

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

**TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016** **COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**7:00 P.M.** **FIRCREST CITY HALL, 115 RAMSDELL STREET**

---

**CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor Matthew Jolibois called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Blake Surina, Shannon Reynolds, Brett Wittner, Hunter T. George, and Denny Waltier were present. Councilmember Jason Medley was excused.

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT**

Jolibois turned the meeting over to Chelsea Levy, Government and Community Relations with Sound Transit (ST). Levy made a presentation updating the ST2 projects and discussed what is being considered for ST3, which is headed for the ballot next November. Levy noted that one option being considered is running a light rail line up 19<sup>th</sup> Street to the Tacoma Community College. Levy and a ST Senior Planner discussed the \$54.1 billion 2016 levy that is being proposed.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Evan Lee, 514 Ramsdell, Fircrest WA reported on increased water in his yard and inquired if the water is coming from a leak in the pool at the Community Center that he had heard about.

It was requested when the report is finalized by Leak Detection that Evan Lee is contacted and provided the results.

**COMMITTEE, COMMISSION & LIAISON REPORTS**

**Parks and Recreation**

Surina reported on a discussion he had with the public liaison officer from Lowe's Hardware regarding their donation of materials to replace a backstop and indicated he would keep Council updated on his progress. Surina stated he had received a topography map of Tacoma's Holding Basin and indicated that he and Chief Cheesman would soon take a walk through the basin to see if a course could be placed around it. He stated the recently held Go Hawaiian pool party and the Mother Son dance were well attended and the events a success.

**Environment, Planning and Building**

Waltier stated he met with Planning and Building Administrator Stahlnecker who indicated that there is a lot of remodeling activity underway.

**Finance, IT**

George gave an update from the recent Communications Committee meeting, noting that they were currently drafting a social media policy and, if Council was in favor, moving forward with a City Facebook page. He further indicated that an RFQ had been prepared to see what is available and what the costs would be for a new City website. George noted it was hopeful that the RFQ is distributed this week.

**MOTION**

**Moved by Jolibois, seconded by George, that the City to move forward with a Request for Qualifications for a new City website. Ayes: Surina, Reynolds, Wittner, Jolibois, George and Waltier. Noes: None. Excused: Medley. Motion carried.**

**Investment Committee**

Jolibois reported that the Investment Committee met and listened to a presentation from Joe Veliz III and Brian Jacobus. He stated they presented information on a managed bond portfolio. Jolibois stated the Investment Committee was meeting again on June 16<sup>th</sup> to listen to a presentation from Paul Jarvis with Time Value Investments. Jolibois stated that Council will be informed if a decision is made. George stated he was intrigued with what he heard from Veliz and Jacobus but had a concern if the City could invest in a managed bond portfolio.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Jolibois requested the City Clerk read the consent calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 207717 through Voucher No. 207799 in the amount of \$71,802.57; approval of Payroll Check No. 12160 through Payroll Check No. 12166 in the amount of \$92,045.21; approval of Payroll Check No. 12167 through Payroll Check No. 12171 in the amount of \$6,560.83; approval of Payroll Check No. 12172 through Payroll Check No. 12177 in the amount of \$84,797.40; approval of Payroll Check No. 12178 through Payroll Check No. 12192 in the amount of \$97,908.34; setting Budget Study Sessions for September 26, October 3, 10 and 24, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.; setting a public hearing on October 11, 2016 at 7:15 p.m. to receive comments on revenue sources for the 2017 Budget including property taxes; setting a public hearing on October 11, 2016 at 7:15 p.m. to receive comments on the Preliminary 2017 Budget; setting a public hearing on October 25, 2016 at 7:15 p.m. to receive comments on the 2017 Budget; and setting January 17, February 21, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, October 16, November 20 and December 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. as special meeting study sessions

**MOTION**

**Moved by Surina, seconded by Reynolds, to approve the Consent Calendar as read. Ayes: Surina, Reynolds, Wittner, Jolibois, George and Waltier. Noes: None. Excused: Medley. Motion carried.**

**Resolution designating Councilmember Blake Surina and Councilmember Shannon Reynolds as voting delegates for the business meeting at the 2016 Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Annual Conference**

City Manager Rosenblatt stated that Council is being requested to adopt a resolution to designate Councilmember Surina and Councilmember Reynolds as voting delegates. He indicated that no changes are planned to the AWC Statement of Policy for 2016; however, the AWC Bylaws provide for members to propose amendments for action at the business meeting. Rosenblatt stated because of that, Fircrest should have representation at the business meeting.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1429**

**Moved by Wittner, seconded by George, to adopt Resolution No. 1429 designating Councilmember Surina and Councilmember Reynolds as voting delegates from the City of Fircrest for the annual business meeting at the AWC Annual Conference.**

Jolibois invited public comment. None was provided.

