facilitate needed skateboard improvements at Gardenia Park;
- o replace the stainless steel grills at the city's parks;
- o upgrade Gardenia Park's swimming pool where materials will be placed on order commencing May 15, 2015, and
- o refurbish Veterans Memorial Complex Park locating another funding source, and include bathroom facilities; thus, removing the existing port-o-lets was included in the \$10,000 cost estimate.

- **Police Department** - install a keyless entry system on four doors for \$47,302 and utilize impact fees for the purchase of a new SUV (the criteria in qualifying for CIP and the cost comparison with sedans was discussed).

Later in the meeting and after discussion, Interim Police Chief English explained the need for keyless entry systems and filling current vacancies.

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Mr. La Venia concurred in the affirmative to Commissioner Ranize's suggestion to include on the list the installation and replacement of city hall's main entrance doors that was reported at the January 2015 regular meetings.

Commissioner Ranize addressed concerns on the city paying for breathing air storage system that was confirmed by Fire Chief Fernandez as already been paid for but not yet received.

After much discussion and **on motion of Commissioner Ranize, seconded by Commissioner Lewis and unanimously carried, the city commission authorized staff to ensure that the installation and replacement of city hall's main entrance doors are in compliance under the Americans with Disabilities Act.**

- **Public Works Department** - purchase a 125 psi compressor, ditch witch trencher (to erect a pipe on Berkman Street), boring tools, a commercial mower deck, Rototiller – 5' and transfer an SUV, to replace the existing public works department director's vehicle, to the fire department's chief.

Later in the meeting, and **on motion of Vice Mayor Cheshire, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission approved striking from the Capital Improvement Program/Community Redevelopment Agency for Fiscal Year 2014/15 priority list the police department's Ford Explorer interceptor SUV; approve the purchase of an SUV for the public works department, and approve the installation and replacement of the city hall's main entrance doors.**

- **Library** - replace the air conditioning component with an energy efficient unit due to the annual costs which is substantial.
- **Fire Department** - purchase extrication equipment and rehabilitate the fire station.

8. NEW BUSINESS

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

9. OFFICERS' REPORTS

(a) City Manager

(i) Fruitland Park Library Status Update - May 12, 2015 Workshop Directives

Mr. La Venia gave the following synopsis of discussions and the outcome of the city commission's decision reached at the May 12, 2015 workshop:

- o Proceed with the construction of the Fruitland Park Library.

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Mr. La Venia relayed staff's awareness, since meeting with Lake County staff, that approximately \$573,000 in grant funds are currently available for the existing library expansion which can be allocated towards the construction of a new library and addressed the intent of Ms. Jo-Ann Glendinning, Fruitland Park Library Director, to complete another grant application for funding from the same source towards the construction of the new library. He referred to staff's submittal of public library construction grant funding applications to the State of Florida Division of Library and Information Services, Bureau of Library for \$500,000 which requires matching funds whereby a determination would be required on what could be utilized as in-kind money, and recognized that part of the project as stormwater for approximately \$100,000.

Mr. La Venia explained that a meeting has been arranged for a date in June 2015 with Lake County Water Authority to determine whether the grant could be used as matching funds for the state and if in-kind as services for land rendered by the community development department and Fruitland Park Library can be offered as in-kind services.

- Mr. La Venia stated that permission is required in order to facilitate the borrowing of funds from a financial institution for a maximum of \$2.5 million to proceed with the Fruitland Park Library construction project earmarked under the future penny sales tax as infrastructure improvements and public facilities which can be used as a source of revenue to pay off the loan.

At Mayor Bell's suggestion, and **by unanimous consent, the city commission accepted the city manager's request to divide the motion.**

Mr. La Venia referred to the construction of WWTP connection lines (a dual two-phased project):

- from the city to the Town of Lady Lake's lift station for \$126,000 for engineering and approximately \$1.4 million for the construction of the line which would be included in the loan and
- the construction of WWTP connection line on the lift station estimated at \$1.3 million and engineering \$156,000 also included in the loan where approximately \$650,000 would be utilized from The Villages for said portion of the subject project which should reduce the cost.

