

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tempore Denny Waltier 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, and Blake Surina were present. Mayor Hunter T. George was absent and excused.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Community Center and Pool Update

Parks and Recreation Director Grover briefed the Council on the pool status, providing a background on repairs performed to date and stating the pool leaked 10,500 gallons over a 24-hour period on April 16, 2018. Grover indicated further repairs were made and staff observed a 10,008 water loss over a 24-hour period ending the afternoon of May 22, 2018. Grover indicated they could not determine the source of the leak, and confirmed that KPG had performed a ground penetrating radar and found no major voids and no indication of where the water was escaping from. City Manager Pingel indicated the pool was set to open on Saturday and requested Council feedback on their comfort level given the loss levels. Pingel stated staff had discussed with the City's insurance and they confirmed the City was insured for injuries. There was a brief discussion to possibly close the pool for the season due to financial, environmental, water conservation, and safety concerns. Grover indicated staff would continue to work with KPG to explore all avenues of repairs and would prepare an analysis of costs associated with the water loss. Pingel indicated the City would lose two seasons due to project construction and bond timeline, and indicated he was comfortable opening the pool as staff and the engineers had done its due diligence regarding assessing the pool leak and associated risk. After a brief discussion, there was a general consensus to open the pool for a month and staff was directed not to sell season passes until staff returned to Council for a reassessment of the water loss and to immediately close the pool should there be any indication of immediate risk. **Viafore MOVED to set a special meeting on Monday, June 4, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. for the sole purpose of pool discussion; seconded by Wittner.** Waltier invited council comments; Reynolds inquired about Council being notified if there was an immediate risk that would cause the pool to be closed. Waltier invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

B. Planning Commission Appointments

Waltier asked for a motion confirming the Mayor's appointment of Sarah Hamel to the Planning Commission, **Wittner moved to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Sarah Hamel to the City of Fircrest Planning Commission effective May 23, 2018 through June 15, 2021; seconded by Nixon.** Waltier invited councilmember comment; Viafore stated his concerns regarding the process, stating there should have been a checks and balance of administration and legislation in the review of candidates. Viafore inquired why the Planning and Building Liaison was not involved in the selection process. Wittner indicated he was asked by George to participate in the interview process as the Planning and Building Liaison was not available to attend the interviews, and spoke of the qualified candidates. Reynolds stated she was unavailable to attend the interviews due to work, and indicated she received a week's notice and was told by staff that teleconferencing would not be an option. Reynolds indicated she would not vote in favor due to the process concerns. Nixon stated he would be voting in favor of the Mayor's appointments as he deemed the candidates qualified and trusted the due diligence of George and Wittner. Waltier stated that he was disappointed that the candidate he recruited was not selected and indicated that he understood that although this candidate did not interview well, his heart was all Fircrest. Waltier indicated he would not vote in favor of both candidates as he was concerned about the absence of the Planning and Building Liaison in the

process. The Motion Failed (3-3) with Reynolds, Viafore, and Waltier casting the dissenting votes.

Viafore MOVED to confirm the Mayor’s appointment of Karissa Carpenter to the City of Fircrest Planning Commission effective June 16, 2018 through June 15, 2024; seconded by Nixon. Waltier invited councilmember comment; none were provided. Waltier invited public comment; none were provided. The Motion Failed (3-3) with Reynolds, Viafore, and Waltier casting the dissenting votes.

Due to the time, Waltier proceeded to the Public Hearing at 7:44 P.M.

CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Waltier invited public comment. None were provided.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Parks and Recreation

Wittner reported that the Mother/Son dance was a success and that the post event P-1 report would be issued soon. Wittner indicated staff was in the planning stages of the summer car show, and reported on the status of the tennis courts resurfacing project and Whittier Park irrigation.

B. Pierce County Regional Council

Reynolds indicated that the May 17, 2018 Pierce County Regional Council (PCRC) meeting was canceled, and stated the Zoo Board revised bylaws would be coming before the PCRC at a future meeting.

C. Public Safety, Court

Viafore reported staff was continuing to work with Ruston on the provision of municipal court services, and stated that he, the Court Administrator, Judge Miller, reviewed RFP submittals for collections and would be performing interviews soon. Viafore indicated the City would be possibly making changes to its collection process as the City’s collection rate averaged 35%. Viafore commented on his disappointment with the Tacoma School District regarding their decision to not budget for a crossing guard at Whittier Elementary School on Alameda Avenue, and indicated the City Manager was in communications with the school district to mitigate the problem. Wittner commented on his recent observations of the implementation of pedestrian hand-held crosswalk flags in Spokane.

