

**FRUITA CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
APRIL 15, 2025  
5:30 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The Fruita City Council Special Meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m. by Mayor Matthew Breman. City Council members present were James Williams, Aaron Hancey, Jeannine Purser, Rich Parrish, and Amy Miller.

City staff present was City Clerk Deb Woods.

**2. AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. CITY COUNCIL VACANCY PROCESS**

The Council members discussed how a total of thirteen (13) applications were received by staff for the City Council vacancy that was a result of the resignation of Andrea Downs. In order to arrive at a reasonable number of finalists that would move on to be interviewed, the Council members discussed interviewing as few as five (5) candidates or a maximum of eight (8), but finally settled on seven (7). They did not, however, discuss which candidates they wanted to interview; they just felt that interviewing all thirteen was too many.

Questions arose such as:

1. What minimum age Council members must be
2. How long a candidate must be a resident of the City to be eligible for appointment
3. Whether a previously elected Council member who fulfilled two consecutive terms was eligible for appointment (the member was term-limited)

It was determined that pursuant to the Fruita City Charter, a candidate must be 21 years of age to serve on City Council and that candidates must be residents of Fruita for twelve consecutive months to be eligible pursuant to state statute. Mayor Breman noted that he would contact the City Attorney to ask whether the previously elected applicant is eligible to serve. He also noted that he was going to check with the City Attorney about whether or not the Council could interview the final applicants in an Executive Session at a Regular Council meeting or whether that process is required to be conducted in an open meeting. Many recalled that the last time a vacancy was filled on Council, the interviews were conducted at a Special Council meeting with each candidate coming into the Council Chambers one at a time.

The Council then discussed interview questions that have been used in previous years when filling Council vacancies by appointment. There was a decision to strike Question #3 on the list and Council members had a few revisions to some of the language in other questions.

There was also some discussion about the weighing of applicants' answers to interview questions and there was consensus that all answers could not be evaluated the same way because of the sense that diversity is one of the Council's strengths.

Finally, the Council decided that they wanted to invite all thirteen applicants to a scheduled tour of the old Fruita Middle School on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 along with other stakeholders.

#### **4. ADJOURN**

With no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Woods  
City Clerk