

CITY OF FIRCREST
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2017 **COUNCIL CHAMBERS**
7:00 P.M. **FIRCREST CITY HALL, 115 RAMSDALL 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 stated that Potential Litigation would be added to the Executive Session with possible action to follow.

Jenny Stryker, Harry Wayward and Christine Gregorich, from WeDig Fircrest, responded to Council's request for additional information regarding Community Garden water and fencing costs, garden maintenance, agreements for a garden, the design process and building a garden, a financial plan and deconstruction costs.

Public comment was given by the following individuals:

Marge Nestegard, 344 Contra Costa Avenue; Rachel Shirreff, 1207 Contra Costa Avenue; Ken Coffel, 417 Spring Street; Eleanor Coffel, 417 Spring Street; Brent Tornquist, 1054 Berkeley Avenue; Jacob Stonefeld, 1211 Buena Vista Avenue; Kathy Owens, 545 Forrest Park Drive; Gil Gray, 421 Electron Way; Lynn Morasch, 710 Spring Street; James Callow, 534 Forrest Park Drive; Katie Dorsey, 546 Forrest Park Drive; Elaine Rogers, 429 Spring Street; Michelle Johnson, 428 Spring Street; Chad Johnson, 428 Spring Street; Carlos Diaz, 5206 66th Avenue Court West, University Place; representative from Fircrest Presbyterian Church, 1250 Emerson Street.

Discussion continued and Councilmembers expressed both why they were against and in support of Community Gardens.

Jolibois requested a roll call consensus for a Community Garden to be located in Whittier Park adjacent to Spring Street.

Ayes: None. Noes: George, Reynolds, Surina, Waltier, Wittner and Jolibois. Excused: Medley. Consensus: No.

Jolibois requested a roll call consensus for a Community Garden to be located in Fircrest Park adjacent to Spring Street.

Ayes: Surina, Wittner and Jolibois. Noes: Reynolds, Waltier and George. Excused: Medley. Consensus: No.

At 8:30 p.m. Jolibois stated that Council would take a five-minute recess.

At 8:35 p.m. Jolibois reconvened the meeting.

Liquor License Renewal – Royal Thai Bistro

Jolibois stated Council was being asked to approve a motion to register no objections to the liquor license renewal for the Royal Thai Bistro.

Rosenblatt stated the Royal Thai Bistro liquor license was up for renewal and noted that there were no problems regarding liquor sales at this restaurant. Rosenblatt concluded by recommending approval by Council.

MOTION

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Wittner, to register no objections to the liquor license renewal for the Royal Thai Bistro.

Jolibois invited public comment. None was provided.

VOTE

Upon vote, motion carried unanimously. Excused: Medley.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION AND LIAISON REPORTS

Pierce County Regional Council

Reynolds provided a detailed report from the Pierce County Regional Council meeting of April 20, 2017. She highlighted concerns expressed by City Manager John Caulfield regarding the proposed changes by the Puget Sound Regional Council relative to the requirements for Regional Growth Centers designations. She reported that Caulfield, and other cities within Pierce County, are urging the Pierce County Regional Council (PCRC) to take no action on the proposed changes and also that the PSRC considers preferred alternatives. Reynolds provided copies of letters written by City Manager Steve Sugg, University Place; Lindsey Schmel, GMCC Chair; and Bruce Dammeier and Douglas Richardson, Pierce County Executive and Council Chair recommending that the action item is tabled. Reynolds concluded by noting that an ad hoc informational committee was established and feedback is being requested, in writing, to Pierce County Regional Council Clerk Cindy Anderson within two weeks.

Discussion ensued and there was consensus that a letter is sent in support of the concerns expressed by the cities of University Place and Lakewood.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Jolibois requested the City Clerk read the consent calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 209241 through Voucher No. 209241 in the amount of \$2,270.57; approval of Voucher No. 209242 through Voucher No. 209311 (void 209190); approval of Payroll Check No. 12622

through Payroll Check No. 12629 in the amount of \$101,240.89; approval of the April 11, 2017 Regular meeting minutes; approval of the April 17, 2017 special meeting minutes; setting Budget Study Sessions for September 25, October 2, 9, and 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.; setting a public hearing on October 10, 2017 at 7:15 p.m. to receive comments on revenue sources for the 2018 Budget including property taxes; setting a public hearing on October 10, 2017 at 7:15 p.m. to receive comments on the Preliminary 2018 Budget; setting a public hearing on October 24, 2017 at 7:15 p.m. to receive comments on the 2018 Budget; setting January 16, February 20, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19 and December 17, 2018 at 6:00 pm as special meeting study sessions.

MOTION

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Wittner, to approve the consent calendar as read. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Award of a contract to KPG, P.S., for design and bidding of the Traffic Signal Safety Improvement Project

Public Works Director Wakefield stated that Council is being asked to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Local Agency A&E Professional Services Agreement with KPG for providing final design and bid call services for the Traffic Signal Safety Improvement Project. He noted that this contract has been reviewed and approved by WSDOT as it is required to be per their contract requirements. Wakefield stated that the agreement amount will result in a not-to-exceed budget of \$39,990.06, this cost is included in the grant monies for this project and has been obligated through the WSDOT. Wakefield concluded by noting that because this phase has been obligated prior to August 2017, there are no match monies needed from the City and the entire cost is funded by the grant.

