

**CITY OF FIRCREST
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**MARCH 30, 2016
6:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
FIRCREST CITY HALL, 115 RAMSDELL STREET**

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

The special meeting began at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Matthew Jolibois and Councilmembers Blake Surina, Brett Wittner, Hunter T. George and Jason Medley were present. Councilmembers Shannon Reynolds and Denny Waltier were excused.

Presentation, discussion and public meeting on the Fircrest Community Center and Fircrest Community Pool Feasibility Study

Parks and Recreation Director Grover stated that Stan Lokting, principal, and his team from A|R|C Architects were present to make a presentation of initial findings and preliminary designs for the Community Center and pool. Grover made opening remarks, recognized former Fircrest Mayor David Viafore and then turned the meeting over to Lokting. Lokting introduced the following additional members of the team: Emily Wheeler, principal; and Matthew Philbrook, designer; Bruce Dees & Associates, landscape architects.

Lokting stated they started working with the City of Fircrest approximately four months ago and were hired to work on a feasibility study for the Community Center and Community Pool. He noted they looked at design options for possible redevelopment of the existing pool and Community Center as well as being tasked with doing the design of one new building. Lokting stated the team has looked at the Community Center and pool and made some important initial analyses that will be developed further as the design is presented to them and would then enable engineering. Lokting stated they met with city staff and a citizen representative in the programming for the Community Center and the pool. Lokting stated that tonight is the first Council meeting and there will be a public meeting next week, followed by another public and Council meeting scheduled in May. Lokting presented a power point presentation with an analysis of the existing building, followed by the programming and floor plans that evolved for the addition and renovation options, a discussion about the pool program and the way the pool design has evolved. Lokting discussed the history of Fircrest and design influences, noting that Fircrest was influenced by the Olmstead brother's work. Lokting stated that the Stanford Campus Plan was a common theme that was used in the City Beautiful Movement, noting that the areas around Spring Lake looked like they were designed with that theme in mind. He further noted that the original building really spoke to a time when modern architecture in the Northwest was becoming prevalent and ideas about modern architecture were influencing design region-wide. Lokting highlighted Walter Widmeyer, the architect that designed the Community Center, a clinic in Fircrest, and his own house in Fircrest, which is a beautiful example of modern northwest architecture. Lokting stated the design team is trying to maintain some of that original architecture. Lokting noted that soils tests have demonstrated that the water level is minus three feet; so in designing the new pool, it would need to be designed to stay in the ground when it is emptied which will be part of the design effort. Lokting indicated the proposed diving board provides enjoyment and has less of the liability issues.

Lokting finished the presentation with perspective views of three options of building additions and renovations. He noted they would propose that the building and pool be built in two phases, so that a new Community Center would be operational before the existing building is torn down. Lokting indicated that cost estimates would be provided in the future.

Discussion followed on parking, building size and the options presented.

Public comments followed

- Concerns were expressed over the cost to Fircrest businesses for the project
- Need for increased security for public restrooms access when the Community Center was not open
- Cost of a large slide at the pool
- Planned use of the property on Electron Way across from the Community Center (the “Fox” property)
- Prioritization of the Park, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan projects and improvements

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.



Matthew Jolibois, Mayor



Lisa Keely, City Clerk