

**FRUITA CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 16, 2024  
7:00 P.M.**

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

Mayor Breman called the regular meeting of the Fruita City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held both in person and with virtual access provided through Zoom.

**Present:** Mayor Matthew Breman  
City Councilor James Williams  
Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Hancey  
City Councilor Jeannine Purser  
City Councilor Rich Parrish  
City Councilor Andrea Stolarczyk  
City Councilor Amy Miller

**Excused Absent:** (None)

**City staff present:** City Manager Mike Bennett  
Assistant City Manager Shannon Vassen  
Communications and Engagement Specialist Ciara Amann  
Deputy City Clerk Deb Woods  
Finance Director Joe Zaher  
Members of Fruita Parks and Recreation staff

**Also present:** Members of the public (in-person and virtually)

**2. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Breman called for a moment of silence for all faiths and beliefs to have the opportunity for a silent prayer. He then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. AGENDA – ADOPT/AMEND**

- **COUNCILOR PURSER MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COUNCILOR PARRISH SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED WITH SIX YES VOTES.**

**4. PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

- A. PROCLAMATION – PROCLAIMING JULY 2024 AS “PARK AND RECREATION MONTH” IN THE CITY OF FRUITA TO BE ACCEPTED BY PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF**

Councilor Stolarczyk read the Proclamation, which was accepted by four members of the City’s Parks and Recreation staff: Aquatics Supervisor Molly Bethe, Facility Supervisor Tina Ross, Recreation Program Supervisor Hannah Bihr and Parks Supervisor Sean Lopez.

City Manager Mike Bennett noted that Parks and Recreation Director Marc Mancuso could not be in attendance as he was working with Major League Baseball for part of the week as he does every year, but will be back soon.

Communications and Engagement Specialist Ciara Amann took photos of the Parks and Recreation staff with the City Council.

## **B. PROCLAMATION – RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF PRACTICING CIVILITY IN ALL AREAS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Mayor Breman stated that the Fruita City Council thought it would be good to reaffirm its belief in civility, therefore, unlike most Proclamations, each of the Council members were going to sign the Civility Proclamation as their pledge to civility.

Each Fruita City Council member took a turn reading one recital (“Whereas clause”) all the way through the Proclamation until the ending (“Be it resolved”) paragraph, which they all read together in unison. Two copies of the Proclamation were signed by all Council members and the Mayor. Both copies will be framed and hung; one in the lobby and one in the Council Chambers at the Fruita Civic Center as symbols of the Fruita City Council’s commitment to civility.

## **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Dina Norris, 1185 17 ½ Rd.,** first requested that a conversation be started and then an exploratory committee be established for the purpose of creating a community garden in Fruita. She said that in the current situation, there are less jobs available that pay enough so people can afford to buy homes and inflation is driving the cost of food through the roof for most families. She noted that there have been a couple of times in the past when people tried to establish a community garden in a smaller area and even tried to apply for grants to make it happen, but it just hasn’t panned out. She offered to email staff and the Council examples of great community gardens in various formats that have benefited other communities across the nation. Mayor Breman asked Ms. Norris to email the examples to City Manager Mike Bennett so that he could distribute them to the City Council.

**Tessa Binam, 255 N. Ash St.,** thanked the Council for listening to her requests at the June 4, 2024 Regular Council meeting and asked what the City was going to do with the information that she provided. She stated that at that meeting, a Council member said that “citizens in Fruita were whiny,” which was followed by laughter of many, if not all, of the City Council members. Ms. Binam said it was “whiny citizens” who elected Council members to represent them.

Ms. Binam pointed out that the Council had just signed a Proclamation concerning civility and respect and said she wanted to remind the Council members that they are held to a higher standard of respect and dignity. She requested that they re-read the Code of Conduct that is included in the Council Handbook.

Ms. Binam continued that at the end of the meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup>, she did not feel represented by any of the Council members. She said that while she was waiting for the results of the traffic study to be published online, she noticed that the 2023 PACER Scores hadn’t been published. She stated that she has had email communications with three City employees, but very few of her questions were answered. She said one employee’s response to her was that Fruita now uses PCI instead of the PACER scoring system and the other employee said that they would happily give her data on one

street of her choice, but not of all of the streets in Fruita. Ms. Binam stated that Fruita paid \$63,400 for these results, so she didn't understand why the data is not published.

