

**FRUITA CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 26, 2021
6:30 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The workshop of the Fruita City Council was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by City Manager Mike Bennett (Mayor Joel Kincaid was running slightly late). City Council members present in person were Councilors Kyle Harvey, Karen Leonhart, Heather O'Brien and Matthew Breman. Councilors Lori Buck and Ken Kreie were in attendance remotely/virtually.

City staff present were City Manager Mike Bennett, Assistant to the City Manager Shannon Vassen, Deputy City Clerk Deb Woods and City Engineer Sam Atkins.

2. AGENDA ITEMS

A. 2022 BUDGET UPDATES AND DISCUSSION

City Manager Mike Bennett provided an overview of the proposed 2022 Budget Presentations Calendar for upcoming City Council meetings. He explained that the 2022 Budget public hearing would begin at the November 16th Council meeting, be continued to the first meeting in December and that any changes after that cannot exceed 10% of the total budget, so it was important for the Council to bring up any questions or comments at this meeting. Mr. Bennett added that City Clerk/Finance Director Margaret Sell had emailed the Mayor and Council members a spreadsheet containing the changes that had been made to the 2022 Budget such as:

1. An increase to 6% from a 4.5% contribution to employees' 401(a) retirement accounts (but requiring a 1.5% match)
2. An increase for EV charging stations, plus there is the potential of seeking a grant for a portion of the cost of EV charging stations

City Clerk/Finance Director Margaret Sell provided a few more highlights of the 2022 Budget regarding Capital Projects such as the Maple Street Bridge and broadband for finishing the "middle mile" connection.

Councilor Breman asked if there will be revenue that comes back to the City for the EV charging stations and if so, what that money would be allocated toward.

Assistant to the City Manager Shannon Vassen stated some of the vendors he has met with say that cities are typically entitled to 90% of charging fees generated while vendors keep 10% for administrative costs, but that the City can actually set the rate for charging. He noted that a charge typically varies between \$15 and \$25 each for a Level 3 charger. Councilor Breman said he thought a high charge usually goes for around \$.38 per kilowatt, which equates to about \$12 to \$15 per charge. Mr. Vassen confirmed that there is potential for revenue to the City, even if the chargers are leased.

Councilor Leonhart expressed gratitude for the City even having the money to complete projects.

Mrs. Sell stated that the City has some very large Capital Projects coming up in the Five-Year (CIP) Plan and the City will still be in need of funding for them.

City Manager Mike Bennett noted that he and Public Works Director met with the Department of Local Affairs earlier in the day to talk about potential DOLA grants and there are far less opportunities for some of the traditional infrastructure projects, but there might be a potential grant to help with the H2S gas mitigation project that could potentially be supplemented with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. This large project will easily cost \$800,000 or more to address.

There were no further questions or comments from the Council regarding the 2022 Budget.

B. ACTIVE CIRCULATION PLAN AND FREMONT STREET DESIGN REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

City Engineer Sam Atkins provided two handouts to the Council: 1) map of Fruita detailing existing and future roadway classifications, and 2) US Highway 6 at Fremont Street continuous “T” Intersection Concept Plan.

Mr. Atkins noted that the City has had online surveys and interactive maps where people can identify problem areas for traffic circulation. There were also two Open House events for the public at the end of July to gather public input for both the Circulation Plan and the Fremont Street Design.

Mr. Atkins reviewed highlights of both the Circulation Plan and the Fremont Street Design. There was discussion about how community input received by staff was more about the design for Fremont Street than it was about the Circulation Plan, mainly because people do not want to lose the existing pedestrian path.

The Active Circulation Plan will be the City’s guiding document for transportation routes that will be adopted by Resolution at a future Council meeting. Staff still needs to finalize the Active Circulation Plan with the consultant before it can be adopted by the Council at a future Council meeting. The Council did not request any further updates or presentations prior to that.

C. PROCLAMATION REQUEST: VETERANS DAY TO BE ACCEPTED BY KJ KLINE WITH AMERICAN LEGION POST 2006

There were no objections from the Council members to add a Veterans Day Proclamation to the November 2, 2021 Council agenda.

3. ADJOURN

With no further business before the Council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Woods
Deputy City Clerk