**VOTE**

**Ayes: Surina, Reynolds, Wittner, Jolibois, George and Waltier. Noes: None. Excused: Medley. Motion carried.**

**Resolution adopting the 2017 – 2022 Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan**

Wakefield stated that a public hearing was held at the regular City Council Meeting on May 24, 2016. He reported that the Program is not only intended to list and program projects for funding, but to establish City Council approval to submit grant applications on those projects contained in the Program. Wakefield noted that for a project to obtain state or federal funding, it must be included in the City's 6-Year Comprehensive Transportation Program. Wakefield indicated that the adoption of the Program does not irreversibly commit the City of Fircrest to construct the projects, noting that a project may be canceled at any time during the course of study or design. Wakefield reported that the City was in a position to get some funding for one of the items on the list, the grind and overlay on Alameda from 19<sup>th</sup> Street to Regents Boulevard, and stated he would know more after a meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June. Wakefield concluded by stating that the Program may at any time be revised by a majority of the City Council, but only after a public hearing.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1430**

**Moved by Wittner, seconded by Waltier, to adopt Resolution No. 1430 approving the City of Fircrest's Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for the period of 2017 – 2022.**

Jolibois invited public comment. None was provided.

**VOTE**

**Ayes: Surina, Reynolds, Wittner, Jolibois, George and Waltier. Noes: None. Excused: Medley. Motion carried.**

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

Rosenblatt stated that in accordance with state law, a review of the composition of the governing body of Pierce Transit is to be held every four years. He indicated that the review is scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 and inquired if there is a member of Council wishing to participate in the review as a designated elected official from the City of Fircrest. Wittner indicated a desire to attend.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

Cheesman provided a handout regarding an upcoming community conversation about heroin and prescription opiate abuse scheduled on June 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at the Pioneer Park Pavilion in Puyallup. He noted that featured speakers include Caleb Banta-Green from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute at the University of Washington, Ian McKenzie from the Drug Enforcement Administration, Christina Abby from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department and Pierce County Prosecutor Mark Lindquist. Cheesman stated that Councilmembers were welcome to attend.

Finance Director Corcoran distributed a memo and provided a demonstration on how vehicles are purchased and how money accumulates in the Equipment Rental and Replacement (ERR) Fund. Corcoran outlined the history of the useful life of police vehicles since 2012, and noted that in 2016, the useful life of police vehicles was changed to 7 years. Corcoran reported that mid-year 2015, it was requested to replace the 2007 police vehicle due to necessary extensive repairs. She noted, however, that there were insufficient funds accumulated in ERR to purchase a replacement vehicle and that \$11,482 needed to be borrowed from money accumulated for the radars. Corcoran stated that in 2015, during the 2016 budget preparation, a Capital Request was produced to replace the two 2009 Crown Victoria police vehicles in 2016 with two 2016 Interceptors due to the replacement cycle being moved from a ten-year cycle to a seven-year cycle. She noted, however, that there wasn't enough accumulated funds to replace the two 2009 vehicles in 2016; so when the 2016 vehicles were purchased, an additional \$31,000 was borrowed from the generator to purchase the two 2016 vehicles. Corcoran stated the 2009 police vehicles were supposed to be surplus when the 2016 vehicles were purchased. Corcoran stated that each year, replacement money is put in for future vehicle purchases; but in addition to replacement funds, money that was borrowed also needs to be paid back. Corcoran stated that in addition to the \$11,482 that was borrowed to purchase the vehicle in 2015 and the \$31,000 for the two vehicles in 2016, there is another \$42,000 that was borrowed previously to purchase other vehicles for a total owed of \$84,482, and that number does not take into account the amount that needs to be paid into ERR for the replacement costs. Corcoran stated that the annual ERR police contribution for the new vehicles (one 2015 and two 2016) is \$27,952 in 2017, and that figure includes paying back the radars, the generator, and includes money to replace only the new vehicles (one 2015 and two 2016) after their useful life expires. That figure presumes that the 2009 vehicles are surplus when the 2016 police interceptors are purchased.

Corcoran stated she was also asked to provide information on take-home police vehicles without surplus the 2009 vehicles and extending the replacement life to ten years. Corcoran stated in order to replace the 2009 vehicles in three years (ten-year replacement life), \$16,391 needs to be put into ERR every year for each of the 2009 vehicles for the next three years (\$32,782 per year x 3), as there is no accumulated money to replace the 2009 vehicles. Corcoran continued her presentation noting her intent was to provide a general idea of how ERR works and not necessarily to look at specific dollar amounts.

Corcoran concluded with some questions that came to mind when putting the presentation together:

- Will the cars last ten years
- The City of Bonney Lake uses five to six years for the take home life of their vehicles
- There is no funding for the purchase of additional cars
- There would be additional insurance costs
- Who will pay for the gas going to and from work
- There will be increased usage on the cars – tires, mileage, wear and tear, oil change, bridge tolls, travel time, etc.

- What is the benefit to the citizens of Fircrest for police officers to have take-home vehicles when they don't live within the City

Rosenblatt stated the 2009 Crown Victorias need to be replaced. The situation was presented when funding was discussed to replace them, and the Capital Requests included language that the 2009 Crown Victoria vehicles should not be used as a front line pool vehicles due to reliability and dependability issues. Rosenblatt further indicated that information was provided from Paul Deskins, Systems for Public Safety, stating that due to mileage accumulation, the 2009 Crown Victoria vehicles should not be used for police services anymore and should be replaced in 2016. Rosenblatt concluded by stating that due to concerns previously expressed, the two 2009 Crown Victoria police vehicles should no longer be driven and since the 2016 Interceptors have been purchased, they should be put in service and the 2009s surplus to ensure public safety.

Cheesman commented that extensive repairs to a vehicle can sometimes extend the useful life of that vehicle. Cheesman further reported that when Paul Deskins looked at the 2009 vehicles, they were being looked at as pool cars, as those vehicles were oftentimes being driven for 20 hours per day and that was why Deskins reported the way he did. He indicated that assigned vehicles are driven four days per week, they sit the rest of the time, and the ten-year replacement scheduled would be fine. Cheesman concluded by stating that one of the 2016 vehicles that was recently purchased is already in service, the other that was purchased will be in service very soon, and one of the 2009 vehicles is no longer in service.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Surina thanked Corcoran for the presentation. He commented that the remaining baskets were up.

Reynolds requested that the upcoming discussion on marijuana is moved from the June study session to the July study session. Rosenblatt indicated there was no problem from a staff standpoint to move the item to July. Discussion continued and there was agreement that both items are discussed at the June study session. Reynolds asked for a copy of the minutes from the most recent Communications Committee meeting. Reynolds concluded by stating that Western Washington University is looking to create a new curriculum for city elected officials and has put together a short list of approximately eight people, noting that she is one of them to represent small cities.

George stated the Fun Days Committee that has been meeting and Parks and Recreation Director Grover is pulling in vendors – craft vendors, food vendors, bricks for kids, activities, a free climbing wall, etc. – participation from both the Soccer and Kiwanis clubs, entertainment is getting lined up, and discussion about a beer garden. George stated they are making available sponsorship packages for interested parties, noting that a \$500 sponsorship package gets advertising at the pool for the entire summer season. George provided clarification on the reason why the city decided to stretch the replacement life of police vehicles to ten years, noting that money was really tight during the recession and they were trying to maintain city services and avoid layoffs. George stated that reducing the cycle to ten years reduced the annual contribution to ERR and saved money. George concluded by stating the police vehicles are a big expense and are making him nervous.

Waltier complimented Fircrest resident T. J. Hazen, a Tacoma News Tribune All Star Graduate with a 3.9 GPA, who received and accepted a scholarship to attend Harvard University. Waltier stated that T.J. is a wonderful representative for the Fircrest community.

Responding to Jolibois, Cheesman provided an update on meeting with the woman who resides on Harvard Avenue who filed the nuisance complaint. Discussion continued regarding interpretation of the Fircrest Municipal Code in light of the recent nuisance complaints regarding noise, trailers and boats. Jolibois requested that a discussion regarding the nuisance ordinance is held at a future study session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:45 P.M., Jolibois stated that Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed the hour of 9:30 P.M., to discuss Item 14A – Labor Negotiations and Item 14B - to discuss City Manager Performance Evaluation. Jolibois stated the City Manager was invited to attend.

At 9:27 P.M. Jolibois reconvened the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by George, seconded by Reynolds, to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 P.M. Ayes: Surina, Reynolds, Wittner, Jolibois, George and Waltier. Noes: None. Excused: Medley. Motion carried.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Denny Waltier, Mayor Pro Tempore

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Lisa Keely, City Clerk