Ms. Binam continued that there is no evidence that the time that the Council spends together is used to ensure that the City's plans are consistent and accurate. She said that on Page 16 of the Fruita Circulation Plan, it says that Fruita will pay to repair the sidewalks that are a safety hazard, but on Pages 28 and 29, it says that residents are responsible unless they ask the City to split the costs. Ms. Binam said the issue with that is that at the Administration counter downstairs, she was told to talk to Public Works, but at Public Works, she was told by two employees to speak to somebody at the Civic Center, who told her that there was a form online, but there is not. Ms. Binam said there is a program that has been available for at least three years and had a budget of \$100,000 both for this year and last, but there is no way to access it. She added that there are no statistics on how many people have accessed the program and there are sidewalks that are in deplorable condition. Ms. Binam said she would like to know what the City Council is going to do about that as well.

Ms. Binam concluded by saying that citizens and the Council alike must be accountable for the expectations that everyone has for each other and that she would be waiting for more transparency, better representation and more thorough processes.

Mayor Breman asked if staff has Ms. Binam's contact information and City Manager Mike Bennett said he does.

There were no further comments from the public.

## **6. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. MINUTES – A REQUEST TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 21, 2024 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**
- B. MINUTES – A REQUEST TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2024 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**
- C. LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL – A REQUEST TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF A FERMENTED MALT BEVERAGE AND WINE (OFF-PREMISES) LIQUOR LICENSE FOR FAMILY DOLLAR #27356 LOCATED AT 1668 W. HIGHWAY 6 & 50**
- D. LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL – A REQUEST TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF A BEER AND WINE – MALT & VINOUS (CITY) LIQUOR LICENSE FOR MUNCHIES PIZZA & DELI LOCATED AT 550 KOKOPELLI BLVD.**
- E. LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL – A REQUEST TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF A BEER AND WINE – MALT & VINOUS (CITY) LIQUOR LICENSE FOR CAMILLA'S KAFFE LOCATED AT 206 E. ASPEN AVE.**
- F. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENT – A REQUEST TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF ANDREW SCHLECHTEN TO THE ARTS AND CULTURE BOARD FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE IN JULY OF 2027**

- G. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENT – A REQUEST TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MEGHAN REKER TO THE ARTS AND CULTURE BOARD FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE IN JULY OF 2027**
- H. RESOLUTION 2024-21 – DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES ON THE CITY’S BANK AND INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS**
- I. ORDINANCE 2024-13 – FIRST READING – AN INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5.20 OF THE FRUITA MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVALS FOR CERTAIN LIQUOR-RELATED APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AUGUST 6, 2024**
- J. FINANCIAL REPORTS – A REQUEST TO APPROVE THE JUNE 2024 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Mayor Breman opened the public hearing on the Consent Agenda. Hearing no comments from the public, he referred the Consent Agenda to the City Council.

- **COUNCILOR MILLER MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COUNCILOR STOLARCZYK SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED WITH SIX YES VOTES.**

## **7. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NEWLY REAPPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEMBERS**

Mayor Breman acknowledged the appointments of applicants Andrew Schlechten and Meghan Reker to the Fruita Arts and Culture Board. He thanked them for taking the time to come in for interviews and for being willing to serve the Fruita community.

## **8. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **A. QUASI-JUDICIAL HEARINGS**

### **B. LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS**

There were no Quasi-Judicial or Legislative Public Hearings on the agenda.

## **9. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

### **A. NEW FINANCE DIRECTOR – INTRODUCTION OF NEW FINANCE DIRECTOR BY SHANNON VASSEN, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER**

Assistant City Manager Shannon Vassen explained that it is common practice at City Council meetings to give any new Department Director the time to introduce themselves to the Council and for the Council to ask any questions of them. He recalled that Finance Director/City Clerk Margaret Sell is in the process of retiring after 41 years with the City of Fruita. The City Council approved some overlap time for Margaret to train the new Finance Director, who was chosen after three rounds of recruitment.

The position was offered to Joe Zaher, who accepted the position and was present at the Council meeting.

