January 22, 2018

A regular meeting of the Fruitland City Council was held at Fruitland City Hall on the above date at 7:00 P.M.

STAFF PRESENT: Carl Hipwell, JD Huff, Jerry Campbell, Suzanne Pearcy.
OTHERS PRESENT: Rob Ruth, Bill Russell, Jacob Catmull, Charles Otte, Gerald Haines, James Ashley, Teresa Fabricius.

Mayor Howell called the meeting to order and roll was taken.

Councilor Pierson moved to approve the January 8, 2018 minutes. Seconded by Councilor Grimes. Motion carried.

Mayor Howell made the following appointments to the Fruitland Planning & Zoning Commission:
- CATHY YASUDA – 2-YR TERM
- JAMES ASHLEY – 2-YR TERM
Councilor Grimes moved to approve the appointments. Seconded by Councilor Carpenter. Motion carried.

Gerald Haines, 1002 Partridge Street, requested the City erect two “Purple Heart City” signs on the north and south city limits boundaries on US-HWY 95. Watkins will investigate and report at the next Council meeting regarding costs and sign availability.


The Council reviewed the revised September 30, 2017 Finance Report which reflected funds expended or received for the fiscal year, but were actually reported in the following month. Councilor Grimes moved to accept the revised Finance Statement. Seconded by Councilor Pierson. Motion carried.

The December 2017 Finance Report was reviewed by the Council. Councilor Pierson moved to approve the December 2017 Finance Report. Seconded by Councilor Carpenter. Motion carried.

The Treasurer’s Quarterly Financial Report was reviewed by the Council. Councilor Carpenter moved to approve the Treasurer’s Quarterly Financial Report. Seconded by Councilor Grimes. Motion carried.

The Water/Sewer Engineer Report was presented by Engineer Hipwell. Councilor Carpenter moved to approve the report. Seconded by Councilor Grimes. Motion carried.
Police Chief Huff explained to the Council that he submitted a grant application for the 2017 COPS Hiring Program. He received notification on November 20, 2017 that Fruitland Police Department had been awarded the grant for one new position. The award is set up on a 36-month funding period. The deadline for acceptance of this grant is February 20, 2018. The grant cannot fund an existing officer position, but a new position in addition to the current budgeted level of sworn officer positions. Chief Huff explained the department’s ranks are currently full and he feels this grant would be best used to fill a position for a School Resource Officer. Superintendent of Fruitland School District, Teresa Fabricius explained the School District is committed to forming a financial partnership with the City to fund the SRO position for the duration of the grant and to develop a plan to continue the position after the grant expires. The School District will pay all of the first year’s local share of $14,728.00 and 75% of the second year’s local share of $18,341.00. In the third year they will work with the City to evaluate needs and financial resources to fund the position in the long-term. Councilor Grimes moved to accept the COPS Fast Grant. Seconded by Councilor Peterson. Motion carried.

Police Chief Huff explained to the Council that he would like to take a small surplus in the Ordinance Salaries line item and distribute the surplus to the salaries of the two current Ordinance Officers. Councilor Pierson moved to deny the proposal due to health benefit increases off-setting the salary savings. Seconded by Councilor Grimes. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Campbell explained he is requesting the Council consider a waiver to the Personnel Policy, page 23 D. #2 & #3 to allow him to employ his son Aren Campbell on the Fruitland Fire Department. Chief Campbell explained the Fire Department is comprised of part-time volunteer positions and the department has a need for willing and able bodied persons to fill the roster. Councilor Pierson move to approve the waiver request. Seconded by Councilor Grimes. Motion carried.

The Council reviewed an Internet Service Contract Proposal from Farmers Mutual Telephone Company. Watkins explained the current contract the City has with Cable One for internet services to City Hall has expired and the cost with Cable One will increase approximately 30%. Councilor Grimes moved to select the Gigabit Internet Service for City Hall and to switch all City locations to FMTC as the contracts expire with Cable One. Seconded by Councilor Carpenter. Motion carried.

The Council reviewed a Public Safety Building-Existing Building & Site Reports from Hummel Architect’s regarding Professional Services fee proposal for concept design of City Hall remodel and new EMS/Police station. Councilor Carpenter moved to continue with Steps 2 & 3 of the proposal. Seconded by Councilor Peterson. Motion carried.


The Council came out of Executive Session at 9:03 P.M.
Councillor Carpenter moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Grimes. Motion carried at 9:04 P.M.

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Brian Howell, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Rick S. Watkins, City Clerk