

CITY OF FIRCREST
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2016 **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, Denny Waltier and Jason Medley were present.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION & LIAISON REPORTS

Parks & Recreation

Surina provided an overview of the following:

- Fall events that were occurring at the Community Center
- Information on the new park structures that will be constructed in the Tot Lot
- Strategies regarding updates to the basketball hoops at Whittier
- Staff is proceeding with finding out where the water leak in the pool might be
- Ideas he had regarding remodeling the Community Center
- Updates and replacements to the big toy in Fircrest Park and a walking path from the Community Center to the play structure
- A letter he wrote to the University of Washington Tacoma's Urban Planning Department requesting assistance from any student or staff that would like to be involved in a project looking at Fircrest's history

Environment, Planning, Building

Waltier called attention to the upcoming public hearing regarding marijuana and stated he was hopeful that the public hearing would be well advertised and that the community is made aware of the issue. Waltier concluded by noting there are discussions underway in Planning and Building regarding future development along South 19th Street and Mildred Street.

Finance, IT

George stated that Rosenblatt and Finance Director Corcoran would be presenting the 2017 Preliminary Budget tonight. George provided an update on the efforts of the Communications Committee to select a company to design the City's new website. He reported that Site Crafting, Inc. and CivicPlus provided bids in response to the Request for Proposals and outlined each company's experience and talents. George highlighted the process used by the Committee in its selection and reported that Site Crafting, Inc. was their choice. George concluded by stating that in addition to an agreement being brought to Council there will also be the necessity for a budget amendment, including \$1,200 for a contingency for necessary changes, with funds from the General Fund Ending Fund Balance.

MOTION

Moved by George, seconded by Wittner, to authorize the City Manager to proceed with negotiating a contract with Site Crafting Inc. for the City's website.

Jolibois invited public comment. None was provided.

VOTE

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

Jolibois requested the City Manager read the consent calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 208164 through Voucher No. 208234 in the amount of \$103,215.41; approval of Payroll Check No. 12356 through Payroll Check No. 12360 in the amount of \$5,861.10; approval of Payroll Check No. 12361 through Payroll Check No. 12366 in the amount of \$87,540.21; approval of the August 23, 2016 Regular City Council meeting; setting a public hearing on September 27, 2016 to receive comments on amendments to Fircrest Municipal Code Title 22 regarding marijuana regulations; and setting a public hearing on September 27, 2016 to receive comments on amendments to the Capital Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

MOTION

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance granting a ten-year nonexclusive franchise to Comcast to provide cable services

City Manager Rosenblatt stated that Council was being asked to adopt an ordinance granting a ten-year franchise to Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC to provide cable television services. He noted the ordinance had first reading at the August 23, 2016 meeting and is on for final reading tonight.

ORDINANCE NO. 1580

Moved by Medley, seconded by Wittner, to adopt Ordinance No. 1580 granting a ten-year franchise to Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC to provide cable television services.

Jolibois invited public comment. None was provided.

VOTE

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

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of the 2017 Preliminary Budget

Rosenblatt presented the budget, as required by law, noting the budget now belongs to Council for decision making. Rosenblatt highlighted the following:

- The budget is balanced – operating revenues cover the operating expenses
- Includes a 2% COLA
- Includes a 10% medical premium contribution by employees
- Includes water, sewer and storm rate increases
- Includes the addition of a storm utility tax
- Includes reimbursement of ½ of a gym membership up to \$25 per month for all employees
- Includes improvements to the Parks storage garage and repairs to the Whittier gazebo roof
- Includes a grant writer (Planning and Building Administrative Assistant increased to full time to fulfill these additional duties)
- Includes improvements to the Public Works facility (carpet, vinyl flooring)

Rosenblatt stated that staff would be asking for consensus for any changes to the preliminary budget and concluded by stating he was hopeful that the budget would be adopted at the November 8th meeting.

Resolution authorizing a subscription and service agreement with eCivis

Rosenblatt reported that Council is being asked to authorize entering into an agreement with eCivis, Inc., that will allow Fircrest staff to access numerous sites to provide for grant applications.

RESOLUTION NO. 1438

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Medley, to adopt Resolution No. 1438 authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with eCivis, Inc., for a subscription to their grant search software and other services from September 14, 2016 through September 13, 2017.

Jolibois stated he spoke with Planning Commissioner Ken Halgren regarding heritage corridor designations, and that the heritage of Fircrest is a story. Jolibois stated that Halgren's opinion is that if the City received the heritage corridor designation, grants would be easy to focus on and target. In response to Jolibois, Rosenblatt indicated he has spoken with Halgren, but wasn't sure that there was a route that would qualify Fircrest as a heritage corridor designation.

