

The Fruitland City Council met in Regular/Virtual Session at City Hall on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

President Darlene Kerr, Treasurer Ray Carey, Councilor Mark Miciotto, Councilor R. Lee Outen and Councilor Mike Hammond.

Also present at the table were:

City Manager Marc Henderson, Chief Brian Swafford, Deputy Treasurer Mark Swift and City Clerk Raye Ellen Thomas.

Our guests included:

Public Works Director Michael Gibbons and Katherine McAllister from GMB.

Attending virtually was:

City Solicitor Mitchell.

At 7:00 p.m. President Kerr called the regular Council meeting to order. Council President Kerr recited the Lord's Prayer and Council President Kerr led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Kerr acknowledged receipt of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 14, 2020 and called for additions or corrections. As there were none, **Councilor Outen moved to adopt the minutes as presented; Councilor Hammond seconded, and the motion passed on a vote of five to zero.**

Reports- Treasurer, City Manager and Department Heads

Treasurer Carey delivered the Treasurer's Report. For July 2020 the City recorded \$3.5 million of revenues, including \$2.8 million in real estate property taxes and \$680,000 in quarterly utility billing. The City also recorded \$369,000 of expenses for net income of \$3.16 million for the month. **Councilor Hammond moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Councilor Outen seconded, and the motion passed on a vote of five to zero.**

City Manager Henderson delivered the Code Enforcement report.

- Code Enforcement has 4 open cases and 13 closed cases for the month of July.
- There were 7 rental inspection violations.

Chief Swafford delivered his report on behalf of the Police Department.

- Crime is still below normal amounts due to Covid.
- There were 24 part one crimes. 810 Traffic violations and 2597 total calls for the month of July.
- National Night Out is still tentatively scheduled for October 6, 2020.
- Chief Swafford thanked Mike Dale for the service that he has been giving the City.

City Manager Henderson delivered his report.

- A new job observation form has been presented to the Supervisors.
- Supervisors are now required to take employees for drug testing.
- Numerous Workers Compensation Claims have occurred in the month of July.
- Interviews have been conducted for the Maintenance Worker I.
- Best Temps will not allow temporary workers to work for the City anymore due to Sanitation.
- Another Temp agency has been contacted which will cost more than Best Temps, waiting on contact at this time.

Public Works Director Gibbons delivered his report.

- Storm cleanup is underway.
- Mosquito spraying will be done this week.
- Camden Avenue will be closed on Thursday to repair a water leak.
- The foundation has been started for the reclaim tank at the water plant.

City Manager Henderson thanked Public Works Director Gibbons for his hard work. He also thanked Mike Dale for all his work and helping other departments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Paid Bills**

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Seized Funds Conversion**

Chief Swafford asked to utilize \$6566.07 from seized funds to retrofit vehicle #263, with a K9 containment unit and heat detection system. The purchase and installation would be completed by Blue Tech, who City Manager Henderson stated was a sole source provider. **On a motion made by Councilor Miciotto to allow Chief Swafford to use seized funds to retrofit vehicle #263 with a K9 containment unit and heat detection system, by sole source Blue Tech, not to exceed \$6600, seconded by Councilor Hammond, the motion was approved by a vote of five to zero.**

2. **Outdoor Dining Ordinance**

City Solicitor Mitchell advised that the ordinance was not ready at this time, as it is still under consideration by the Planning Commission. Council President Kerr asked if the approval for outdoor dining would have to be approved by the Board of Health. City Solicitor Mitchell advised that while that is an issue and the City's issue is zoning issue ordinance for zoning. Adams and Redmen's have been before the Planning Commission and have temporary permission to allow outdoor dining until the end of the year. Councilor Outen asked if it would still be an issue with zoning if the Health Department approved outdoor dining. The City will designate a person to call the Health Department and Liquor Control board to see what needs to be done for outdoor dining and report back to the Council and Planning Commission.

3. **Clyde Avenue and Camden Avenue Service Line Replacement**

Public Works Director Gibbons advised that he had received quotes for the Clyde Avenue and Camden Avenue service line replacement. W.M. Water and Sewer was the low bidder for Clyde Avenue in the amount of \$29,700. W. M. Water and Sewer was also the low bidder for Camden Avenue in the amount of 33,450. The total proposed project would be \$63,150. Public Works Director would like to recommend W.M. Water and Sewer for the project with a 10% contingency. **On a motion made by Councilor Miciotto to award the Clyde Avenue and Camden Avenue Service Line replacement project to W.M. Water and Sewer, not to exceed \$69,000 including the 10% contingency, seconded by Councilor Outen, the motion was approved by a vote of five to zero.**

4. **Service Truck Replacement**

Public Works Director Gibbons advised that he has received three quotes for a service truck replacement that was approved in the budget. The low quote was from Stafford Ford in the amount of \$29,397. Councilor Miciotto asked if it was necessary to purchase the truck at this time, even though it was approved in the budget, due to other circumstances that are occurring now. Public Works Director Gibbons explained that the old truck #325 would be given to the Water Plant for use and stated that a new truck is needed. **On a motion made by Councilor Outen to award the bid to Stafford Ford to purchase a new service truck, in the amount of \$29,397.40, seconded by Treasurer Carey, the motion was approved by a vote of five to zero.**

5. **Other**

City Manager Henderson advised that a person is needed to fill the position of Lab Technician/Operator for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Maryland Department of the Environment requires that three people work for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The position is already accounted for in the budget. The Council agreed to advertise for the position.

Public Comment/General Discussion

There were no public comments.

With no further business to discuss, **Treasurer Carey made a motion to adjourn regular session for a short break at 8:39 p.m., seconded by Councilor Outen, the motion was approved by a vote of five to zero. At 8:41 p.m. the Council reconvened in regular session and immediately proceeded to closed session. During the closed session, personnel matters were discussed. At 9:00 p.m. Councilor Outen made a motion to adjourn closed session and return to open session seconded by Treasurer Outen. At 9:02, Treasurer Carey made a motion to adjourn the open session, since there was no further business to discuss, seconded by Councilor Outen, the motion was approved by a vote of five to zero.**

Raye Ellen Thomas

Raye Ellen Thomas / City Clerk

[Approved, September 8, 2020](#)