

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
SEPTEMBER 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.**

City Hall Commission Chambers
506 W. Berckman Street
Fruitland Park, Florida 34731

1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation – **Pastor Chuck Padgett, Trinity Assembly of God**

Pledge of Allegiance –Police Chief **Henry Rains**

2. ROLL CALL

3. PUBLIC HEARING

- (i) Second Reading of Ordinance 2026-017, Pertaining to the EMS MSTU with Lake County for the provision of Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services.** (city attorney/city manager)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, CONSENTING TO THE INCLUSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, WITHIN THE COUNTY-WIDE MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT (MSTU) OF THE PROVISION OF AMBULANCE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR THE CITY TO BE INCLUDED WITHIN SAID MSTU FOR A SPECIFIED TERM OF YEARS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

4. ADJOURNMENT

For additional events, please visit [Calendar | City of Fruitland Park Florida](#).

Please note that in addition to the city commission meetings, more than one city commissioner may be present at the above-mentioned events.

Any person requiring special accommodation at this meeting because of disability or physical impairment should contact the City Clerk's Office at City Hall (352) 360-6727 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. (§286.26 F.S.)

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City of Fruitland Park with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings and ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. The city does not provide verbatim records. (§286.0105, F.S.)

PLEASE TURN OFF ELECTRONIC DEVICES OR PLACE IN VIBRATE MODE.

CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY SHEET
Item Number: **3i**

ITEM TITLE: **Second Reading and Public Hearing – Ordinance 2026-017 EMS MSTU**

MEETING DATE: September 21, 2026

DATE SUBMITTED: September 16, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: city attorney/city manager/city treasurer

BRIEF NARRATIVE: **Ordinance 2026-017** – second reading of this ordinance consents to the inclusion of the City of Fruitland Park, Florida, within the countywide municipal service taxing unit (MSTU) for the provision of ambulance and emergency medical services, as adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County.

Lake County has created a countywide municipal service taxing unit authorizing the county to levy ad valorem taxes within the county for the provision of ambulance and emergency medical services.

Lake County's ordinance expressed its intent to include the City of Fruitland Park within the boundaries of the "Lake County Municipal Service Taxing Unit for Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services," subject to the adoption of an approving ordinance by the City Commission of the City of Fruitland Park.

Previously, the City of Fruitland Park determined that it was in the best interest of and serves the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of Fruitland Park to include the city within the Lake County MSTU for ambulance and emergency services.

The approval of this ordinance consents to the inclusion of the City of Fruitland Park within the boundaries of the Lake County MSTU for Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services. In addition, the approval of this ordinance is inclusive that the municipal service taxing unit shall be for one (1) year from the effective date of this ordinance, and shall automatically renew for subsequent one year periods unless any party follows the provisions set forth in the ordinance to end the term of agreement.

FUNDS BUDGETED: N/A

ATTACHMENTS: Ordinance 2026-017, Business Impact Statement, Advertising Submitted for Publication on September 11, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

ACTION TO BE TAKEN: **Approve Ordinance 2026-017**

ORDINANCE 2026-017

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, CONSENTING TO THE INCLUSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA, WITHIN THE COUNTY-WIDE MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT (MSTU) OF THE PROVISION OF AMBULANCE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR THE CITY TO BE INCLUDED WITHIN SAID MSTU FOR A SPECIFIED TERM OF YEARS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Lake County Board of Commissioners (the "County"), pursuant to authority of Section 125.01(1)(q) and (r), *Florida Statutes*, has created a countywide municipal service taxing unit authorizing the County to levy ad valorem taxes within the county for the provision of ambulance and emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 125, *Florida Statutes* Section 125.01(q) provides that a municipality may be included within a county municipal service taxing unit if such inclusion is approved by ordinance of the municipality either annually or for a term of years; and

WHEREAS, the County ordinance creating the Lake County Municipal Service Taxing Unit for Ambulance and Emergency Services provides that municipalities in Lake County shall be included within the taxing unit upon adoption of a municipal ordinance approving said inclusion; and

WHEREAS, Lake County's ordinance expressed its intent to include the City of Fruitland Park within the boundaries of the "Lake County Municipal Service Taxing Unit for Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services," subject to the adoption of an approving ordinance by the City Commission of the City of Fruitland Park; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Fruitland Park previously determined that it is in the best interest of and serves the health, safety and general welfare of the residents of Fruitland Park to include the City of Fruitland Park within the Lake County municipal service taxing unit for ambulance and emergency services; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission has determined that continued inclusion of the City of Fruitland Park within a countywide municipal service taxing unit for the provision of ambulance and emergency medical services is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Fruitland Park and that enactment of this ordinance is necessary:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The City Commission of the City of Fruitland Park hereby consents to the inclusion of the City of Fruitland Park within the boundaries of the "Lake County Municipal Service Taxing Unit for Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services."

