

**FRUITLAND CITY COUNCIL**  
**Monday March 22, 2010**  
**Minutes**

The Fruitland City Council met in a work session beginning at 7:07 pm on Monday, March 22, 2010 in City Council Chambers. The purpose of the work session was to discuss the LEOPS program for the City of Fruitland Police officers. Those in attendance were Council President Greg Olinde, Treasurer Gloria Ortiz, Councilman Ted Lokey, Councilman Ray Carey and Councilman Richard Tull. Also in attendance were City Manager John F. McDonnell, Chief Mike Phillips, Deputy Treasurer Polly Caton and Laura Garel, representative from the LEOPS program.

Chief Phillips presented a power point program describing the LEOPS program, including the benefits that the Fruitland Police Officers would receive. Chief discussed the number of officers that had been hired by the City of Fruitland since 2002 and the number that had left for employment with other agencies. He discussed the costs associated with these hires and that the City did not recoup any of these monies. The items covered were: the complete hiring process including psych evaluation, the mandated Maryland Police training, in-service training, training at Sykesville, MD, the training academy, uniforms, equipment, firearms, academy and field training costs, and wages. Chief stated that the information for tonight's meeting was not distributed beforehand, because information could be misleading without explanation. Retirement for the City of Fruitland will be 7.58% for the 2009-2010. For budget year 2010-2011 the percentage will rise to 10.74%. The LEOPS percentage will be 32.38%. An Actuarial Study was performed at no charge to the City of Fruitland to enter program. Through this study information was derived that showed that the City would receive a credit of \$123,611 for 25 years. This information would make the impact on the City of Fruitland only about 17%.

Chief Phillips then outlined the ways in which his department could offset these additional costs. The main item is the Red Zone Speed Cameras. Chief's research, being very conservative, showed additional revenue to the City of \$108,000 annually. In addition, he stated the parking issues at Wal-Mart, Apple Drug, Food Lion, etc could, and would, help with additional revenue from tickets. Chief then made comments concerning that the new Fruitland Police Officers coming out of the Academy in the past graduating classes are the cream of the crop and wanted by various other agencies. To help and try to keep these officers, the LEOPS program would go a long way to prevent other agencies from attempting to take Fruitland's officers.

Chief then went into some of the particulars of the DROP program and that this program would not affect Fruitland now, due to the age of our officers.

Discussion ensued regarding the impact on the City's budget of the LEOPS program, and the possible drop in revenue of the RED SPEED Camera system.

*At 8:11 Council President Olinde left the meeting and Treasurer Ortiz took the chairman's position.*

Councilman Lokey asked as to where and how the surplus occurred. Ms Garel stated that it was due to the age of the officers we now have and previous individuals who had been in the plan and left. Ms Garel then spoke on the number of governmental entities on the Eastern Shore who were already in the LEOPS program.

Lastly, Chief spoke on the preparatory time needed for the implementation of the program with an effective date of July 1, 2010. A resolution has to be made before May 15, and a list of employees to be covered to LEOPS by June 1. The first payroll in July would be the first one affected.

Upon motion by Councilman Lokey and seconded by Councilman Tull the meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm with all in favor.

Prepared by John F. McDonnell, City Manager  
And submitted to

*Diane C. Nelson*  
Diane C. Nelson, City Clerk  
*Approved, July 13, 2010*