

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
MINUTES
May 28, 2015**

A workshop meeting of the Fruitland Park City Commission was held at 506 W. Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731 on Tuesday, May 28, 2015 at 6:00 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 Anita Geraci-Carver, Finance Clerk Sue Parker, Lieutenant Dennis Cutter, Community Development Director Charlie Rector, Public Works Director Dale Bogle, Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Yoder, 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 Chris Jones, Community United Methodist Church, gave the invocation and Commissioner Gunter led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

2. ROLL CALL

At Mayor Bell's request, Ms. Coulson called the roll and all the city commission members were declared present.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Redistricting Maps

Mayor Bell explained reasons, due to a misunderstanding, why Mr. Greg Beliveau, LPG Urban and Regional Planners Inc., will not be present at this evening's meeting.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Rector distributed the City Voting District maps, prepared by Mr. Beliveau, which was reviewed by Mr. La Venia; copies of which are filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.

Mr. Rector recognized discussed the following:

Year 2016 District one registered voters will not be able to vote for a candidate who will not have a seat in their district but will be able to vote for other seats; namely, the seat of the mayor; Group 2, seat currently held by Vice Mayor Cheshire, and Group 3 held by Commissioner Gunter).

Year 2018 Voting will be expected to take place for district one seat that will be offered, Group 1 currently held by Commissioner Lewis and Group 4 held by Commissioner Ranize in order to avoid any overlap.

Fruitland Park City Commission Regular Minutes

Page 2

May 28, 2015

Year 2020 New district lines will be drawn as The Villages and surrounding areas are expected to be at build-out.

After discussion, Ms. Geraci-Carver recognized that the city's referendum did not establish the time; noted that the adjustment would appear on the U.S. official Decennial Census data every ten years and expressed her desire to review the subject issue.

Following considerable discussion, and **by unanimous consent, the city commission agreed to schedule a city commission workshop in March or April 2016 to review the map and the establishment of the redistricting process.**

- **Runoff Elections**

Mayor referred to the copy of the city's charter and cited the City of Clermont's Ordinance 275-C, Subsection 7-2, Primary Elections, "In the event one (1) of the candidates receives a majority of the votes, he shall be declared elected. In the event no candidate receives a majority of the votes, the two (2) candidates for whom the highest number of votes were cast shall stand for election at the general election." (Copies of the respective documents are filed with the supplemental papers to the minutes of this meeting.)

After considerable discussion, Mayor Bell referred to Subsection 8.04(a) of the City of Fruitland Park's charter which would require a vote to amend to which Ms. Geraci-Carver explained that the charter does not state when it would have an election; reflects when the general election would be held, and provides the runoff period to be the second Tuesday following the date of the general election.

Following extensive deliberations and upon Vice Mayor Cheshire's suggestion, **the city commission, by unanimous consent, agreed to proceed with changing the procedures in the runoff election to a primary election during a regular scheduled election days and directed the city attorney to research the provisions in the City of Fruitland Park's Code of Ordinances and report back as to whether such change can be made by enacting an ordinance or by charter amendment by reconvening the Charter Review Commission.**

- **Qualifying Period**

After discussion and **by unanimous consent, the city commission requested that the city attorney conduct a research on why the qualifying period was held for two weeks instead of one.**

4. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business at this time.

Fruitland Park City Commission Regular Minutes

Page 3

May 28, 2015

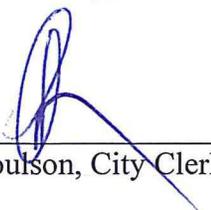
5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the regular June 11, 2015 regular meeting.

Signed _____

Esther B. Coulson, City Clerk



Signed _____

Christopher Bell, Mayor

