

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

City Clerk Nappi called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers David M. Viafore, Shannon Reynolds, Brett Wittner, Blake Surina, Hunter T. George, Denny Waltier, and Jamie Nixon were present.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Suspension of Rules for Agenda Item #4

Nappi reviewed the process for the selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore based off the information Council received from Council's Rules of Procedures on Election of Officers and from Robert's Rules of Order relating to Nominations, Elections, and Voting. Nappi stated if Council concurred, two motions would be required: the first motion to suspend Council's Rules and Procedures for this item of business, and the second motion to adopt the procedure option for selecting a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore.

Viafore MOVED that Council suspend its Rules and Procedures for Agenda Item 4 A, B, and C – the Selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore; seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried Unanimously.

George MOVED that Council adopt the procedure option for election of a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore as listed in the information submitted by the City Manager using a majority rule; seconded by Waltier. The Motion Carried Unanimously.

B. Selection of Mayor

Nappi opened the floor for nominations for the position of Mayor for a two-year period:

- Viafore nominated Councilmember Hunter T. George
- Reynolds passed
- Wittner passed
- Surina passed
- George passed
- Waltier passed
- Nixon passed

Nappi closed the nominations. **Viafore MOVED to appoint Councilmember Hunter T. George to the position of Mayor of the City of Fircrest City Council for a two-year term effective immediately; seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried Unanimously.**

C. Selection of Mayor Pro Tempore

George stated that the selection of the Mayor Pro Tempore for the two-year term would follow the same procedure as the one for selection of the Mayor, and opened the floor for nominations:

- Viafore nominated Councilmember Denny Waltier
- Reynolds passed
- Wittner passed
- Surina passed
- George passed
- Waltier passed
- Nixon passed

George closed the nominations. **Viafore MOVED to appoint Councilmember Denny Waltier to the position of Mayor Pro Tempore of the City of Fircrest City Council for a two-year term effective immediately; seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried Unanimously.**

George briefed the Council on anticipated opportunities and challenges he anticipated the City being involved in.

D. 2018 Liaison Assignments

George asked for any objections to deviate from the Council Rules and Procedures as it related to Liaison Assignments as the organization structure do not complementary pair together. No objections were made, and George announced the 2018 liaison assignments:

- Administration: George and Waltier
- Environmental, Planning and Building: Reynolds
- Finance, IT, Facilities: Nixon
- Parks and Recreation: Wittner
- Street, Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain: Surina
- Police, Courts: Viafore

Viafore commented on the working relationship between the Administration team and Tacoma Community College as it related to the traffic issue.

CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

George invited public comment. The following individual provided public comment:

- Yolonda Brooks, 6448 19th St. W., Fircrest, WA commented she would like to be part of the Tacoma Community College discussion.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION AND LIAISON REPORTS

None provided.

CONSENT CALENDAR

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 210560 through Voucher No. 210634 in the amount of \$169,991.99; approval of Voucher No. 210635 through Voucher No. 210664 in the amount of \$78,047.39; approval of Payroll Check No. 13033 through Payroll Check No. 13036 in the amount of \$5,830.38; approval of Payroll Check No. 13037 through Payroll Check No. 13042 in the amount of \$86,748.64; approval of Payroll Check No. 13043 through Payroll Check No. 13048 in the amount of \$93,804.24; and approval of the December 26, 2017 regular Council meeting minutes. **Wittner MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried Unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARING

A. Proposed Solid Waste Rate Adjustment

At 7:27 P.M., George opened the public hearing and invited public testimony. City Manager Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed new solid waste rates due to the disposal fee adjustment and the annual CPI adjustment. Pingel indicated that Neil Holden from Westside Disposal was in the audience and available for questions, and stated that the ordinance

establishing the adjusted solid waste rates would be brought to the January 23, 2018 meeting for Council consideration. George invited public testimony; none were provided.

At 7:28 P.M., George closed the public hearing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Ordinance: FMC Title 22 Land Development Regulations 2017 Update

George requested a motion to take Ordinance No. 1611 from the table. **Viafore MOVED to take Ordinance No. 1611, amending Fircrest Municipal Code Title 22 Land Development Regulations 2017 Updates, from the table; seconded by Waltier. The Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Planning and Building Administrator Stahlnecker briefed the Council on the proposal to amend zoning and subdivision regulations contained in various chapters of Fircrest Municipal Code (FMC) Title 22 Land Development. Stahlnecker stated that based on the direction by the City Council at the December 12, 2017 meeting, proposed changes to automotive repair and changes to height limits in the R4-C had been removed from the draft ordinance. After a brief discussion on the Administrative Use Permit (AUP) public comment period and notice to nearby property owners, Pingel clarified that changes to the AUP public comment period and notice to nearby property owners were not part of the proposed amendments that was put before the Council and that staff could return to Council at a future meeting with proposed amendments to the AUP process.

