

CITY OF FIRCREST
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2014 **COUNCIL CHAMBERS**
7:00 P.M. **FIRCREST CITY HALL, 115 RAMSDALL STREET**

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Mayor David M. Viafore called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Shannon Reynolds, Hunter T. George and Jason Medley were present. Councilmembers Matthew Jolibois, David R. Goodsell and Denny Waltier were excused.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION & LIAISON REPORTS

Viafore stated he was hopeful the full Council would be present at the November 25th meeting for a discussion on the 2015 Preliminary Budget. He reported at that meeting Council consensus will be taken for those items on Councilmembers' wish lists so that Finance Director Corcoran can present a budget to Council on December 9th. Viafore stated if Council doesn't meet that schedule, a meeting might be necessary between December 24th and December 31st. Viafore requested that Councilmembers inform staff of their availability for upcoming meetings.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Viafore requested the City Clerk read the consent calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 204967 through Voucher No. 205019 in the amount of \$493,216.58; approval of Payroll Check No. 11427 through Payroll Check No. 11433 in the amount of net amount \$93,176.40; approval of Payroll Check No. 11434 through Payroll Check No. 11439 in the amount of \$6,390.74; approval of Payroll Check No. 11440 through Payroll Check No. 11445 in the amount of \$89,276.59; approval of the October 27, 2014 Special meeting; approval of the October 28, 2014 Regular meeting; and setting a public hearing on November 25, 2014, at 7:15 P.M., to receive comments on the 2014 amendments to the Fircrest Comprehensive Plan.

MOTION

Moved by George, seconded by Medley, to approve the consent calendar as read. Ayes: Reynolds, Viafore, George and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois, Goodsell and Waltier. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Pierce County Countywide Planning Policies

Principal Planner Boers presented a resolution that acknowledges the City's approval of the proposed amendments to the Pierce County Countywide Planning Policies. He indicated that the amendments refine and address annexation of unincorporated areas by adjacent cities and towns. Boers reported that the small group of parcels on 44th Street represent the City's only Urban Growth Area. Boers concluded by stating the amendments move towards a more coordinated effort to eliminate unaffiliated 'islands' and encourage joint planning.

Responding to Viafore, Boers stated this issue did not go before the Planning Commission.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

RESOLUTION NO. 1354

Moved by George, seconded by Medley, to adopt proposed Resolution No. 1354, a resolution acknowledging approval of amendments to the Pierce County Countywide Planning Policies, adding new annexation policies, and authorizing the City Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement; thereby ratifying the amendments. Ayes: Reynolds, Viafore, George and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois, Goodsell and Waltier. Motion carried.

Interlocal Joint Purchasing Agreement with the City of Tacoma

City Manager Rosenblatt stated the Interlocal Joint Purchasing Agreement would provide for the City to purchase goods and services through any of the City of Tacoma's contracts, giving the City better opportunities. Rosenblatt noted the City has existing Interlocal Agreements with various cities that help streamline the purchasing process. He noted that cooperative purchasing benefits both jurisdictions and avoids duplication of work. Rosenblatt concluded by stating this Interlocal Agreement would enhance the City's buying ability by sharing contracts from a larger city's bids.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

RESOLUTION NO. 1355

Moved by Medley, seconded by George, to adopt proposed Resolution No. 1355, a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an Interlocal Joint Purchasing Agreement with the City of Tacoma for the acquisition of various goods and services. Ayes: Reynolds, Viafore, George and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois, Goodsell and Waltier. Motion carried.

Establishment of amount and percentage increase of the 2015 Regular Property Tax Levy over 2014 Regular Property Tax Levy

Corcoran stated that Council is being asked to establish the amount and percentage increase of the 2015 property tax levy over the 2014 property tax levy. She reported that a public hearing was held on October 28, 2014 to consider revenue sources for the 2015 budget. Corcoran concluded by stating that the total amount levied for 2015 is \$1,502,174 which includes an increase in property tax revenue of 1% from the previous year and also includes new construction.

Responding to Reynolds, Corcoran explained the percentage increase of .11312% denotes the dollar amount of the regular property tax levy, excluding values from new construction and increases in the value of property due to improvements.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

RESOLUTION NO. 1356

Moved by George, seconded by Medley, to adopt proposed Resolution No. 1356, a resolution establishing the amount and percentage increase of the 2015 regular property tax levy over the 2014 regular property tax levy. Ayes: Reynolds, Viafore, George and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois, Goodsell and Waltier. Motion carried.

Establishment of amount of the 2015 EMS Tax Levy

Corcoran stated that Council is being asked to adopt a resolution to establish the amount of the 2015 EMS tax levy. She noted that the resolution will allow the City to levy EMS taxes to be collected in 2015. Corcoran indicated that a vote of the people held on August 5, 2014 authorized an EMS property tax levy rate of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for six consecutive years beginning in 2015. She indicated this is the first year of the levy. Corcoran noted that a public hearing was held on October 28, 2014 to consider revenue sources for the 2015 budget.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

RESOLUTION NO. 1357

Moved by Medley, seconded by George, to adopt proposed Resolution No. 1357, a resolution establishing the amount of the 2015 EMS tax levy. Ayes: Reynolds, Viafore, George and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois, Goodsell and Waltier. Motion carried.

