

The Fruitland City Council met in Regular Session at City Hall on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. with the following members present:

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

Also present at the table were:

City Manager John Psota, Lieutenant Brian Swafford, Deputy Treasurer Mark Swift, Public Works Director Mike Gibbons, City Clerk Raye Ellen Thomas and City Solicitor Andrew Mitchell.

Our guests included:

Bob Marvel, Delegate Carl Anderton, Delegate Carl Anderton's assistant Bunky Luffman, Mary Stevens, Katherine McAllister, Cornella Harmon, Dana Stauffer and Brock Parker.

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

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

Treasurer Ortiz delivered the August Treasurer's Report. For August 2016, the City recorded \$2,646,753 of revenues for the month, \$2.5 million of which were for real estate taxes. The total billed revenues for the fiscal year are now over \$3.3 million, including real estate taxes and one quarter of utility billing. The City incurred \$347,872 of expenses for the month of August, bringing the net income for the month to \$2,298,881. **Councilor Carey moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Councilor Nichols seconded and the motion passed on a vote of five to zero.**

Lieutenant Swafford gave the Police and Code Enforcement reports. He stated to make sure that all vehicles are locked and bicycles are secure due to a lot of break ins. Lieutenant Swafford also stated that the college students are back in town at this time and the Police Department has been working with Salisbury University to keep future problems down.

City Manager Psota did not have a report at this time.

Public Works Director Mike Gibbons gave his report. During his report he updated the status of the Morris Mill project, and reported that the plumber should be done with the first phase in two weeks. Slab Bridge water tower punch list should also be finished in two weeks.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Paid Bills**

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

PUBLIC HEARING - Rezoning Request 302 W. Main Street Parcel 1327

City Solicitor Mitchell read Zoning Map Amendment 1-16, which changes the zoning of a lot at the southwest corner of West Main Street and Moore Avenue, numbered 302 West Main Street and designated as map 803, Parcel 1327, from R1-C, general residential to C-2 neighborhood business. There were no questions or comments. **On a motion made by Treasurer Ortiz to accept rezoning request 302 W. Main Street Parcel 1327 Zoning Map Amendment 1-16, seconded by Councilor Carey, the motion was approved on a vote of five to zero.**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Surplus Items

Lieutenant Swafford requested to convert seized funds and surplus items to be used by the Police Department. The funds associated with the case number have been forfeited to the Police Department. The items will be used to buy supplies for the Special Equipment Team. The amount total is \$5665.00. The following are the case numbers of seized funds:

01683	01718	01723
01718	01722	01727

On a motion made by Councilor Carey to convert the surplus items totaling \$5665.00 into funds to be used for Police Department equipment, seconded by Councilor Nichols the motion passed on a vote of five to zero.

2. Property Conversion

Lieutenant Swafford requested a Remington 870, 12 gauge shot gun, the same as currently used by the Police Department, be converted from seized property, which was forfeited to the Police Department in 2013. He is requesting it be placed in use for the Police Department. The department has two of the same shot guns that are older and one needs to be refurbished completely and would like to use the seized gun instead of refurbishing the older one. The case number for the shot gun is 2013 -0568 Item number one. **On a motion made by Treasurer Ortiz to allow a property conversion of a Remington 870 12 gauge shot gun to be used by the Police Department, seconded by Councilor Nichols, the motion passed on a vote of five to zero.**

3. Approve Paving Project

Public Works Director Gibbons asked approval for the paving on Main Street. The amount is \$179,973.96. Council President Kerr asked when the project is supposed to start; Public Works Director Gibbons stated three weeks. **On a motion made by Councilor Palmer to approve the paving project at \$179,973.93 with a contract to be signed by the City Manager, and to also approve a contingency of 5%, which is \$9000.00, seconded by Treasurer Ortiz, the motion passed on a vote of five to zero.**

4. Approve Geo – Technical Inspection Services

Public Works Director Gibbons is asking approval of a contract from Harden Kite for inspection services of concrete and asphalt work on Main Street. He received bids from three Geo –Technical firms and Harden Kite was the lowest, at an estimated cost of \$6500.00. **On a motion made by Treasurer Ortiz to approve the contract for the Geo-Technical services from Harden Kite not to exceed \$6500.00, seconded by Councilor Nichols, the motion passed on a vote of five to zero.**

Public Comment/General Discussion

City Manager Psota stated there will a bid opening on Thursday for Brown Street.

City Council President Kerr would like City Manager Psota to obtain prices for a sign to be placed in front of City Hall. That way the community will be informed of events happening in the City.

City Council President Kerr asked Deputy Treasurer Swift if any citizens had taken advantage of the Veteran's Rebate, Deputy Treasurer Swift advised that seven people have completed the forms, four people have paid their taxes, and two checks have been issued.

City Council President Kerr stated that she, City Manager Psota and Chief Phillips had attended an event sponsored by Councilor Palmer's church and several other churches at the park, it was a very nice event and the community enjoyed it.

City Council President Kerr stated she had attended Governor Hogan's signing of the Proclamation on the boardwalk for schools to start after Labor Day.

Delegate Anderton stated that he had just returned from Annapolis where they had been working on drafts for legislation on Highway User Revenue. He stated that if he can help do anything to let him know.

Pastor Dana Stauffer introduced herself and stated that she has opened a Church on 620 W. Main Street called Emmanuel Wesleyan Fruitland Campus. She invited everyone to visit the Church and that she and the congregation will be doing a lot of community service.

Mary Stevens asked about the beautification of Fruitland. She stated that she is pleased with the progress going on. Ms. Stevens asked if once the homeowners receive a notification for their property is there a time limit that the homeowner has to fix the issue. City Manager Psota explained how the Comcate system works that the Code Enforcement Officers are using and there is a time limit to have the issues fixed.

Mary Stevens stated that she has requested "Children at Play" signs for Anderson/Church Streets and Main/Church Streets. Public Works Director Gibbons stated he has spoken with City Manager Psota, who directed him to Chief Phillips. Chief Phillips informed Public Works Director Gibbons that he will have officers patrol that area to see if the signs are needed.

Treasurer Ortiz asked about the trash that people put on the curb before the time that they are supposed to, and also the people who leave the trash cans out longer than needed. Council President Kerr stated that trash should not be out until 6:00 p.m. the night prior to pick up. Lieutenant Swafford stated he has been receiving calls about the trash cans being out and that he will have officers patrol areas for trash cans being blown in the street.

Council President Kerr reminded everyone to come out to vote on October the 3rd.

With no further business to discuss or comments, **on a motion made by Councilor Carey to adjourn at 8:15 p.m., seconded by Treasurer Ortiz the motion passed on a vote of five to zero.**

Raye Ellen Thomas

Raye Ellen Thomas / City Clerk

Approved, October 11, 2016