Joe Zaher introduced himself to the Mayor and City Council members. Joe comes directly from Boise, ID, where his wife and two dogs are preparing to relocate to Fruita. He provided the following history:

- Public Service in general; eight years in the United States Air Force and five years as a Firefighter with the Forest Service and National Parks Service
- Fourteen years in governmental accounting at state and city levels
- City of Boise Budget Office
- Managing the Idaho Department of Corrections Budget Office (\$200 million/year Budget and 2,000 employees)
- His last position in Boise was with the Idaho Commission on Aging (\$34 million/year Budget, outreach to the entire state through area agencies and working with a number of federal grants).
- Finished master's degree in Governmental Accounting.
- Also has a degree in Philosophy.

Mr. Zaher said his welcome here has been absolutely outstanding and thanked everyone for their support.

## **10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Mike reminded the Mayor and Council members that the following evening, the 19 Road Open House will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Civic Center Council Chambers.
- Mike reported that Neighborhood Services Coordinator Matt Carson spent some time cleaning up tree limbs and working with property owners at just over 20 intersections to resolve visibility issues since it was last discussed by the City Council. Matt will continue working on that.
- Concerning the intersection of Pabor Avenue and Peach Street, some similar work has been done by staff, who is also working on a way to improve the visibility issues caused by cars parking too close to the intersection.
- Staff is working with engineering contractor SGM to create some Fruita-specific criteria to evaluate intersections because if the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) standards are used across the board, there would be very few crosswalks or stop signs throughout the whole community. The City has a similar custom format for internally reviewing crosswalks.
- Upcoming July workshop agenda items include:
  - ❖ An overview of Colorado Creative Districts from Josh Blanchard, Executive Director of Colorado Creative Industries and Brandon Stam, Executive Director of Downtown Grand Junction

- ❖ Discussion on various Council-directed Land Use Code amendments concerning such things as Conditional Use Permits, callups, appeals and the Sign Code
- August workshop agenda items include:
  - ❖ Discussion with the Municipal Judge, Police Chief and (potentially) City Prosecutor regarding updates to the Municipal Code to align City violations with state law
  - ❖ Overview of Five- and Ten-Year Capital Improvement Plans

## 11. COUNCIL REPORTS AND ACTIONS

### A. CML CONFERENCE RECAP – TIME FOR CITY COUNCIL TO RECAP AND SHARE WHAT WAS LEARNED AT THE 2024 CML CONFERENCE IN JUNE

Mayor Breman recalled that a number of City Council members had the opportunity to attend the 2024 Annual Colorado Municipal League (CML) Conference held in Loveland consisting of three days of workshops, keynote speakers, education and networking. He asked Council members to share their main take-aways from the Conference.

**RICH** noted this was his first CML Conference and he found it to be very informative, although he didn't really understand everything that was going on. He said there were some very good sessions, some that were not as good, and that he learned some great things on the second day that he thinks will be applicable in Fruita. Rich said he was very appreciative of the opportunity to be there, not only to learn, but to be with his fellow Council members to get to know them each a little bit better.

**AMY** noted that she was only there for a short time but called it a good opportunity to get to know the other Council members a little bit better. She said the biggest value she always takes from the Conference are the conversations with officials from other municipalities in more of a one-on-one setting about how they are approaching certain things and what their wins and challenges are. Amy shared that she was disappointed in the sessions that she attended the first day, but she heard that they got better the next day. Matthew agreed that the sessions definitely got stronger after the first day.

**JEANNINE** echoed the sentiment that the first day was a bit of a struggle, but said the second day went really well. She said this year, Fruita Council members and staff spent more time together team building after the sessions, which she always finds super valuable. She said she, Rich and Shannon took a tour of a park in Loveland and there were many aspects that she could see implementing at Fruita's Launch development such as incorporating artwork and sculptures. Jeannine called that experience really fantastic.

**MATTHEW** said he noticed a difference in tone; last year he attended the Mayors' mingle and there was a lot of discussion about how to deal with Council members who don't read their packet before meetings. At that time, the number one answer was to humiliate those Council members in public. He said this year, discussions revolved more around how to create civility amongst Council members, how to work together with difficult members of Council, how to encourage them and how to become more of a cohesive Council.

Matthew continued that he got the chance to talk to some Mayors and former Mayors and asked them what the one thing was that they wish they could've done, what was their biggest mistake and what

were some of the greatest ideas, some of which Matthew said he would like to discuss at future workshop meetings. One of these ideas was whether it is worth it to establish a non-profit city foundation where people could donate to very specific items.