2015 Ad Valorem Tax Levy Ordinance

Corcoran stated Council is being asked to fix the annual ad valorem tax levy necessary for the fiscal year 2015. She reported the following totals:

- Total Assessed Valuation for Regular Levy\$622,956,284
- Regular Levy @ approximately \$2.40995 per thousand\$1,501,294
- EMS Levy @ approximately \$0.5000 per thousand\$311,478
- Total approximate \$2.90995 per thousand\$1,812,772

Corcoran concluded by stating the annual ad valorem taxes are fixed by Council through ordinance prior to the submission of the levy amounts to Pierce County to be certified.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

ORDINANCE NO. 1554

Moved by George, seconded by Medley, to adopt proposed Ordinance No. 1554, an ordinance fixing the amount of the annual ad valorem tax levy necessary for the fiscal year 2015 and repealing Ordinance No. 1543. Ayes: Reynolds, Viafore, George and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois, Goodsell and Waltier. Motion carried.

2015 Levy Certifications

Corcoran stated each taxing district is required to file certification with the County Assessor's Office by November 30th. She noted that without the certification, the taxing district is limited to the prior year levy amount, as it lacks authority to impose additional property taxes. Corcoran concluded by stating this motion would authorize the City Manager to sign the levy certification forms.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

MOTION

Moved by George, seconded by Medley, to authorize the City Manager to sign the 2015 regular property tax and regular EMS levy certification forms. Ayes: Reynolds, Viafore, George and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois, Goodsell and Waltier. Motion carried.

Close-Out Change Order #1 and Acceptance of the Golden Gate/Harvard Sewer Project to Nor Tec Construction Inc.

Public Works Director stated the proposal is a request to provide a close-out change order that will result in a net increase to the contract of \$17,591.03. He noted the original contract awarded by Council was \$292,547.63, with an additional \$30,000 contingency allowance. Wakefield stated the additional costs were due to fencing and yard restorations encountered on private property, extension of some of the sewer lines and additional concrete work to enclose the tunnel that was exposed during construction. Wakefield concluded by stating that Nor Tec Construction was a good contractor to work with, straightforward, and finished within the timeframe.

Responding to George's inquiry about the tunnel, Wakefield stated the contractor, during digging, exposed a tunnel four feet tall by approximately five feet wide, at approximately 14 feet deep in an area where there is a storm sewer line. He reported a Geo-engineering firm was hired to assess the situation and they recommended filling the tunnel with concrete to keep the area from failing.

MOTION

Moved by Medley, seconded by George, that the City Council approve Close-Out Change Order #1 to Nor Tec Construction Inc. for the Golden Gate/Harvard Sewer Connection Project increasing the contract total by \$17,591.03 for the project for an adjusted total contract price of \$310,138.66, and authorize the City Manager to sign the necessary documents for acceptance of the project. Ayes: Reynolds, Viafore, George and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois, Goodsell and Waltier. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

2015 Budget

At 7:22 P.M. Viafore opened the public hearing and outlined the format.

Corcoran stated this is the public hearing on the Preliminary 2015 Budget and is the time for citizens to comment on the budget. She reported that the budget was provided to Council on September 23, 2014 and five study sessions on the topic have been held to date. Corcoran stated that a public hearing was held on October 28th regarding revenue sources and tonight is the first public hearing on the 2015 Preliminary Budget with another following on November 25th. She noted there are a total of ten funds totaling \$24,083,351 including the Ending Fund Balance. Corcoran concluded by again stating this is the citizen's opportunity to provide comments to Councilmembers on the 2015 Preliminary Budget.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

At 7:24 P.M. Viafore closed the public hearing.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Rosenblatt reminded Councilmembers that the study session on Monday will be held at the Community Center to provide an opportunity for Council to listen and participate in the Tacoma Schools Wainwright Community Presentation. Rosenblatt cautioned Councilmembers about making public statements that could potentially disqualify a Councilmember in the event that the Conditional Use Permit is appealed to Council.

City Attorney Smith suggested that Council not actively participate or give an opinion in the Tacoma Schools Wainwright Community Presentation. Smith reported that an appeal of the Planning Commission's decision on a Conditional Use Permit or any variances would come before Council, and comments made could potentially prejudice the ability of a Councilmember to serve as a quasi-judicial officer in the event of an appeal.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Responding to Reynolds' inquiry regarding items purchased for the Spirit of Halloween/Haunted Trails, Grover stated some of the items were used for the Pumpkin Patch event and could be carried over and used for next year's Haunted Trails event.

Responding to George's inquiry about the street sweeper, Wakefield reported it sweeps well and picks up debris but the problem is with the hydraulics when dumping the debris. He noted they are able to manually work the mechanism and it hasn't prevented street sweeping to continue. Wakefield further responded that the crew was called out due to problems that occurred from the power failure.

Medley stated that he would like to have a conversation with Council in the future regarding how to recognize individuals such as Ken Still, Roy Murphy and Gene Goodwin.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by George, to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 P.M. Ayes: Reynolds, Viafore, George and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois, Goodsell and Waltier. Motion carried.



David M. Viafore, Mayor



Lisa Keely, City Clerk