RESOLUTION NO. 1477

Moved by George, seconded by Waltier, to adopt Resolution No. 1477 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Local Agency A&E Professional Services Negotiated Hourly Rate Agreement with KPG, P.S. for providing final design and bid call services for the Traffic Signal Safety Improvement Project in the amount of \$39,990.06.

Staff responded to Council inquiries.

VOTE

Upon vote, motion carried unanimously. Excused: Medley.

Award of a contract to Pape & Sons Contractors, LLC in the amount of \$411,685 for the Alameda Lift Station Project

Wakefield stated it is proposed that the City of Fircrest award the contract for the Alameda Lift Station Project to Pape & Sons Contractors, LLC for a total project cost of \$365,500.00, plus a contingency amount of \$10,000.00, for a total amount of \$411,685.00. He reported that by this action, the Council gives authorization to prepare and execute contract documents, and give the low bidder a “Notice to Proceed” with the work detailed in the plans and specifications. Wakefield reported that five bids were received, and this bid was evaluated and found to be a good bid. Wakefield noted, however, that the bid exceeded the engineer’s estimate and that was the reason why he provided the summary from the engineer explaining the differences. Wakefield concluded by stating that Pape and Sons is a contractor that has worked for the City in the past and has provided the City with a good product and a fair price.

MOTION

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Surina, to authorize the City Manager to award the contract for the Alameda Lift Station Project to Pape & Sons Contractors, LLC for \$365,500.00 plus sales tax, plus a contingency amount of \$10,000.00, for a total of \$411,685.00 to prepare and execute the required contract documents, and to give the “Notice to Proceed” to commence construction of the project.

Staff responded to Council inquiries.

VOTE

Upon vote, motion carried unanimously. Excused: Medley.

Introduction of an ordinance authorizing emergency expenditure of funds for matters not foreseen at the time of filing the Preliminary Budget for 2017 and not provided for in the Annual Budget for 2017

Corcoran stated that tonight is the first reading of a Budget Amendment for appropriations for anticipated revenues and expenditures not foreseen at the time of filing the 2017 Preliminary Budget and not provided for in the Adopted 2017 Budget. She noted that the fiscal impact of this proposal would be increases in expenditures with corresponding increases in revenue or corresponding decreases in undesignated fund balances. Corcoran highlighted the appropriations and stated that this proposal will also provide necessary budget to match the actual Beginning and Ending Fund Balances.

Responding to Jolibois, Rosenblatt reported that the second reading will occur at the May 9th regular Council meeting.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Rosenblatt recommended that George contact City Manager John Caulfield regarding items on the PSRC horizon.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmembers thanked members in the audience for their attendance at tonight's meeting.

Waltier called attention to recent newspaper articles regarding the deconstruction of homeless camps in Tacoma and asked that the police department remains vigilant within the City of Fircrest and suggested that a policy is in place regarding homelessness in Fircrest. Waltier concluded by thanking Grover for his inclusion of the P-1's in the last General Update.

George thanked Council for the thoughtful and meaningful discussion regarding Community Gardens.

In response to Wittner, Wakefield stated that numerous phone calls had been received regarding the recent rate increase and staff has done a decent job of explaining the situation. George suggested that in the next utility bills a follow-up message is included identifying the projects that will be anticipated for the next six years.

Reynolds stated she wasn't done troubleshooting or researching the Community Garden issue and wants to make a garden work, but not at the expense of people's strong feelings. Reynolds concluded by stating that she will continue to remain sensitive to the issue, will come up with thoughts and ideas, and won't let the issue drop.

Surina stated the Emerson sidewalk project is looking great. Surina expressed a desire that the lights at 67th Street and Regents will soon be better synchronized and concluded by noting that the Regents Boulevard Island in that area is causing some traffic concerns. Surina suggested that a plan is presented in the future to address the issues.

Jolibois inquired if there had been any reports, SEPA documents, or communications from Tacoma about the cold storage warehouse that is under construction on Orchard Street. Rosenblatt indicated that information about this project had previously been provided to Council but he would follow up on the subject with the Planning and Building Administrator. Jolibois asked if there was interest to move forward with construction of a building containing a garage/concession stand/restrooms/office in Fircrest Park designed around the Olmsted heritage. Surina inquired if there was Council interest for him to reach out to the Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks to ask if there was someone available to design this building, pro bono. Discussion continued and there wasn't interest to move forward in asking for a design for a future building in Fircrest Park.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jolibois stated that Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session at the hour of 9:25 p.m., not to exceed the hour of 9:45 P.M., to discuss potential litigation. The City Attorney was invited to attend. Jolibois stated that it is anticipated that Council would take action at the conclusion of Executive Session.

Council reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

MOTION

Moved by George, seconded by Surina, to accept the termination, release and settlement agreement between Fred E. (Rick) Rosenblatt and the City of Firecrest and authorize the Mayor to sign such agreement and related documents.

George thanked Rosenblatt for his years of service and wished him the best.

Reynolds commented that she isn't opposed to the settlement terms but was not in support of the termination.

Waltier thanked Rosenblatt for his years of service and appreciated his acquaintance and support.

Jolibois invited public comment.

VOTE

Ayes: Surina, Wittner, Jolibois and George. Noes: Reynolds and Waltier. Excused: Medley. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Waltier, to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 P.M. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.



Matthew Jolibois, Mayor



Lisa Keely, City Clerk