On motion of Vice Mayor Cheshire, seconded by Commissioner Gunter and unanimously carried, the city commission approved the

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city manager's recommendations, as previously cited, contingent upon receiving the one cent sales tax funds. (The city manager will revisit the subject issue when funding is identified.)

Mr. La Venia referred to the Quit Claim Deed for the Casino Community building; a letter dated April 13, 2015 received from the Historic Preservation Survey and Regulations Bureau of Historic Preservation regarding the Fruitland Park Community Club (known as the Casino), and the Daily Commercial newspaper article entitled "What to do with the Casino?" (Copies of the related documents are filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

Mr. La Venia pointed out one of the criteria for historic preservation is that the property in question cannot be moved; otherwise it would revert back to the years of the landowners. He relayed his conversations with Ms. Geraci-Carver and the conclusion reached that if the city builds a facility on the site in question, it would afford the community to use or rent same free to which Ms. Geraci-Carver concurred that in the affirmative that provided it is the purpose of the use for the proposed building, such requirements would be met.

Mr. Rector referred to the city commission's previous request for him to explore where the Casino Community building could be relocated and gave a report on his conversations with Pastor Kenneth Well, First United Pentecostal Church at 509 West Berckman Street, regarding the city commission's discussions at its May 12, 2015 workshop and the subsequent meeting held by the church's key members. He conveyed his telephone call to Pastor Well earlier this day regarding the church's willingness to accept the Casino Community building; shared their reservations on the concept and their limited budget, and relayed his agreement on the city's stipulation for the church to maintain and utilize the building as it is part of the community.

Mr. Rector explained that there would be no out-of-pocket expenses to be borne by the church; indicated that it would cost the city \$10,000 to demolish the Casino Building which could instead be used as seed funds towards the relocation, and relayed Pastor Hall's comments that the building would not be required immediately due to the inability raise funds in that short period of time.

After much discussion, **on motion of Vice Mayor Cheshire, seconded by Commissioner Ranize and unanimously carried, the city commission agreed to donate the Casino Community building to First United Pentecostal Church located at 107 College Avenue; agreed with the city manager's recommendation authorizing staff to provide a formal**

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verbal offer of commitment from the church acquire the Casino and draft the necessary legal documents, after the newly constructed Fruitland Park Library is in place and ready for occupancy.

(ii) 2015 Leadership Lake

Mr. La Venia reported that he attended the last 2015 Leadership Lake Class; stated that he enjoyed the program, and reported that he, as well as Interim Police Chief English will be graduating on May 28, 2015.

(b) City Attorney

Ms. Geraci-Carver thanked the city commission for the opportunity; stated that she looks forward to working with the city commission, and welcomed the city commission to call her if there are any questions.

10. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

(a) Commissioner Ranize

(i) Water Connection Rates

Commissioner Ranize relayed his conversations with Mr. La Venia and Ms. Geraci-Carver in reference to a previous telephone call he received from an individual regarding concerns on the method in which the city multiply its rates on sewer and water meters. Commissioner Ranize relayed the individual's comments to him that he has a property which is divided into four apartments with one water meter and one sewer pump and he is charged for four water meters and four sewer pumps where impact fees for water and sewer is \$12,000 paid over the years.

After discussion, Mr. Rector pointed out Ordinance 313 Municipal Waterworks System Rates enacted in 1984 and explained such process do not exist or apply to new buildings. He stated that the city charges a base rate on water according to whatever number of electric meters there are and that electric meters establish multipliers and that the only way the multiplier is turned off is if the electrical meter was removed and extra fees would not be assessed.

Mr. Rector addressed his current experience with same which he does not agree with; recognized that such method serves a small purpose which is a problem, and stated that eliminating the current formula used by the city which would not affect a large number of residents. He stated that the city would need to find a way to charge the individual for four garbage rates and described how he has been charged, based on the Florida Building Code.

Mr. Rector identified how said ordinance allows impact fees ought to be computed by permitting an agent to certify it is correct; allowing for a "fixture unit" account whereby the formula would be divided into the

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equivalent as a residential unit -- to which Ms. Geraci-Carver concurred is the correct and legal method as basing it on the electric meter is not the best way but equivalent to charging per meter – and recommending a master meter or when converting a building, install individual water meters with a base charge used for older buildings.

