

CITY OF FIRCREST
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015 **COUNCIL CHAMBERS**
6:00 P.M. **FIRCREST CITY HALL, 115 RAMSDELL STREET**

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Mayor David M. Viafore called the special meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and led the pledge of allegiance. Councilmembers Matthew Jolibois, Shannon Reynolds, and Hunter T. George were present. Councilmembers David R. Goodsell, Denny Waltier and Jason Medley were excused. Goodsell arrived at 6:41 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

Viafore reported that 90 years ago today was the first Fircrest Council meeting, held at the church located at the corner of Dartmouth and Alameda. Viafore stated that location was also where Fircrest's 75th anniversary was celebrated 15 years ago.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON FIRCREST POLICE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Police Chief Cheesman gave a presentation on police department statistics and described the difference between robberies, burglaries and thefts. Cheesman highlighted the following information:

- There were five robberies in 2014, and two were at City Bank
- The number of burglaries went up but the number of thefts dropped - there were 55 burglaries in 2014 compared to 39 in 2013, but many were committed by one individual - in one case three individuals were arrested that were responsible for ten burglaries
- Thefts have dropped to 93 in 2014 from 106 in 2013
- There has been a spike in forgeries/frauds, many resulting from the breach of personal data by hackers that targeted the Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle
- Motor vehicle thefts have decreased in 2014 from 2013
- The number of assaults has dropped; and out of the 32 assaults in 2014, there were 28 arrests
- A large amount of the assaults can be directly attributable to one commercial establishment that now has security measures in place to assist
- Domestic violence calls have increased
- There has been an increase in drug arrests, and possibly due to the legalization of marijuana and edibles
- Accident Investigations have declined, and the numbers of accidents might possibly have been reduced due to forced slowdowns from roadway construction projects in the summer months
- The numbers of Criminal Citations increased from 418 in 2013 to 472 in 2014
- The numbers of Infractions stayed around 3,000, consistent with 2011 and 2013
- The numbers of General and Supplemental Reports stayed approximately the same from 2011 through 2014
- There was a jump in calls for service from 2013 to 2014

Cheesman noted the department has reached out to the residents and it has helped that people are sharing more information. He further stated that the Fircrest crime rate, per capita, is much lower than the adjacent cities of Tacoma and University Place and that overall, things are pretty good in Fircrest.

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Cheesman reported that the Fircrest police department responds to activities that officers in University Place and Tacoma don't. Cheesman noted that the police department consistently publicizes information to the public reminding them to keep their cars and houses locked and stated that a large number of the thefts are preventable if residents would simply lock their houses and cars and not leave valuable items in plain sight. Cheesman concluded by stating the officers are doing more neighborhood patrolling and assigning officers to perform vacation checks.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Goodsell, seconded by George, to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 P.M. Ayes: Jolibois, Reynolds, Goodsell, Viafore and George. Noes: None. Excused: Waltier and Medley. Motion Carried.



David M. Viafore, Mayor



Lisa Keely, City Clerk