

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

Mayor Hunter T. George called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 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.

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT****A. Community Center and Pool Project**

Parks and Recreation Director Grover reported that staff was preparing with ARC Architects for the upcoming January 17, 2019 meeting of the Pool, Community Center, and Parks Steering Committee and for the January 23, 2019 public meeting. City Manager Pingel reported that the capital campaign consultant, Linda Kaye Briggs would be holding internal interviews with councilmembers and staff to get feedback on the case statement that would go out to potential donors. Pingel stated that the capital campaign team included George, Pingel, Briggs, Grover, and the City's Grant Writer, Julie Ryan. There was a brief discussion on the development, process, and purpose of the case statement. Waltier inquired if other key community members and the Steering Committee would have an opportunity to provide feedback on the case statement; Pingel confirmed yes. Viafore requested the Council adopt the case statement before it was finalized; Pingel and George indicated that the capital campaign team would finalize the case statement after obtaining feedback and consensus from the Council as the case statement would be utilized for donors and public education, and that it could be approved by Council if they preferred. Viafore inquired about the January 17 and January 23, 2019 meetings; Pingel indicated the meetings would provide more information about the design development and updated bond payment estimates. There was question whether the Steering Committee had expired at the end of the 2018 calendar year per the Council Rules; Pingel indicated he would review and report back. Pingel briefed the Council on the updated bond estimated payment options for a \$13.5 million bond, stating one option included funding \$8.5 million in 2019 for the pool and \$5 million in 2022 for the community center, which would have a property tax levy of \$272 per year on property owners with assessed values of \$400,000. Pingel indicated that this information would be presented at the upcoming public meetings. Reynolds inquired about the flexibility of bond issuance and whether the City could choose not to move forward with the second bond if there was economic instability; Pingel stated that bond payments were set once they were issued and the City would have the choice to issue and/or when to issue the second bond. Viafore inquired about the timing of the community center, Pingel indicated it would depend on the success of the capital campaign efforts, stating he hoped donations would sustain the project until 2022 when the second issuance of bonds would be needed. George briefed the Council on a project timeline, stating he anticipated the design documents for the pool would be completed this summer for construction to begin in the fall and completion in summer 2020 and that the design documents for the community center construction would begin soon after the completion of the pool with construction beginning in 2021. Pingel indicated the construction would be dependent on funding availability before the second issuance of bonds would be needed, and that once each bond was issued, the City would have three years to spend it. Surina inquired if any accommodations would need to be made regarding the state capital funds; Pingel indicated no. Waltier recommended updating the City's website as it pertained to recent Council actions on the project.

Wittner **MOVED** to set a special meeting of the City Council on January 17, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at the Roy H. Murphy Community Center, 555 Contra Costa Avenue, Fircrest, Washington for the Pool, Community Center, and Parks Steering Committee; seconded by Nixon. George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**B. 2019 Council Liaison Assignments**

George stated for the record the Council liaison assignments for the 2019 calendar year:

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

**CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

George invited public comment; none were provided.

**COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS**

**A. Administration**

Waltier had no new updates.

**B. Environment, