

**CITY OF FIRCREST
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015
7:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
FIRCREST CITY HALL, 115 RAMSDELL 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 David R. Goodsell, Hunter T. George, Denny Waltier and Jason Medley were present. Councilmembers Matthew Jolibois and Shannon Reynolds were excused.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

Viafore provided an overview from last week's Mayor's meeting, noting that a lobbyist was present from the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) as well as the Government Relations Director for the City of Tacoma. Viafore reported the lobbyist was encouraged by the action that is continuing on marijuana legislation regarding revenue sharing and a bill regarding the distribution of liquor profits that would utilize the same process. He noted the money would be used to fund law enforcement as the legislators believe that liquor and marijuana issues are directly tied to law enforcement activities. Viafore further noted that the lobbyist and some of the Mayors are concerned about a Senate Transportation Bill that would exempt Washington State Department of Transportation projects from the sales tax, including the local portion of the tax. He reported on their discussion that more thought should be put into the Bill as it would have a significant negative impact on local sales tax revenues. Viafore concluded by stating that AWC might call on all the cities to oppose the Bill if it continues to move forward.

Liquor License Renewal – Pint Defiance

Viafore stated Council was being asked to approve a motion to register no objections to the liquor license renewal for Pint Defiance located on Mildred Street. He noted that the Finance, Planning and Building, and Police Departments have expressed no concerns regarding issuing the license renewal.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

MOTION

Moved by Medley, seconded by Waltier, to register no objections to the renewal of the liquor license for Pint Defiance. Ayes: Goodsell, Viafore, George, Waltier and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois and Reynolds. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION & LIAISON REPORTS

Parks & Recreation

Goodsell stated the Daddy Daughter Dance was successful, was sold out, and everyone had a wonderful time. He commented that pre-selling of the tickets seemed to be the best way for people to get tickets and helped to increase such a successful event. Goodsell reported the department is underway with field work to get ready for the early season sporting events and concluded by stating the t-ball field would be re-grated and re-planted at the conclusion of the season. Following discussion about restoration of the field it was suggested that the Fircrest Golf Club be contacted to inquire if the plugs produced after turf aeration could be made available to use in lieu of re-seeding the t-ball field.

Finance, IT

Medley stated that things are going smoothly in the Finance Department.

Administration

Viafore stated that City Manager Rosenblatt is doing an excellent job, is monitoring the liquor bill, and is making sure that the Directors are implementing their work plans.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Viafore requested the City Clerk read the consent calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 205487 through Voucher No. 205554 in the amount of \$135,847.67; approval of Payroll Check No. 11602 through Payroll Check No. 11607 in the amount of \$6,093.18; approval of Payroll Check No. 11608 through Payroll Check No. 11613 in the amount of \$80,058.83; approval of Payroll Check No. 11614 through Payroll Check No. 11619 in the amount of \$93,106.68; approval of the February 17, 2015 Special meeting minutes and approval of the February 24, 2015 Regular meeting minutes.

Waltier requested that the minutes be withdrawn.

MOTION

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

Waltier stated he wasn't in attendance at either the February 17, 2015 Special meeting or the February 24, 2015 Regular meeting and didn't feel comfortable voting to approve the minutes as presented. Viafore reported that Robert's Rules state that one doesn't need to have attended a meeting to approve the minutes. Waltier stated he couldn't conclude that the minutes were accurate or not if he wasn't in attendance at the meetings. Viafore stated that minutes are prepared to provide a record of action taken at a meeting.

Responding to Viafore, City Attorney Smith stated a quorum is needed to approve the minutes, and not necessarily a quorum consisting of the same members that were at the meeting reflected in the minutes.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

MOTION

Moved by George, seconded by Goodsell, to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2015 Special meeting and the February 24, 2015 Regular meeting. Ayes: Goodsell, Viafore, George and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois and Reynolds. Abstained: Waltier.

Viafore reported that Council rules allow abstentions only if there is a legitimate reason for not voting. Due to the reason provided previously, he stated that Waltier's vote will be counted as voting in the majority.

Ayes: Goodsell, Viafore, George, Waltier and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois and Reynolds. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating a Councilmember for the Board of Commissioners for Pierce Transit

Rosenblatt stated that Nancy Henderson, from the Town of Steilacoom, filled an unexpired term and that term is open for new appointment beginning in May for a three-year period. He stated that Ms. Henderson expressed interest that she would like to continue to serve and was recently nominated by the Town of Steilacoom. Rosenblatt further noted that Reynolds expressed interest in the nomination if someone would care to make a motion.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

RESOLUTION NO. 1372

Moved by Goodsell, seconded by Waltier, to adopted proposed Resolution No. 1372, a resolution to nominate Nancy Henderson from the Town of Steilacoom to serve as a member of the Board of Commissioners for Pierce Transit who will represent the Cities and Towns of Auburn, Gig Harbor, Fircrest, Pacific, Ruston and Steilacoom and will fill a three-year term beginning May 11, 2015. Ayes: Goodsell, Viafore, George, Waltier and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois and Reynolds. Motion carried.

