

**FRUITA CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
JANUARY 24, 2022  
6:53 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The workshop of the Fruita City Council was called to order at 6:53 p.m. by City Manager Mike Bennett. City Council members present were Lori Buck, Karen Leonhart, Kyle Harvey, Ken Kreie, Heather O'Brien and Matthew Breman.

City staff present were City Manager Mike Bennett, Assistant to the City Manager Shannon Vassen, Deputy City Clerk Deb Woods and Planning and Development Director Dan Caris.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. ELECTION UPDATE**

The Council did not have any questions of staff about the information provided in the Council packet about the number of nomination petitions pulled (14 for City Council and 1 for Mayor), the number of petitions that had been submitted, or the appointment of an Election Commission pursuant to the City Charter. The appointments of individuals to the Election Commission is slated for the second meeting in February.

**2. PROCLAMATION POLICY DISCUSSION**

City Manager Mike Bennett explained that staff needed clarification on the City's Proclamation Policy because there was a misunderstanding on whether there are Proclamations that are automatically placed on an agenda if they had been done in previous (and recent) years.

A policy decision was made whereby staff and Council will review a list of reoccurring Proclamations in April after the newly elected Council members are seated following the City's Regular Municipal Elections (even numbered years). The Council can then direct staff as to whether there are Proclamations that they want automatically issued at regular Council meetings over the next two years.

**3. OVERVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF FRUITA HOUSING STRATEGIES NEXT STEPS**

The Council members and staff continued their discussion concerning housing strategies and establishing bylaws, funding and policies of the Fruita Housing Authority, the creation of which had just been approved by Council at their Special Meeting earlier in the evening. Staff will begin drafting the bylaws to bring before Council for adoption at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Bennett noted that consultants Economic & Planning Systems, Inc. (EPS) will be meeting with the Housing Strategies Technical Advisory Committee to go over their Housing Funding and Program Study and then EPS will also give the City Council an update, likely at the February 22, 2022 workshop meeting.

Discussion included housing programs such as down payment assistance and gap financing, as well as the importance of preventing the abuse of such programs. Councilor Buck stated that she did not think the City of Fruita should be property owners and managers and Councilor Breman stressed his discomfort with rushing into things.

Staff assured the Council that strategies and programs will be approached incrementally and reviewed a proposed draft schedule of further discussions and updates from the TAC and EPS at upcoming Council meetings.

### **ADJOURN**

With no further business before the Council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Woods  
Deputy City Clerk