



325 E Aspen
Suite 155
Fruita CO 81521

Phone:
970-858-3663

Fax:
970-858-0210

E Mail
fruita@fruita.org

Web Site
fruita.org

City Manager's Office
970-858-3663

City Clerk/Finance
970-858-3663

Community
Development
970-858-0786

Engineering
970-858-8377

Human Resources
970-858-8373

Public Works
970-858-9558

Recreation Dept.
970-858-0360

Weekly Info Update

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
From: MIKE BENNETT, CITY MANAGER
Date: MARCH 11, 2016
Re: WEEKLY INFO UPDATE

Tuesday's City Council Meeting

In addition to the items on the Consent Agenda, there are two public hearings. The first is a new liquor license application for JD's Bar as it is being required to change its class of license by the State. This is a Quasi-judicial hearing so please place close attention to the packet which includes rules of such hearings and the evidence being considered. City Attorney Ed Sands will be joining us at this meeting in case you have any legal questions regarding the item. Second, is a public hearing on establishing an entertainment district which includes an ordinance creating the district, a resolution amending the Schedule of Fees associated with entertainment districts and a resolution to create the downtown district. Three items are included under Council Reports and Actions related to the recruitment of a Municipal Court Judge. First is the appointment of an additional Associate Judge to help cover court sessions during the hiring period. Second will be administering the oath to the Associate Judge. Third is to discuss and approve the selection process and schedule for hiring the new Judge.

TID BITS:

- Huge thank you to the Arts & Culture Board, the Parks and Recreation staff who helped out, Family Health West and the many artists who participated in Saturday's An Evening of Art that was a huge success and an awesome event—the FCC was transformed with art and decorations and about 80-100 people attended. The Board raised about \$3,300 for art in Fruita (Photos below).
- A big hit at the Evening of Art were the bike corrals and bike racks we commissioned Jeff Bates to create. It won't be too long before they are placed downtown—shooting to have them placed by April 1.
- We received a new business application for AFP Fitness to be located at 145 N. Mesa St. that is a couple weeks out to opening.
- I met with GJEP staff this week to begin preparing economic development materials specific to Fruita to be created for web and print needs. We are coordinating with GJEP, the Office of Outdoor Recreation and the Leed School of Government with three MBA interns to help with this project between now and the end of April.
- Big thank you to the Chamber for hosting the Candidate Forum last night.

- We are coordinating with the County who is taking the lead to prepare a Federal Land Access Grant to improve the road at 18 Road and potentially a widened road for bike lane to get there from Fruita in the future.
- COPMOBA is moving forward to contract environmental work for new trails at Mack Ridge with the help of local businesses. They selected Olsson and Associates with the low bid. BLM is coordinating with them as well.
- J.2 Road Contract has been signed and work is expected to begin in a couple weeks.
- Staff is reviewing 6 RFQs received for the design of the second half of the Kokopelli section of the Riverfront Trail.
- The Little Salt Wash Trail construction continues (see photo below). This week they had some trouble with water flooding out the work twice but they have built the floor of the box culvert and the walls are next up.
- After Monte's 30 year full-time work with the City he has transitioned to part-time work and we have hired a new part-time mechanic to work with Monte. Dave was promoted to manager of the Feet Division.
- Staff is working on doing some traffic counting of City streets over the summer to update our counts.
- Planning Commission had a busy meeting Tuesday night recommending approval for two vacation rentals in homes; the Vanlandingham annexation as Community Residential as opposed to the requested rural agriculture; changes to Chapter 7 of the LUC; and recommending denial of an industrial business in the downtown mixed use zone.
- The new Mike the Headless Chicken site is going live next week.
- Unfortunately our Mountain Bike banner on the COOP tower fell down this week and we are looking into the costs of re-hanging and creating a new banner.
- We completed our initial submission of costs and program inventories for the Priority Based Budgeting process this week.
- We submitted our GOCO concept paper for the Kokopelli section of the Riverfront Trail this week.
- We are working on a new Charter Franchise agreement with Charter and negotiating the terms. Our current contract expires in May so we plan to bring it to Council on April 5.
- Ballots for the municipal election will be mailed out next week.
- Ture and I will be presenting to the Riverfront Commission on the progress of the Kokopelli section of the trail on Tuesday prior to the City Council meeting.
- Staff will be meeting with Steve Martin next week to begin the process for his proposed camping project at the City property near the waste water plant. Sam will be the project manager and we will have the proposals go through Planning Commission and City Council. We are engaging an appraiser to help determine an appropriate lease amount.
- Volleyball season has ended and soccer has begun with more registrants than last year (~220).
- Seniors are going on a trip to Denver for St. Patrick's Day.
- Recreation staff is working on the next issue of the Activity Guide.
- Staff is coordinating with Girls on the run to host the regional race in Fruita in May. This includes 2,200 runners and many others who will travel here with them.
- Sales tax revenue was down in January by 5.35% over 2015.

FRUITA IN THE NEWS (or related news to the area):

- Downtown Detective: Fun in Fruita Edition: <http://kool1079.com/downtown-detective-fun-in-fruita-edition/>

UPCOMING EVENTS *(When an RSVP is required I will include the information. I also ask that you let Deb know if you plan to attend so we can make sure to post if multiple council members plan to attend. Deb would also be happy to RSVP for you.):*

- **Tomorrow, Saturday March 12** at 2:00 pm is a book signing by Steve and Denise Hight for their new book *Legendary Locals of Fruita*, in conjunction with the Historic Preservation Board and Lithic Bookstore and Gallery.
- **Sunday, March 13**, the Downtown Advisory Board is inviting community members to help create homegrown banners for downtown at the Cavalcade at 12:30 pm.
- **March 17** from 5:30 – 7:30 pm is the Chamber's Business After Hours at US Bank.
- **Friday, March 25** City offices will be closed in observance of Good Friday.
- The Fruita Community Calendar is available on the website at: <http://www.fruita.org/calendar>.
- The **2015** Events Information is also available online at: <http://www.fruita.org/parksrec/page/special-events>

CC: Department Directors











Project: Reconstructed for
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Museum
Presented by: Museum of Science
Created by:
Bill Sauer