Matthew added that the session on affordable housing was not what he expected; it was geared toward how to build community consensus on a project when the community is not behind the project at all. He said in talking to others, they seem to want to tackle the issue of affordable housing, but nobody wants it located in their community. Matthew said no one had a great answer, but at least he feels that Fruita is further ahead of that curve than most communities. The struggle, he said, is the sentiment of “not in my backyard” and community leaders are currently trying to navigate that.

Matthew also commented that it was interesting that they had a session on pickleball (he didn’t go to it). The topic covered the challenges and legal issues around pickleball because noise is an issue.

**JEANNINE** recalled that she attended a session given by Jefferson County about getting communities on board with affordable housing and the Fruita Council members had a discussion at dinner the night before regarding telling stories about the people who need such housing. In the session she attended, Jeannine said that was one of the main suggestions; making the issue personal to people, which was very well-received by the citizens of Jefferson County. She said this might be something Fruita wants to think about.

**JAMES** said he really didn’t have much to add except that he really liked spending time with the other Council members in a different light. He said he thought the Conference was really understated this year, although the second day was definitely better.

James added there was one session that he and Jeannine attended where he really liked the team; they talked about funding for things like historical housing and historical events and James said he made sure to get their contact information to pass along to Kayla at the Fruita Chamber, who is always looking for funding sources for events like Fruita Fall Festival.

James concluded by saying that the main positive thing that he took from the Conference is that this year, he noticed that there were more younger people participating on a municipal level that brought excitement to the table that was not there before. He said it will be interesting to see if that will be a continuing trend. James said he hopes so because it would really freshen things up.

Matthew added that the conversations about Municipal Finance were worthwhile in terms of looking forward into future Capital Improvement Projects and how to time the funding for them.

**SHANNON** spoke a little about Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) sessions concerning laws that are implemented at the State House. He attended sessions about upcoming changes to property tax; there are several measures that are being considered for the November ballot this year. He noted that there was a ballot issue last year that failed in November and then the Colorado Legislature went back to Special Session and basically decided to do all the same things anyway but implement it differently. He added that there were also discussions about what is new at the Capital and grant opportunities that are available.

Shannon added that the artist whose sculpture was the first one installed in the Benson Sculpture Gardens gave a tour that was very cool. There are approximately 200 sculptures that have been donated over the past 50 or 60 years.

Shannon said he also attended the session with Jefferson County concerning affordable housing and how to communicate the need for it and it was really interesting because there are terms such as “missing middle,” “affordable housing” and “workforce housing” that don’t play as well as everyone thinks, so a better approach would be to tell the story of the people who actually use the housing such as those that will live at the Fruita Mews.

James said he felt like Fruita was represented really well at the CML Conference, which is usually the case.

## **B. COUNCIL REPORTS AND ACTIONS**

### **COUNCILOR JAMES WILLIAMS**

James reported that he would be attending his first Police Commission meeting the following day.

James said he took his dog to the Grand Junction dog park where they now have wood chips, which he said is a million times better than dirt or grass. He reiterated his idea of Fruita getting a woodchipper, especially with Matt Carson (Neighborhood Services Coordinator) doing all the cleanup of trees around town. He urged the other Council members to go see the difference the wood chips make. James recalled hearing that there are certain days of the week when Grand Junction residents can take their tree limbs and extra wood cuttings to the City of Grand Junction, who then turns them into wood chips for their dog park. Amy pointed out that much care would need to be taken concerning the types of trees the City could accept.

### **COUNCILOR AMY MILLER**

Amy reported that she attended the Historic Preservation Board meeting and the board is plugging right along on getting the new plaques, which should be here soon. She said they are super cool and that the quote that came in for them was very reasonable. The board has a couple of other fun little things on the horizon that they are beginning to discuss such as the History Fair at Fruita Fall Festival.

Amy also reported that the Livability Commission has been receiving presentations from local organizations that provide essential community services related to food, housing and other resources. The Commission has been discussing these concerns and is eager to connect with existing resources rather than trying to build new ones.

### **COUNCILOR AARON HANCEY**

Aaron noted that there was a Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP) meeting the following day and he would be attending remotely.

