

**CITY OF FIRCREST**  
**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2017** **COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**6:00 P.M.** **FIRCREST CITY HALL, 115 RAMSDELL STREET**

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

Mayor Matthew Jolibois called the special meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and led the pledge of allegiance. Councilmembers Blake Surina, Shannon Reynolds, Brett Wittner, Hunter T. George, Denny Waltier, and Jason Medley were present.

**AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

There were none.

**PRELIMINARY 2018 BUDGET – 3<sup>rd</sup> BUDGET WORK SESSION**

Interim City Manager McDonald provided comments on strategic issues as it relates to the General Fund, property tax limitations, and Enterprise Funds. McDonald stated with limited and depleting revenues, the City should consider strategies to take pressure off the property tax as well as leveraging opportunities as referenced in the Levy Rate Limitations handout. McDonald stated that indexing utility rates is a good operations and maintenance practice, and even though the City has good debt capacity, it still needs a revenue source to service it. McDonald stated that there is a need to build capital reserves and asset management.

Finance Director Corcoran briefed the Council on the adjustments to the Preliminary 2018 Budget handout, which included changes to the revenues, expenditures, and undesignated fund balances of the following funds: all funds, General, Street, Storm, Water, Water Capital, Sewer, Sewer Capital, and ERR. Corcoran stated beginning fund balances and rollover projects in all funds will be reflected in the final adjusted budget for Council adoption. McDonald stated that this is a conservative, maintenance of effort budget while staying within projected revenues and budgeted resources.

There was a brief discussion on the proposed Police Sergeant promotion, with McDonald stating it would be a good business practice to have two sergeants on staff in order to maintain a good level of supervision. There was a discussion on local improvement districts and extending sewers as well as the grind and overlay project of Berkeley and Buena Vista and a comprehensive and coordinated effort as it relates to utilities; McDonald recommended the Council consider this topic for a 2018 work session. Public Works Director Wakefield recommended that the Berkeley and Buena Vista project not be indefinitely delayed as once the road surface fails, the project will turn into a costlier rebuild instead of a grind and overlay project.

After some discussion, the Council achieved a consensus to remove the following items from the Preliminary 2018 Budget:

- West entrance traffic island relocation: \$10,000
- Grind and overlay of Berkeley and Buena Vista: \$65,000
- Street beautification (landscaping services for improving the traffic islands): \$25,000

Medley requested a consensus to remove the proposed \$2,000 appropriation for the Council laptops/tablets; a consensus was not achieved and the item at that amount remained in the preliminary budget.

There was a brief discussion on the ERR schedule on whether the 2018 budget maintains the seven-year schedule or if it changed to the ten-year schedule; McDonald stated the 2018 budget maintains the seven-year schedule and changing the policy to a ten-year schedule would require Council action. Corcoran recommended this topic be discussed at a Council work session in early 2018. Council requested that the discussion to move to a ten-year schedule occur sooner and asked staff to provide a cost/benefit comparison between a seven-year and a ten-year ERR schedule by the next Council meeting; Corcoran stated that would be possible. Council expressed concern regarding no ERR funds were being set aside for the 2009 and 2011 vehicles. After a question regarding the liability of the two 2009 vehicles, McDonald stated that he was concerned with meeting the requirements of the Guild contract and that by purchasing the two vehicles in 2018, the City would be in compliance with the contract.

Jolibois expressed concerned over the conditions of the soccer fields and asked if staff could investigate a maintenance of efforts action plan to aerate, weed, and seed the fields.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Reynolds Moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 P.M., seconded by Waltier. The Motion Carried Unanimously.**

  
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Hunter T. George, Mayor

  
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Jessica Nappi, City Clerk