After much discussion, Ms. Geraci-Carver concurred with Mayor Bell's suggestion to meet with Messrs. La Venia and Rector and report back to the city commission.

ii. Police Department

Commissioner Ranize referred to the city commission's discussions held at its April 23, 2015 special meeting regarding the police department and Lake County Sheriff's office and shared his thoughts that the city ought to keep the police department.

Commissioner Ranize referred to his recent letter written to Mr. La Venia explaining the pros and cons in the police department and the example utilized by the City of Minneola; noted Mr. La Venia's dissemination of same to the city commission, and indicated that it is the city commission's discretion to review, consider make the public aware of same. (A copy of the letter is filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

(b) Commissioner Lewis

In response to Commissioner Ranize's concerns regarding the police department, Commissioner Lewis addressed figuring how the city could retain the law enforcement officers and addressed his preference to maintain the police department and resolve the issues.

(c) Vice Mayor Cheshire

i. Police Department

Vice Mayor Cheshire referred to his previous campaign on what he wanted for the police department; relayed the concerns voiced by the police department on effective leadership and pay, and voiced his agreement with Commissioner Ranize. Vice Mayor Cheshire addressed the need for the city commission to support the new chief when appointed; acknowledged the attempt to retain law enforcement recruits as well as employing seasoned officers, and recognized the alternative if the police department does not work out.

ii. Fire Special Assessment

Vice Mayor Cheshire addressed the need to conduct a fire special assessment; relayed the preference for the separate funds to be allocated

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directly to the fire department, and pointed out Commissioner Gunter's remarks to implement same in 2016.

(d) Commissioner Gunter, Jr.

i. Police Department

In concurring with previous comments regarding the police department, Commissioner Gunter recalled a similar experience encountered by the city commission years ago and agreed with Vice Mayor Cheshire to review the budget to increase the police department's salary and retain better qualified individuals. He addressed the inability to regress back when making a change and stated that he does not believe the city commission should disregard the entire concept but keep it in mind.

ii. Fire Special Assessment

Commissioner Gunter referred to Commissioner Ranize's comments regarding approximately \$200,000 in communication from general funds whereby the city would come up short and pointed out his question on the timeframe whereby during the budget cycle, the city commission would have an idea on what would be required for FY 2015/16 the commission,

iii. Employee Picnic

Commissioner Gunter commended Parks and Recreation Director Ms. Michelle Yoder, who is absent from this evening's meeting, for the fine May 2, 2015 employee picnic.

iv. Awards Ceremony

Commissioner Gunter addressed his attendance at the May 8, 2015 2015 Lake County League of Cities Community Service Awards ceremony and the ability to communicate with District 5 Lake County Commissioner Welton G. Cadwell who expressed his desire to meet with Mayor Bell regarding Fruitland Park library, CR 466A roadway improvements, and other city-related issues.

v. Lake County League of Cities

Commissioner Gutner reported on the address made by Florida District 10 Congressman Daniel "Dan" Webster regarding terrorism and homeland security.

11. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

(a) Police Department

In referring to the sheriff's office, Mayor Bell recognized the police department's budget is of major concern which played a big part of his position with respect to the acceptance of The Villages and the city commission's desire to extend beyond that to offer the city's employees better to retain them, and that he believes that the he could work towards that goal during the budget period to make

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improvements. In comparing the City of Minneola, he recognized that the city commission ought to review the ratio of its law enforcement officers to the number of its residents.

(b) Parks and Recreation

Mayor Bell referred to his attendance at the May 11, 2015 Lake County Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Board meeting and relayed his discussions with Commissioner Cadwell, who was serving substituting as liaison, who assured him that the county will be reviewing funding regarding the Northwest Lake Community Park.

(c) Dates to Remember

- Mayor Bell reminded everyone about the May 28, 2015 workshop.

- Mayor Bell referred to the May 15, 2015 Movie Night and recognized Mses. Gayle and Amanda Perez, Finance Clerk, who would be providing assistance for Ms. Yoder due to her son's medical emergency.

12. 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 9:16 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the regular May 28, 2015 regular meeting.

Signed _____

Esther B. Coulson, City Clerk

Signed _____

Christopher Bell, Mayor