Aaron asked the other Council members if they wanted to discuss the items brought to the Council during Public Participation at the beginning of the meeting. Matthew said he would prefer to get the information first and have it distributed before discussing it at the next meeting. Aaron noted that he was absent from the meeting when Ms. Binam requested a traffic study for North Ash Street and asked if it would be resolved administratively. Mike explained that staff uses traffic tubes to do the traffic counts, but he did not have the results yet. He said once staff has those, they will take the data and make an operational decision on what needs to be done.



Matthew pointed out that there were a couple of other comments that were made that need to be addressed as well such as those concerning the Sidewalk Replacement Program. Mike stated that the Sidewalk Replacement Program is part of the City's Budget process every year for which the Council allocated \$100,000, which is an increase from a few years ago when \$30,000 was budgeted. Staff also made a change to the process where sidewalks are now evaluated throughout the City by engineering staff to determine which are in the worst condition. Staff then puts those out to bid in conjunction with crosswalk projects. Because sidewalks are the responsibility of the property owner, the City implemented a program whereby the City will fund 80% of the cost to repair the sidewalk while the resident only has to pay 20%. Instead of waiting for applications from the citizens to come in, staff now identifies the worst sidewalks and contacts the property owners to inform them that the City is bidding the sidewalk out as one big project to get the best price. The property owner is then given the amount of their 20% responsibility of the cost for them to pay. Mike said this process has been in place for about three years now and the City has been making significant headway in the number of sidewalks getting replaced. James asked how property owners are receiving the 80%/20% sidewalk replacement program. Mike said there has been a pretty good reception of it, but sometimes residents are not even aware how badly their sidewalk is damaged because it's not something people think about. He said for the most part, there has been a very positive reception of the program once property owners see the total cost and realize they don't have to manage the project themselves. The City is also willing to work with the property owners on how their 20% is paid.

Matthew asked Ms. Binam to join him after the meeting for a cup of coffee to discuss the other item she mentioned at the beginning of the meeting.

#### COUNCILOR ANDREA STOLARCZYK

Andrea reported that the Arts and Culture Board has a Call for Artists out for the Second Annual "HeART of Fruita" sculpture competition. There is a \$1,000 honorarium for all of the sculptors who submit their work for the growing sculpture collection in Fruita. There are five pedestals this year and the deadline for submissions is August 2, 2024, so Andrea recommended the information be shared if anyone knows of a sculptor in the Valley that wants to participate. The board prefers local artists, but anyone can enter and all of the details are on the City's website at [fruta.org](http://fruta.org).

Andrea also reported that the Museums of Western Colorado (MWC) is having a big fundraiser on August 3, 2024 called "Dinos on the Rocks" at Dinosaur Journey from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$70 and VIP admission is \$95 and there will be a cocktail competition. Five distilleries have agreed to participate and the proceeds from the event will benefit Dinosaur Journey for updated exhibits that will engage and educate visitors of all ages. Andrea said the new Executive Director has some amazing ideas, so there are a lot of fresh and interesting things that are happening at the MWC.

Andrea stated that the City of Fruita has also issued a Call for Artists for the Mulberry murals and the deadline is August 5, 2024. She appealed to all to invite any muralists they know to participate.

Andrea also announced that the Fruita Arts and Culture Board will be holding a Chalk Festival at the Fruita Fourth Friday on August 23, 2024. There is no entry fee and squares around the Civic Center will be taped off for participants in each of the following categories: amateur, students and professional artists. For \$1, people can vote for their favorite artist who will win the "People's Choice" award or for \$10, people can vote for their favorite ten times, etc.

Jeannine clarified that the \$1,000 honorarium for the “HeART of Fruita” sculpture competition is only for the sculptors who are selected. Andrea added that the selection process includes a weighing in by the Arts and Culture Board members and also members of the community.

#### COUNCILOR JEANNINE PURSER

Jeannine thanked Matthew for reaching out to Ms. Binam to have coffee because her comment was concerning.