D. Street, Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain

Surina reported that it was National Public Works Week and commended the Public Works staff for their efforts. Surina indicated the flower hanging baskets would be up in time for Memorial Day and the dead trees on Emerson Street would be replaced. Surina stated staff was participating in the update to Pierce County’s countywide emergency plan, and staff was in discussions with the City of University Place regarding the traffic signal timing at Alameda Avenue and Regents Boulevard to address the back-ups at that intersection. Surina indicated that the Drake Street Lift Station project was underway and would be complete in 14-16 weeks. Viafore commented on his observations of the traffic back-ups on south 67th Avenue W. and confirming the need to address the problem.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Waltier requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 211225 through Voucher Check No. 211313 in the amount of \$313,241.34; approval of Payroll Check No. 13152 through Voucher Check No. 13156 in the amount of \$106,759.44; and approval of the April 24, 2018 regular Council meeting minutes. **Reynolds MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Surina. The Motion Carried (6-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

A. 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program

At 7:44 P.M., Waltier opened the public hearing. Public Works Director Wakefield briefed the Council on the draft 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), stating the TIP was a guidance document throughout the budgetary planning process, would also serve as the adopted priority array of projects to be completed in the future, and that it would be included in regional and State planning documents as well. Wakefield indicated the TIP would provide staff with a guidance document to apply for grant opportunities and/or loans in the future as opportunities arise. Waltier invited public testimony; Yolonda Brooks, 6448 19th Street W., inquired when residents would be informed of the Sound Transit project on 19th Street. Pingel indicated he had been in communications with Sound Transit, who indicated the public outreach on this project was slated for several years out, and stated that staff would inform residents of the project once information became available. Reynolds indicated she would inform the City Manager once information became available through her role on the Pierce County Regional Council. Viafore inquired about the emphasis on bike lanes for the roadway improvements project on Alameda Avenue; Wakefield referred to a Council adopted streetscape standards document, stating element would comply with the WSDOT complete streets requirement as well as increase the City's opportunity for grant funding. Viafore recommended staff transmit letters to the residents of the 1300 block of Buena Vista Avenue in 2019/2020 regarding sewer improvements; Wakefield indicated this project was deferred for the purpose of working with residents. Surina inquired about the timing of improvements made during the Wainwright construction and the Alameda Avenue from Regents Boulevard to S. 19th Street project; Wakefield indicated Wainwright advanced its timeline and were required to do the necessary frontage improvements, and that the City received a grant from Puget Sound Regional Council for 2019 for the preservation of that roadway. At 7:56 P.M., Waltier closed the public hearing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Amendments to F.M.C. Sections 22.07.004 and .005, Type II-A Public Notices

Planning and Building Stahlnecker briefed the Council on the proposed to amendments to Fircrest Municipal Code 22.07.004 and .005, related to Type II-A Public Notices, which would increase the minimum distance of public notice for commercial projects to 300 feet from 100 feet and increase the minimum comment period from 10 days to 14 days calendar days. Stahlnecker clarified language on administration interpretations, stating were not project based and, as such, would not require notice. Viafore inquired why a public hearing was held and whether the two councilmembers who were absent at the public hearing were eligible to vote on the item; Stahlnecker indicated it was a legislative public hearing and City Attorney Smith stated the Council present could vote on the item as it was a non-quasi-judicial item. **Viafore**

MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1615, amending Fircrest Municipal Code 22.07.004 and 22.07.005, related to public notices for Type II-A projects; seconded by Reynolds. Waltier invited councilmember comment; Reynolds thanked staff for putting this item forward as it served to increase transparency. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

B. Amendments to F.M.C. Section 22.58, Accessory Building Setbacks

Stahlnecker briefed the Council on the proposed to amendments to Fircrest Municipal Code 22.58.003, Accessory Buildings as it relates to rear and side setbacks, which would reduce the minimum “rear yard” setback of a through-lot to five feet if no building permit required, reduce the minimum setback for side street side yard to five feet if no building permit required, and increase the interior side yard setback and rear yard setback from three feet to five feet. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1616, amending Fircrest Municipal Code 22.58.003, related to accessory building setbacks; seconded by Nixon.** Waltier invited councilmember comment; none were provided. Waltier invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

C. Fircrest Soccer Club Field Use Agreement

Grover briefed the Council on the proposed agreement between the Fircrest Soccer Club and the City of Fircrest that would address fees, materials and hours of usage in order to offset city expenses, protect turf fields, and minimize the impact to adjacent residents. Grover recommended approval as the agreement would provide clear expectations between the City of Fircrest and the Fircrest Soccer Club on field maintenance, policies and rules, fees and charges, and liability. Surina inquired about the fee structure; Grover indicated the existing fee structure was carried over into the agreement and the per team fee was increased to cover field maintenance costs. Grover indicated staff was working on the schematic design of the irrigation at Whittier Park and that he was coordinating with the Fircrest Golf Club to aerify the fields. **Viafore MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1532, authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement between the Fircrest Soccer Club and the City of Fircrest for the use of Fircrest and Whittier Park Soccer Fields from July through December 2018; seconded by Reynolds.** Waltier invited councilmember comment; Viafore commended staff for the preparation of the agreement and inquired about the term of the contract. Pingel indicated the term was as such to provide both parties more time in the event of adjustments. Viafore inquired about billing and whether it would be based off the final roster; Grover stated the Fircrest Soccer Club could be billed immediately after their season started. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

