

The Fruitland City Council met in Regular Session at City Hall on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. with the following members present:

President Darlene Kerr, Councilor Raymond Carey, Councilor Charles Nichols and Councilor Roland Palmer.

Also present at the table were:

Chief Michael Phillips, City Manager John Psota, City Clerk Raye Ellen Thomas, Public Works Director Michael Gibbons and City Solicitor Andrew C. Mitchell Jr.

Our guests included:

Bob Marvel, Kenneth Hess, Tracey Williams and Donnell Schweitzer.

President Kerr called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. President Kerr led all in the Lord's Prayer and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Kerr acknowledged receipt of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 14, 2015 and called for additions or corrections. As there were none, **Councilor Carey moved to adopt the minutes as presented; Councilor Palmer seconded and the motion passed on a vote of four to zero.**

President Kerr delivered the April Treasurer's Report.

Cash on Hand 4/01/15	\$ 376,713.74
Deposits	\$ 405,350.06
Subtotal	\$ 782,063.80
Disbursements	\$ <u>(626,522.05)</u>
Total Ending 4/30/15	\$ 155,541.75

Councilor Palmer moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Councilor Carey seconded and the motion passed on a vote of four to zero.

Chief Phillips gave the Police and Code Enforcement reports and Public Works Director Gibbons gave his report. City Manager Psota will report on the budget.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Paid Bill Report

President Kerr acknowledged receipt of the paid bill report. **On a motion made by Councilor Carey and seconded by Councilor Palmer the paid bills were approved as listed by a vote of four to zero.**

2. Animal Waste/City Park

Chief Phillips stated that Code Enforcement Officer Nick McLeod had researched County ordinances that could be enforced for the City of Fruitland. The discussions of posting signs with a fine amount were discussed and how much the fines would be along with whom would enforce the fines. City Solicitor Mitchell stated that City Ordinance # 186 ceded the City's authority to regulate animals and that the City of Fruitland would not enforce the County's ordinances dealing with animals.. President Kerr questioned if City Solicitor Mitchell could rescind that ordinance. City Solicitor Mitchell will draw up a new ordinance to permit the City to enforce the County ordinance.

7:40 Public Hearing – Proposed Fiscal Year 2015 – 2016 Budget

President Kerr convened a Public Hearing to discuss the Proposed Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget and then yielded the Floor to City Manager Psota for presentation of the budget.

City Manager Psota presented all components of the Proposed Budget beginning with the General Operating Budget Revenues and Expenditures. City Manager Psota stated that the increase noted in Salaries and Benefits is due to an

increase in Health Care costs. The amount will be available next month. Everything else will remain the same.

There was no discussion on the General Operating Budget Revenues and Expenditures.

City Manager Psota presented the proposed 2015-2016 Utilities Department Budget, acknowledging that there are no planned increase for water or sewer rates.

There was no discussion on the Utilities Department Budget.

City Manager Psota proceeded with presentation of the 2015-2016 Capital Improvement Budget, and continued with the 2015-2020 Five Year Capital Improvement Plan. The funds that were not used for the City Hall rehabilitation will be carried over to the next fiscal year. The Recreation Department has looked into the possibility of obtaining a program Open Space grant to install a basketball court. The Police Department is requesting two new vehicles to replace high mileage vehicles.

Councilor Palmer questioned the status of the new trash truck and was advised that it will be delivered on Thursday of this week.

Kenneth Hess questioned the tax rates and fees. City Manager Psota explained how the costs were determined.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Swearing in of New Police Officer

City Clerk Thomas did the swearing in of new police officer Thomas Burt Jr.

2. Ordinance # 274 Zoning Text Amendment

City Solicitor Mitchell stated that this ordinance will amend ordinance # 67 to allow mixed use development along East Main Street. The zoning amendment will permit various types of commercial uses by special exception in R1-C, general residential district and permit various types of residential uses by special exception in C-1, central business district. **On a motion made by Councilor Nichols to accept the first reading of Ordinance # 274 as read by City Solicitor Mitchell, seconded by Councilor Palmer, the motion was approved with all in favor.** The public hearing will be held on June 9, 2015.

3. Ordinance # 275 Floodplain Ordinance

The City of Fruitland is considered a tidal area due to a small section on Sharps Creek Branch. The City has to have a floodplain ordinance, which has to be compliant with the National Flood Insurance Program. Any changes which were made to the standard have been approved by MDE, and any future changes will have to be approved by MDE, and what can be changed is limited. **On a motion made by Councilor Nichols to accept the first reading of Ordinance #275 as read by City Solicitor Mitchell, seconded by Councilor Palmer, the motion was approved with all in favor.** The public hearing for this ordinance will also be held on June 9, 2015.

4. Parking South Brown Street

Chief Phillips stated that he had received complaints about parking on Brown Street. The majority of the problems are when the Falcons and Little League are all holding events at the same time. Chief Phillips would like to look into having signs made for no parking. The Council agreed for Chief Phillips to look into the sign prices.

5. Other

A discussion was held regarding the FORCE/Fruitland Baseball issue. After which it was suggested that the matter needs to be addressed by the Recreation Commission and a recommendation be made to the Council by that commission.

Public Comment/General Discussion

Don Schweitzer stated that he believes holding the tournaments is good for the City, due to the fact that it puts Fruitland on the map.

With no further business to discuss or comments, **Councilor Nichols made a motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m., seconded by Councilor Carey, the motion passed with all in favor.**

Raye Ellen Thomas
Raye Ellen Thomas / City Clerk
Approved, June 9, 2015