Jeannine asked about the status of the fiber installation by clearnetworkx on Fruita’s southside. Mike said he had no updates on that from clearnetworkx and that currently, they are still finishing out some of their projects in north Fruita and in other areas. In the last discussion staff had with clearnetworkx, they are estimating completion this fall at the earliest and more likely throughout the winter, so Mike said he didn’t expect to hear anything from them until closer to that timeframe. Amy recalled an email she received that said clearnetworkx probably won’t start on south Fruita until September. Aaron asked if clearnetworkx has been satisfactorily handling their repairs in the community such as the breaks to irrigation lines. Mike said they’ve actually been very responsive and staff tries to remind residents that if they have any issues whatsoever, they should definitely call clearnetworkx because they will have someone come out to replace sod or make any repairs necessary.

Mike also addressed James’ earlier comment about the 80%/20% Sidewalk Replacement Program. He said the City does have a hardship policy (although he didn’t know the criteria off the top of his head) for people who can’t pay the 20% whereby sometimes their portion is completely waived by the City. Matthew asked what the process is for that and if there is something about it on the City’s website. Mike said that it is very similar to the hardship policy for utility bills and residents are made aware of it.

Jeannine concluded by saying that the one board on which she serves as a Council Liaison is not meeting in the summer, so she had no updates for that.

Jeannine recalled that she and James went to a session at the CML Conference about engaging youth and one of the things they came away with was that the City Council might want to consider having youth members on all of the City’s Boards and Commissions. She said she thought that the Fruita Youth Action Council might want to designate some of their students to fill those seats just to make sure that the City is well-rounded in viewpoints. Jeannine added that there were other great ideas from that session that she’d like to discuss with Council later. Amy pointed out that the Livability Commission actually discussed that very idea at their last two meetings and she is in favor of it. James said he learned at the session that some of the kids that had been appointed to boards in their youth now work for their City. Matthew noted that the Fruita Chamber is trying to work on a youth board position as well.

#### COUNCILOR RICH PARRISH

Rich reported that he had to leave the Fruita Tourism Advisory Council (FTAC) meeting early and asked staff Liaison Shannon Vassen if there was anything that needed to be mentioned. Shannon recalled that the City Council had asked Rich and staff to engage the FTAC members concerning how things are going with the City’s current marketing consultant, but since Rich and a few other people were absent at the last meeting, it was decided to reschedule that conversation to the July FTAC meeting on July 25, 2024.

MAYOR MATTHEW BREMAN

Matthew said that he has been very busy with City stuff but has had no Liaison board meetings. He did have a meeting with Mike Ritter at the Business Incubator over the weekend and their new Annual Report has been published. Matthew said he would try to get copies of it for the City Council members. He added that it was the first time he's had a document from the Incubator that he could read and now understands the breadth of the programming that they do. He said it was very well done and definitely worth going through.

Matthew thanked the Council and staff for all the work on last Thursday's Ice Cream Social.

Matthew announced that he had a Fruita Chamber Board meeting at 7:00 a.m. the following day and he was sure that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and festivals will be topics of discussion, so he would report on those later.

Matthew said he has been doing some research to prepare for the Council Retreat. He said he spent a lot of time looking through 10 or 12 other municipal budgets and in comparison, needed to commend Shannon for the work he's done on the City of Fruita's Budget.

**C. EXECUTIVE SESSION – TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING POSITIONS RELATIVE TO MATTERS THAT MAY BE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATIONS; DEVELOPING STRATEGY FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND INSTRUCTING NEGOTIATORS PURSUANT TO C.R.S. SECTION 24-6-402(4)(E) WITH THE CITY'S REALTOR WITH REGARD TO THE CITY'S POTENTIAL PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO C.R.S. SECTION 24-6-402(4)(A)**

- COUNCILOR HANCEY MOVED TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING POSITIONS RELATIVE TO MATTERS THAT MAY BE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATIONS; DEVELOPING STRATEGY FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND INSTRUCTING NEGOTIATORS PURSUANT TO C.R.S. SECTION 24-6-402(4)(E) WITH THE CITY'S REALTOR WITH REGARD TO THE CITY'S POTENTIAL PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO C.R.S. SECTION 24-6-402(4)(A). COUNCILOR MILLER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED WITH SIX YES VOTES.**

*Mayor Breman called for a two-minute break before going into Executive Session.*

*The Fruita City Council convened in Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. They reconvened the regular meeting at 9:18 p.m.*

## **12. ADJOURN**

With no further business before the Council, Mayor Breman adjourned the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Woods  
Deputy City Clerk  
City of Fruita

Draft