Addendum to the 2015-2020 Region 5 All Hazard Mitigation Plan

Chief Cheesman stated that Council is being asked to adopt the Fircrest Addendum to the Region 5 All Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2015-2020 edition. He noted that the City of Fircrest participated in a Multi-Jurisdictional All Natural Hazard Planning Committee led by the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management (PCDEM). He reported there is no fiscal impact to adopt this plan, noting that the only fiscal impact has been the in-kind contribution of Fircrest staff salaries that participated in the preparation of the Plan during the last three years. Cheesman noted that in 2000, Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, stating that this act requires local governments to have federally approved all hazard mitigation plans in order to be eligible for future pre- and post-disaster mitigation funds. Cheesman reported that a Council Study Session was held on April 15, 2013 to review the all-hazards mitigation plan and noted that Fircrest’s mitigation plan has now been reviewed by the Washington State Emergency Management, and FEMA Region 10, and has been “Approved Pending Adoption.” Cheesman concluded by stating that once Council adopts the Resolution, a copy of the approved Resolution will be sent to Pierce County Department of Emergency Management and it will be placed into our plan and the final version will be given to us.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

Viafore thanked staff for their time spent on document preparation, noting these hazardous mitigation plans are necessary but hopefully won’t be needed.

RESOLUTION NO. 1373

Moved by Medley, seconded by Goodsell, to adopt proposed Resolution No. 1373, a resolution which adopts the Fircrest Addendum to the 2015-2020 Region 5 All Hazard Mitigation Plan. Ayes: Goodsell, Viafore, George, Waltier and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois and Reynolds. Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Rosenblatt provided an update on the AWC scholarship and described the process Reynolds is using for interviewing. He stated a decision would be made to present a nomination to AWC by the March 13th deadline. Rosenblatt reported that Reynolds is attending the National League of Cities conference and would bring back information to make available to Council. Rosenblatt provided updated information on recent voting results in the Senate and House regarding the liquor bills and outlined the next steps in the process. George clarified that not until the bill is accepted in both houses would it be signed by the respective leaders and sent to the governor for signature. Rosenblatt suggested that Council discuss the swimming pool hours, a subject previously brought forward by George. He noted that if a decision is made on the pool hours, it might be warranted to cancel Monday's study session.

Weekend Pool Hours Discussion

George suggested two items for discussion:

1. Because more daylight hours might bring in more users, open and close the pool a little earlier
2. Provide a 50% discount to a user that arrives within one hour of closing, similar to what is implemented by the Metropolitan Parks District

Parks and Recreation Director Grover noted the rate charged to use a Metro Parks pool is approximately \$11.00 per person, and it is \$2.25 per resident at Fircrest and \$4.50 for non-residents. He further noted that the Fircrest swim team uses the pool between 8:00 and 11:00 am, and then every weekend it is blocked out between 11:00 and 1:00 pm for rentals.

Discussion ensued and it was decided to implement Option 1 from Grover's proposal that would provide afternoon sessions from 1:30 to 6:00 pm and an evening session from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. It was suggested that these revised pool hours be advertised in the Town Topics and placed on both the city's website and the reader board.

Viafore invited public comment. None was provided.

MOTION

Moved by Waltier, seconded by Goodsell, to cancel the March 16, 2015 study session. Ayes: Goodsell, Viafore, George, Waltier and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois and Reynolds. Motion carried.

In response to Waltier, Rosenblatt further described the interview process that will be used prior to making a nomination for the AWC Center for Quality Communities Scholarship. Rosenblatt stated that following the telephone interviews, an endorsement letter of the City's nomination would be sent to AWC. Waltier stated he reviewed prior winners and noted the process appeared to be very competitive.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Cheesman stated he asked the officers to observe alleged U-turns that were occurring on S. 19th Street at the TACID exit due to the recently installed traffic safety devices. He noted that four U-turns were observed during three separate time periods.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Viafore reported that at last week's Mayor's Meeting he encouraged Councilmember Lonergan and Randy Lewis to drive Mildred Street between 12th and 19th, and he heard back from one of them who stated that after driving on that street he was surprised about how little use the street was getting, and said that unless going to James Center North he didn't see any reason why anyone would want to drive that street because of its comical layout. Viafore also stated that some of the mayors at that meeting commented that the street looked like a bike lane that started nowhere and went nowhere. Viafore encouraged Councilmembers to drive Mildred from 19th to 12th Street to see for themselves. He stated that one of the attendees at the TCC meeting who was speaking negatively about the traffic issues, and who was a former planner for Pierce County, suggested going back to the plan from the 1970's that allowed an 'entrance only' at TACID and forced exiting onto 12th Street. Viafore concluded with a reminder to Rosenblatt of his previous suggestion that union negotiations get underway with the Fircrest Police Guild in an effort that the contract is completed prior to working on the budget.

George stated there was a good turnout at the TCC meeting and noted that there were a lot of concerns from residents due to frustrations with the current configuration on S. 19th Street. He felt the current stoplight project is an improvement from the first time it was presented due to the current plan to align TCC's driveway with 64th Street. George felt that there could potentially be a lot of traffic onto S. 19th Street and shared concerns expressed about Mildred Street, because no one seems to be using that street, and S. 12th Street is underutilized as well. George stated it appeared that TCC was showing no interest in directing traffic onto streets other than 19th Street, aren't considering alternate options, and voiced appreciation to Rosenblatt and staff for holding firm on the issue and continue to address Fircrest's concerns.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discussion ensued and due to the importance that the entire Council be present, it was determined that the executive session to discuss the City Manager's Performance Evaluation would not be held.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Medley, seconded by George, to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 P.M. Ayes: Goodsell, Viafore, George, Waltier and Medley. Noes: None. Excused: Jolibois and Reynolds. Motion carried.



David M. Viafore, Mayor



Lisa Keely, City Clerk