Staff responded to Council regarding Fircrest receiving designated as a heritage corridor.

Jolibois invited public comment. None was provided.

VOTE

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

Motion confirming the City Manager's appointment of Joe Harrison to the Civil Service Commission

Keely stated that Council is being asked to confirm the appointment of Joe Harrison to the Civil Service Commission effective September 13, 2016. She reported that appointments to the Civil Service Commission are made by the City Manager subject to confirmation by Council in accordance with the FMC and RCW 41.12. Keely noted that Harrison has served as a Commissioner since 1995 and with this confirmation will continue to provide continuity to the Commission.

MOTION

Moved by Medley, seconded by Wittner, to confirm the City Manager’s appointment of Joe Harrison to the Fircrest Civil Service Commission effective September 13, 2016 through September 13, 2022.

Jolibois invited public comment. None was provided.

VOTE

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

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Rosenblatt received confirmation that Council would like food from a variety of restaurants for the budget study sessions. Rosenblatt thanked the Eaton Family LLC for their generous contribution to Fircrest for the City of Fircrest to use as a contribution to the City of University Place for the Mildred Street grant match. Rosenblatt received support from Council that a discussion is held at Monday’s study session regarding nuisance code language as well as a discussion about drones. George also asked that a discussion is held sometime soon regarding using a hearings examiner.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Parks and Recreation Director Grover provided an update on the Tot Lot Play Equipment replacement project and the proposals that were submitted in response to the City’s Request for Proposals. Grover concluded by reporting that an agreement would be brought forward for the vendor selected to replace the playground equipment at the September 27th regular meeting.

Police Chief Cheesman provided an update on traffic control following the opening of Whittier Elementary, and noted that he met with Principal Basil regarding some of his concerns. Cheesman stated that Kiwanis raised enough money at the Fun Days spaghetti feed to be able to satisfy their donation for the Tot Lot grant project and said he would be submitting a check. Cheesman reported that Amy Blair, Chief for a Day, judged the pet contest this year. Cheesman concluded by providing a copy of the National Night Out book that was going to be sent to the national organization.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council expressed condolences to Medley due to the passing of his father.

Surina reported on attending the grand opening of the movie that was produced by Fircrest residents. He expressed hope that they could be promoted in Fircrest in some way. Surina concluded by stating he would like to bring Fircrest historical memorabilia to a future Council meeting.

Wittner alerted Cheesman and Grover that the Whittier PTA is instituting a Fun Run as a fund raiser in Fircrest. Wittner reported their goal is to have both a 5k and a one mile race.

George thanked Jolibois for creating the Communications Committee and noted it was ironic that the Communications Committee failed to communicate effectively with a couple of its members, noting it won’t happen again. George recommended that the Communications Committee get back together and

discuss where to go next. George reported that Joenah, the 18-minute movie about bullying that was filmed at the Fircrest pool, has been released. George suggested that information be provided about it on social media. George stated he was asked by a resident of the City about regulations regarding boarding houses and indicated he reached out to Planning and Building Administrator Stahlnecker to see if there was something that could be done, as the resident indicated it is very disruptive to the neighborhood. George stated that Stahlnecker provided him with a copy of the City of Lakewood's regulations regarding boarding houses and noted that she is going to further look into it to see if there is teeth in Fircrest's codes to enforce this kind of situation. George asked that consideration be given to reverse the Council consensus regarding freezing the City Manager's ability to surplus the 2009 police vehicles. George stated that the original policy and Council's original position aren't being followed. George noted he wanted to float a motion for Council consideration; but due to the upcoming Executive Session, requested that when Council convened into Executive Session that it be announced that Council might take action at the conclusion of Executive Session. Responding to Jolibois, George replied the expediency of his request is that Council's position is being undermined in live negotiations; and it is costing money, as apparently money was spent for repairs on one of the 2009 vehicles. George stated he didn't understand why that had occurred. George stated he went along with the prior decision but no longer wished to do so and believes it isn't a good place to be in with Council's position in negotiations.

Waltier thanked George for chairing the Communications Committee and coming up with the plan for a new website. Waltier stated he appreciated George's efforts in working with Stahlnecker and requested that liaisons to the departments are consulted.

Medley congratulated George for his efforts on the Communications Committee and concluded by stating he appreciated everyone's comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:59 P.M. Jolibois reported that Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed the hour of 8:50 P.M., to discuss Item 14A – Labor Negotiations. Jolibois noted the City Manager was invited to attend. It was stated that action may occur at the conclusion of the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by George, seconded by Medley, to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 P.M. Ayes: Surina, Reynolds, Wittner, Jolibois, George, Waltier and Medley. Noes: None. Motion carried.



Matthew Jolibois, Mayor



Lisa Keely, City Clerk