

**FRUITLAND CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
May 11, 2026**

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

1. Meeting Opening:

PRESENT: Tom Limbaugh, Jeff Carpenter, Kari Peterson (Mayor), Cathy Yasuda, Ed Pierson.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Paul Fitzer, JD Huff, Ben Key, Matt Brock, Danny Little, Rick Funk, Jesse Wetzell, Stuart Grimes.

OTHERS PRESENT: Hadli Widmer, Michela McSweeney, Art Felice, Paige, Williams, Masie Mackenie, Melany Branstiter, Jameson Berger, Paisley Hamilton, Eli Watson, Roxy Mason, Adlee Harris, Charles Rawdy.

Mayor Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and roll was taken.

A quorum of the Council was present.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Councilor Limbaugh moved to approve the April 27, 2026 City Council meeting minutes.

Second, by Councilor Carpenter. **Motion carried.**

3. Mayoral Appointment- Fruitland Planning and Zoning Commission:

Mayor Peterson appointed Jesse Jones to the Fruitland Planning and Zoning Commission to fill the vacancy left by Mike Smith's resignation. His term will end in January 2028. Councilor Pierson moved to confirm the appointment. Second, by Councilor Carpenter. **Motion carried.**

4. Rivers Edge HOA- Drainage Lot Ownership Request:

At the April 27, 2026 City Council meeting, Rivers Edge HOA requested that the city consider accepting ownership of Lot 25, Block 1, a drainage overflow lot serving multiple surrounding developments. The HOA stated the City already performs weed maintenance on the property and that the lot provides a broader public benefit through its stormwater function. The HOA proposed deeding the property to the City while retaining an easement for ingress and egress to the pump house and remaining responsible for maintenance and costs associated with the pump house and equipment. The Council tabled the matter to allow time for discussion regarding liability concerns with the City Attorney.

Public Works Director Matt Brock presented additional information regarding the proposal, explaining the lot contains a stormwater basin and infiltration trench that serves drainage from both the Rivers Edge subdivision and Allen Avenue. Brock stated the drainage facility was originally constructed as part of the Allen Avenue improvement project and functions as part of the City's broader stormwater system. Potential benefits discussed included improved maintenance and inspection, greater infrastructure oversight, future stormwater improvements, and landscaping opportunities along Allen Avenue. Considerations included long-term maintenance responsibilities, future repair costs, and liability associated with ownership. Brock recommended the Council support continued discussions regarding the transfer, subject to

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acceptable terms, maintenance access provisions, and HOA approval prior to formal Council consideration. **Council Decision:** Councilor Limbaugh moved to table a decision to allow more time to research the original development and ownership of the lot. Motion died for lack of second. Councilor Pierson moved to deny the ownership request. Second, by Councilor Limbaugh. **Motion carried.**

5. Funding Request- Payette Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD):

Carie Bronson, Pat Kelley, and Art Felise updated the Council on current projects and future goals of the district. They thanked the Council for their support and requested continued funding support for FY2027. This item will be reviewed at the upcoming FY2026–2027 budget workshop.

6. Property Use Request- 3663 N Whitley Drive/4111 N Whitley Drive- Staging

Area for ITD, HWY 95 Project: The Council reviewed a Property Use Agreement between the City of Fruitland and Knife River for temporary use of City-owned property located at 3663 and 4111 N. Whitley Drive in connection with the ITD US-95 Fruitland to Payette project. The agreement allows Knife River to utilize the property as a staging and storage area during construction activities. Knife River will maintain the site, remove debris upon project completion, and provide required liability and workers compensation insurance coverage. The agreement also includes indemnification provisions protecting the City from claims related to the contractor’s use of the property.

Council Decision: Councilor Pierson moved to approve the property use agreement. Second, by Councilor Limbaugh. **Motion carried.**

7. Citizens Request:

No comments were heard.

8. Consent Agenda:

8.1. **April 2026 Department Activity Reports:** The April 2026 Department Activity Reports were reviewed and discussed in detail with each department head. Councilor Carpenter moved to approve the reports. Second, by Councilor Yasuda. **Motion carried.**

9. Fruitland Chamber of Commerce Golf Scramble Request:

Public Works Director Matt Brock requested approval for four Public Works employees to participate in the Fruitland Chamber of Commerce Golf Scramble scheduled for June 12, 2026, at a cost of \$400. Brock stated participation would provide staff an opportunity to engage in a community event while strengthening relationships and communication with local businesses, contractors, developers, and community partners. Participation was also described as beneficial for employee morale and continued community involvement. **Council Decision:** Councilor Pierson moved to approve the participation request. Second, by Councilor Limbaugh. **Motion carried.**

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10. Treasurer’s Report- April 2026 Bills:

The April 2026 bills were presented by City Treasurer, Suzanne Percy. Councilor Pierson moved to approve the April 2026 bills. Second, by Councilor Carpenter. **Motion carried.**

11. Executive Session:

Councilor Pierson moved to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(f) – Potential Litigation. Second, by Councilor Limbaugh. Roll call vote: Limbaugh, aye; Carpenter, aye; Yasuda, aye; Pierson, aye. **Motion was carried out at 7:45 P.M.**

Regular session resumed at 9:46 P.M.

12. Expired Building Permits:

No action was taken.

13. Adjournment:

Councilor Pierson moved to adjourn. Second, by Councilor Carpenter. **Motion carried at 9:47 P.M.**

Prepared by: Suzanne Percy

Date Approved: June 8, 2026

City of Fruitland, ID

Kari Peterson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Suzanne Percy, City Clerk