D. Senior Bus Purchase

Finance Director Corcoran briefed the Council on proposed purchase of a 14 passenger bus to replace the current senior bus. Corcoran indicated the low bid came in at \$55,575 plus tax and was within the budgeted amount of \$60,000. Corcoran indicated the current senior bus would be traded in and lower the total of the purchase price by approximately \$1,500. Corcoran stated that the City’s purchasing policy required Council approval and award for any bid award for a purchase over \$20,000. **Viafore MOVED to authorize the City Manager to purchase a 14-passenger bus from Northwest Bus Sales for the amount of \$55,575 plus sales tax; seconded by Reynolds.** Waltier invited councilmember comment; Wittner inquired about the bus type and use. Corcoran indicated it was a new, Ford bus from the Starquest series, and stated while the bus did not have a lift in it, staff was going to have back-up cameras installed on it. Viafore provided a background on the historical use of the current senior bus and commented on potentially expanding services for seniors and teens, and Surina recommended

budgeting to retrofit the new bus to make it handicap accessible. Waltier invited public comment; Yolonda Brooks, 6448 19th Street W., inquired about the eligible age for senior programs. Grover indicated the Department was in the process of rebranding the senior program to a more active adult program and was inclusive. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Pingel reported that he had toured Wainwright Intermediate School for a possible location for the Council workshop and requested Council to set the meeting. **Viafore MOVED to set a special meeting of the Fircrest City Council on June 18, 2018 at 4:00 P.M. for the purpose of a Council Workshop at Wainwright Intermediate School, 130 Alameda Avenue, Fircrest, WA; seconded by Reynolds.** Waltier invited councilmember comment; Reynolds indicated she might be ten to fifteen minutes late. Waltier invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

Pingel reported that a public meeting on the community center and pool project would be held on May 29, 2018 at the Community Center at 6:00 P.M. Pingel indicated the he was coordinating with the City’s bond counsel on bond reimbursement options and would be bringing forth a resolution would be brought forth for Council consideration at its June 12, 2018 regular meeting. Pingel thanked the Council for the pool discussion and for providing direction on moving forward. Viafore requested factual information on the current status of the pool be presented at the June 4, 2018 special meeting. Waltier inquired if a concept had been developed; Wittner indicated no concept had been developed as the Steering Committee had discussions on location and design elements. Wittner stated there was a general consensus to keep the pool in the existing location and the next steps after the May 29, 2018 meeting would include the design of the pool.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Wakefield reported that staff would be placing barricades in preparation for the Contra Costa grind and overlay project and that it would be completed in one day prior to the pool opening. Wakefield indicated notices had been distributed to nearby residents.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Surina thanked the public for their attendance.
- Wittner commented on his disappointment in the Council regarding the Council’s action on the Planning Commission nominees, stating he took a half day off from work and volunteered his time when the Mayor had asked him to step in and assist with conducting the interviews for the Planning Commission vacancies. Wittner indicated it was a unanimous decision on the selection of the two nominees for the Mayor to nominate and stated the Planning Commission vacancies served as a problem as there was a major fast food chain application going before the Planning Commission shortly. Wittner indicated had the Mayor been present, it would have been a 4-3 vote in favor of his nominations and the Planning Commission vacancies would have been fulfilled. Wittner commented that if he was one of the candidates who wished to serve their community and witnessed what had transpired at the Council meeting, he would not be interested in serving in that capacity any longer.
- Reynolds reported that the City typically budgeted for designated voting delegates to attend the AWC Annual Conference and confirmed that the designation of voting delegates would be on the June 12, 2018 budget. Reynolds referred to a submitted letter from a 7th grade student regarding the pedestrian crossing 67th Avenue W and Regents Boulevard.

May 22, 2018

Fircrest City Council Meeting Minutes – Regular 6

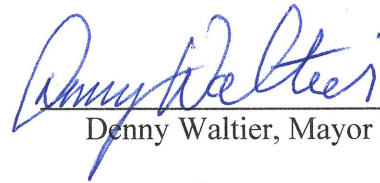
- Viafore thanked Wakefield and the City Clerk for their work on the Transportation Improvement Plan document and the golf club for assisting with the turf preparation. Viafore indicated Mr. Highland was retiring and suggested sending a letter of appreciation to the board regarding the relationship Mr. Highland had with the City. Viafore inquired about the Emerson Court tree planting; Pingel indicated June 1, 2018.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Reynolds MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 P.M., seconded by Surina. The Motion Carried (6-0).



Denny Waltier, Mayor Pro Tempore



Jessica Nappi, City Clerk