

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

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

**AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

There were none.

**POLICE REPORT: 2017 STATISTICS PRESENTATION**

George stated he would allow public questions after the conclusion of the presentation and council comments. Police Chief Cheesman provided an overview of officer assignments, community outreach efforts and events, and partnerships, and presented the Police 2017 Statistics, which included crime statistics from 2014-2017 on:

- Burglary, thefts, fraud, motor vehicle thefts and recoveries, and alarms:
  - Cheesman indicated there were fewer robberies and fewer porch thefts; however Cheesman stated that many of the thefts from vehicles that were left unlocked.
  - Viafore and Cheesman noted that even though many jurisdictions do not investigate frauds at certain minimum thresholds, Fircrest investigates these cases. Cheesman indicated 19 fraud cases were assigned last year to the detective and out of the 19, 16 had arrests.
  - Motor vehicle thefts continued to decrease and motor vehicle theft recoveries increased.
  - Alarm calls increased, which were mainly due to false alarms.
- Assaults, domestic violence, malicious mischief, drug arrests, and 911 hang ups:
  - Assaults and domestic violence reported calls continue to decrease. Cheesman indicated that due to the increase in 2016 in domestic violence calls, the Department partnered with the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center to direct victims to guidance and resources and has since seen a decrease in related calls.
  - Malicious mischief and drug arrests incidents continue to decrease.
- Accident investigations, driving under the influence (DUI) arrests, driving while license suspended (DWLS) arrests, and criminal citations:
  - There was a significant increase in accident investigations, mainly due to distracted driving. Cheesman indicated that the Pierce County Traffic Safety Task Force has been in discussions of allocating more resources to educate the public on distracted driving.
  - Cheesman indicated the number of DUI arrests were decreasing due to the increased availability of ride-sharing services and public awareness.
  - Improved technology and a proactive police force contributed to the significant increase in DWLS arrests.

- **Infractions:**
  - A significant increase in infractions in 2017 from 2,578 in 2016 to 3,979 in 2017. Brief discussions included misconceptions about police statistics, perceptions about police presence, the City's reputation for enforcing traffic laws, a public education component, and commending the Police Department for their work in 2017 while being short-staffed.
- **Suspicious person(s)/vehicle(s):**
  - Calls for suspicious person(s)/vehicle(s) have increased in 2017, with most coming from citizens reporting suspicious activity.
- **Supplemental and general reports:**
  - Cheesman indicated these were reports written by the police officers of all crimes committed and were mostly criminal in nature. Cheesman indicated supplemental reports were increased and concerned him as they are time consuming and investigative in nature.
- **Calls for service:**
  - Calls for service increased significantly in 2017 from 5,275 in 2016 to 6,332 in 2017, mainly due to citizens feeling comfortable reporting suspicious activity. A brief discussion included public education on when it would be appropriate to call 911 or the non-emergency phone number.

Cheesman briefed the Council on Department goals in progress, which included real-time crime mapping, cataloguing cameras, citizen checks, and coffee with the Chief, and reminded citizens to report suspicious activity. There was a brief discussion on the real-time crime mapping and House Bill 3003/Initiative 940. George thanked the public for their attendance and invited public comment; none were provided.

## **EQUIPMENT RENTAL AND REPLACEMENT DISCUSSION**

Finance Director Corcoran provided a background on how Equipment Rental and Replacement (ERR) worked and briefed the Council on replacement funding, repairs and maintenance, interest and overhead, and use of accumulated interest. Corcoran presented the ERR Interest Balances, ERR by Department, and the police take-home 7-year life (5 vehicles) versus 10-year life (9 vehicles).

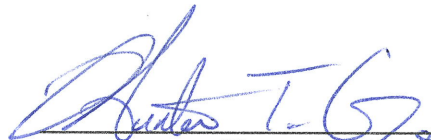
A brief discussion included the growth and necessity of ERR as well as financial strategies. Pingel provided a background and benefits for the police vehicle take-home/assigned policy and the 7-year life (5 vehicles) versus 10-year life (9 vehicles) comparison. Pingel indicated the take-home/assigned vehicle policy would extend the life of the police vehicle and that by moving to a 10-year replacement schedule, the City's ERR contribution would be lower per vehicle/per year and recommended moving to a 10-year replacement schedule starting in the 2019 budget. Further discussion included how the take-home/assigned police vehicle policy and extending the replacement schedule would be mutually beneficial to the City and Police Guild and evaluation strategies to maintain the 10-year life expectancy of the assigned vehicles.

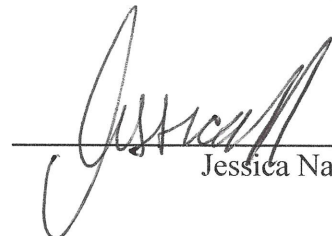
**COMMUNITY CENTER AND POOL PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE CHARTER**

Pingel briefed the Council on the draft Fircrest Pool, Community Center and Parks Steering Committee charter. Pingel indicated that the citizen committee would help guide the decisions as the project moves through the design phase and provide recommendations to the Council for its consideration. Parks and Recreation Director Grover briefed the Council on the list of stakeholders and groups to consider for participation in the Committee. A brief discussion included ensuring representation of all areas and demographics in Fircrest and how the Committee would evolve and grow as the project develops. Pingel indicated that unless the Council had objections, the draft charter would be on the March 27<sup>th</sup> agenda for Council consideration. Further discussion included the role of the Committee, Council's participation on the Committee, and the Council liaison's role on the Committee. George indicated he preferred appointing three councilmembers to the Committee and one alternate. Pingel indicated that there would be two presentations to Council and two public meetings tentatively scheduled through August 2018 regarding the schematic design process.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Viafore MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 P.M., seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

  
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Hunter T. George, Mayor

  
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Jessica Nappi, City Clerk