Section 2. Governing Body. The City Commission acknowledges that the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County shall be the governing body of the Lake County Municipal Service Taxing Unit for Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services pursuant to Section 125.01(2), *Florida Statutes*.

Section 3. Ad Valorem Tax. The City Commission authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to levy and collect ad valorem tax on all property within the Lake County Municipal Service Taxing Unit for Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services, and specifically within the City of Fruitland Park, for the purpose of providing ambulance and emergency medical services within the taxing unit. The tax hereby authorized shall be in addition to County ad valorem taxes, and shall be assessed, levied, and collected in the same manner and at the same time as County taxes.

Section 4. Term. The term of this ordinance consenting to inclusion in the municipal service taxing unit shall be for one (1) year from the effective date of this ordinance, and shall automatically renew for subsequent one (1) year periods unless any party notifies the other party in writing by certified mail of its intent not to renew at least sixty (60) days prior to the expiration of the then-current term. If such written notification is given, this Ordinance shall expire at the end of the then-current term

Section 5. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall be codified and included in the Municipal Code by the appropriate party. The section of this ordinance may be renumbered or reentered, and the word “Ordinance” may be changed to “Section”, “Article”, or other appropriate designation.

Section 7. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final adoption by the City Commission of the City of Fruitland Park, Florida.

PASSED AND ORDAINED in special session of the City Commission of the City of Fruitland Park, Lake County, Florida, this 21st day of September 2026.

Chris Cheshire, Mayor
City of Fruitland Park, Florida

Attest:

Approved as to form and legality:

Gwen Johns, City Clerk

Anita Geraci-Carver, City Attorney

Mayor Cheshire _____ (Yes), _____ (No), _____ (Abstained), _____ (Absent)
Vice Mayor DeGrave _____ (Yes), _____ (No), _____ (Abstained), _____ (Absent)
Commissioner Goldberg _____ (Yes), _____ (No), _____ (Abstained), _____ (Absent)
Commissioner Raysin _____ (Yes), _____ (No), _____ (Abstained), _____ (Absent)
Commissioner Williams _____ (Yes), _____ (No), _____ (Abstained), _____ (Absent)

First Reading September 10, 2026

Second Reading September 21, 2026

Business Impact Estimate

*This form should be included in the agenda packet for the item under which the proposed ordinance is to be considered and **must be posted on the City's website not later than the time notice of the proposed ordinance is published in the newspaper.***

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This Business Impact Estimate is provided in accordance with section 166.041(4), Florida Statutes. If one or more boxes are checked below, this means the City is of the view that a business impact estimate is not required by state law¹ for the proposed ordinance, but the Town is, nevertheless, providing this Business Impact Estimate as a courtesy and to avoid any procedural issues that could impact the enactment of the proposed ordinance. This Business Impact Estimate may be revised following its initial posting.

- ☐ The proposed ordinance is required for compliance with Federal or State law or regulation;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance relates to the issuance or refinancing of debt;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance relates to the adoption of budgets or budget amendments, including revenue sources necessary to fund the budget;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance is required to implement a contract or an agreement, including, but not limited to, any Federal, State, local, or private grant or other financial assistance accepted by the municipal government;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance is an emergency ordinance;
- ☐ The ordinance relates to procurement; or
- ☐ The proposed ordinance is enacted to implement the following:
 - a. Development orders and development permits, as those terms are defined in s. 163.3164, and development agreements, as authorized by the Florida Local Government Development Agreement Act under ss. 163.3220-163.3243
 - b. Comprehensive plan amendments and land development regulation amendments initiated by an application by a private party other than the municipality;

¹ See Section 166.041(4)(c), Florida Statutes.

- c. Sections 190.005 and 190.046, Florida Statutes, regarding community development districts;
- d. Section 553.73, Florida Statutes, relating to the Florida Building Code; or
- e. Section 633.202, Florida Statutes, relating to the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

In accordance with the provisions of controlling law, notwithstanding the fact that an exemption noted above may apply, the City hereby publishes the following information:

1. Summary of the proposed ordinance (must include a statement of the public purpose, such as serving the public health, safety, morals and welfare): The ordinance includes the City of Fruitland Park within Lake County's Municipal Service Taxing Unit for Ambulance and Emergency Services. It allows Lake County to levy and collect ad valorem tax on all property within the City for the purpose of providing ambulance and emergency medical services within the taxing unit. The public purpose being served by the ordinance is to provide funding for ambulance and emergency medical services provided within the City of Fruitland Park. The ordinance serves the public health, safety, morals and welfare of the City.

