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**TO:** Fruita Mayor & City Council

**FROM:** Mike Bennett, City Manager

**DATE:** June 20, 2023

**AGENDA TEXT:** RESOLUTION 2023-17 - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fruita Allowing for Virtual Meetings

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**BACKGROUND**

On June 6, 2023, City Council approved Resolution 2023-13 Rescinding the City Manager’s Declaration of Local Emergency of March 24, 2020, and Resolution 2020-20 – Extending the City of Fruita Emergency Declaration of March 24, 2020. This action also ended the ability to hold virtual meetings as set forth in Resolution 2020-19 tied to the emergency declaration. At the June 6, 2023 meeting City Council also directed staff to continue providing a way for the public to view meetings virtually, as well as continue posting the video recordings on the City’s YouTube channel. Resolution 2023-13 also ended the ability for virtual public participation at City Council meetings.

To enable the City Council to continue to hold virtual meetings as necessary, this item, Resolution 2023-17 establishes the ability to continue to hold virtual meetings and sets for the policy regarding such.

The Fruita City Council records and broadcasts its meetings via video-conferencing and will continue to do so. The City Council desires to allow Council members, staff members, guest presenters, and the City Attorney to participate in City Council meetings via video-conferencing if they are unable to attend a City Council meeting or workshop in person. The City Council recognizes there may be times when the City Council must meet entirely via video-conferencing, which requires the City Council to further clarify procedures regarding the allowance of virtual or electronic meetings for City Council members, staff, guest presenters and participants, and the City Attorney/Special Counsel, if a virtual-only meeting is deemed necessary or appropriate, virtual participation by members of the public.

**Electronic Participation in an In Person Meeting.** In the event the Mayor, a City Council member, a City staff member, guest presenter or counsel is unable to meet in person at the day, hour, and place fixed by the rules and procedures of the City Council because meeting in-person is not practical for such person(s), they may contact the City Clerk to be provided the means for Electronic Participation in the meeting; all members of the public and all other City Council members, City staff, guest presenters and participants and counsel shall attend and participate in person.

**Virtual Only Meetings.** In the rare event when the City Council is unable to meet in person, but a meeting is necessary, such meeting shall be properly noticed pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(1)(b) with the information provided for Electronic Participation to include the same by members of the public.

**APPLICABILITY TO CITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The City Council values transparency, public participation, and efficiency in running meetings and taking care of necessary City business.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The only financial impacts are already accounted for in already budgeted, ongoing subscriptions and existing equipment.

**OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COUNCIL**

1. Adopt Resolution 2023-17 Allowing for Virtual Meetings.
2. Direct staff to amend Resolution 2023-17 for further consideration.

**RECOMMENDATON**

It is the recommendation of staff that the Fruita City Council by motion:

**ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023-17 ALLOWING FOR VIRTUAL MEETINGS**