George requested a motion to amend Ordinance No. 1611 as presented by staff, which include removal of the proposed changes to automotive repair and changes to height limits in the R4-C. **Surina MOVED to amend Ordinance No. 1611, amending Fircrest Municipal Code Title 22 Land Development Regulations 2017 updates as presented by staff; seconded by Wittner.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. George requested a Roll Call Vote: Voting aye – Nixon, Surina, Waltier, Wittner, George (5); Voting nay – Reynolds, Viafore (2). **The Motion Carried 5-2.**

George invited public comment on Ordinance No. 1611 as amended; none were provided. George invited councilmember comment on Ordinance No. 1611 as amended; the following councilmembers provided comment:

- Viafore requested the following comments to be reflected in the minutes: *“I will be voting no for the sole purpose that this streamlined process to save developers and applicants money at the expense of taxpayers is not appropriate in my mind. If we would have allowed the changes that I was proposing would be beneficial but this actually lowers the bar of public involvement and that disturbs this elected official. Thank you.”*
- Reynolds provided comment, concurring with Viafore.
- Nixon stated he would vote in favor of the amended ordinance as he was confident the proposed amendments to the AUP process would be returned to Council in a timely fashion.
- Waltier stated he would not be in favor of the amended ordinance as he hoped it would prompt the proposed amendments to the AUP process to return to Council.

- George stated he would vote in favor of the amended ordinance as staff had been directed to return to Council with the proposed amendments to the AUP process.

George requested a Roll Call Vote to adopt Ordinance No. 1611 as amended: George requested a Roll Call Vote: Voting aye – Nixon, Surina, Wittner, George (4); Voting nay – Reynolds, Waltier, Viafore (3). **The Motion Carried 4-3.**

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution: Pierce County Regional Council Appointments for 2018

Pingel briefed the Council on the Pierce County Regional Council (PCRC) appointments for 2018. **Viafore MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1518, appointing Councilmember Shannon Reynolds as representative to the Pierce County Regional Council, and further appointing Councilmember Jamie Nixon as alternate representative to the Pierce County Regional Council for 2018; seconded by Waltier.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried Unanimously.**

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Pingel indicated that there was a vacancy for the Other Cities and Towns in Pierce County alternate representative to the Puget Sound Regional Council, and called attention to the third quarter report and annual lawsuit report that had been distributed to councilmembers as well as the preliminary information on potential tax levy rates. Pingel briefed the Council on the anticipated Community Center and Pool project items to be brought forth at the January 23, 2018 meeting. There was a brief discussion on whether the Community Center and Pool project items should be addressed in special meetings as well as on the project steering committee and project funding opportunities. Council requested weekly updates on the Community Center and Pool project as well as a regular update item on the Council agenda.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Stahlnecker briefed the Council on the upcoming joint Council/Planning Commission meeting, Emerson Courtyard street trees, and short-term rentals public notification. Stahlnecker informed the Council that the City had been awarded the platinum award for the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department Healthy Cities Communities 2017 Award for the Fircrest Emerson Sidewalk project.
- Parks and Recreation Grover briefed the Council on the pool repair status, stating that the investigation is in process, which once complete, would guide the City towards a repair solution.
- Chief Cheesman reported on recent police shootings, commenting on Pierce County Deputy Daniel McCartney's fatal shooting on January 7, 2018.
- Public Works Director Wakefield briefed the Council on the Water Main Replacement on Ramsdell, stating that the project is out for bid, with the bid opening scheduled for January 30, 2018 and construction tentatively beginning in March. Wakefield also reported that the left-turn signal project at Alameda and Emerson will be implemented by March.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

The Council congratulated George on his appointment to Mayor, welcome newly elected Councilmember Nixon, and thanked the audience for their attendance. Additional councilmember comments included:

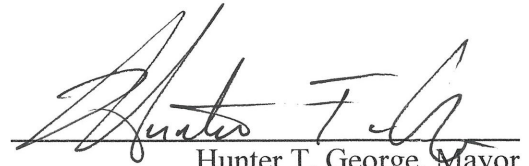
- Viafore informed the Council of the new business in the City called Costless Pharmacy, and commented on the City of Tacoma effort to seek authority to annex Point Ruston and sought input from Council on a proposed resolution of support for the City of Ruston's effort. There was a general consensus to support small cities as it was agreed that this situation could set a serious precedent that could impact the City of Fircrest and other small cities. Viafore inquired about the Crawford v. Town of Fircrest case, to which City Attorney Smith provided a background.
- Reynolds commented on establishing the City's goals and shared hers, which included standard operating procedures for the Parks and Recreation Department and electronic payment systems.
- Surina commented on the recent passing of Dr. Terry Torgenrud and possibly revisiting the library district participation issue.
- Waltier commented on the meeting's discussion and provided background information on the library district participation tax impacts, and thanked the Council for their support in appointing him as Mayor Pro Tempore.
- Nixon expressed his appreciation for being allowed to serve as a Councilmember, and commented on Pierce County Deputy McCartney's fatal shooting and thanked the Fircrest Police Department for their service.
- George commented on Pierce County Deputy McCartney's fatal shooting and thanked the Fircrest Police Department for offering their assistance. George congratulated Waltier on his appointment to Mayor Pro Tempore and thanked Councilmembers for appointing him as Mayor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Reynolds MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 P.M., seconded by Wittner. The Motion Carried Unanimously.


Hunter T. George, Mayor


Jessica Nappi, City Clerk