2. An estimate of the direct economic impact of the proposed ordinance on private, for-profit businesses in the City, if any: Less than 1 mill for every \$1,000 of a property's taxable assessed value.

(a) An estimate of direct compliance costs that businesses may reasonably incur; No costs of compliance.

(b) Any new charge or fee imposed by the proposed ordinance or for which businesses will be financially responsible; No added charge or fee is imposed by the ordinance. and

(c) An estimate of the City's regulatory costs, including estimated revenues from any new charges or fees to cover such costs. No regulatory costs are incurred. There is no added charge or fee being imposed by the ordinance

3. Good faith estimate of the number of businesses likely to be impacted by the proposed ordinance: It may impact four hundred fifteen (410) number of businesses.

4. Additional information the governing body deems useful (if any):

The proposed ordinance is a generally applicable ordinance that applies to all persons similarly situated individuals as well as businesses and, therefore, to the extent it affects businesses, the proposed ordinance does not affect businesses disproportionately to non-businesses.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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The proposed Ordinance will be considered at the following public meetings:

City Commission Meeting Thursday, September 10, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m. (first reading)

City Commission Meeting Thursday, September 24, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m. (second reading/adoption)

The public meeting will be held in the Commission Chambers located at City Hall, 506 West Berckman Street, Fruitland Park FL 34731. These meetings are open to the public and hearings may be continued as determined by the commission from time to time to a time/date certain. The proposed Ordinance and supporting documentation may be inspected by the public during normal working hours at City Hall. For further information call 352-360-6727. Interested parties may appear at the meetings and will be heard with respect to the proposed Ordinance.

A person who decides to appeal any decision made by any board, agency or council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, will need a record of the proceedings. For such purposes, any such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based (Florida Statutes, 286.0105). Persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact Gwen Johns, City Clerk at (352) 360-6790 at least 48 hours before the date of the scheduled hearing.

The Villages® DAILY SUN

Published Daily
State of Florida
County Of Sumter

Affidavit of Publication

Before the undersigned authority personally
Appeared **Amber Sevison** who on oath says that
he or she is Legal Ad Coordinator of the Villages
DAILY SUN, a daily newspaper published in
Sumter County, Florida with circulation in Lake,
Sumter and Marion Counties; that the attached
copy of advertisement, being a Legal Ad # **01323614**
in the matter of

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

was published in said newspaper in the issues of

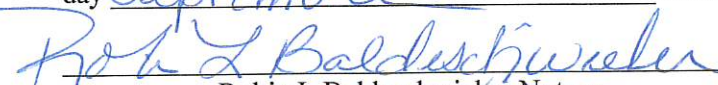
SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

Affiant further says that the Daily Sun is a newspaper
that complies with all legal requirements for publication in
chapter 50, Florida Statutes.


(Signature Of Affiant)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14

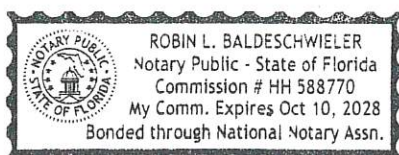
day September 2026.


Robin L. Baldeschwieler, Notary

Personally Known ✓ or

Production Identification _____

Type of Identification Produced _____



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360-6790 at least 48 hours
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scheduled hearing.

#1323614 September 11, 2026

Advertising Invoice

The Villages Daily Sun

1

984 Old Mill Run,
The Villages, FL 32162

Phone: (352)753-1119

Fax: (352)751-7999

URL: <http://www.thevillagesdailysun.com>

CHRISTINE
CITY OF FRUITLAND PARK
506 W BERKMAN STREET
FRUITLAND PARK, FL 34731

Acct #: 90105387
Phone: (352)360-6727
Date: 09/9/2026
Ad #: 01323614
Salesperson: 13 Ad Taker: 13

Class: 0100

Description	Start	Stop	Ins.	Cost/Day	Extras	Amount
MSTU26	09/11/2026	09/11/2026	1	98.56	0.00	98.56

Ad Text:

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Payment Reference:

Total: 98.56
Tax: 0.00
Net: 98.56
Prepaid: 0.00

Total Due 98.56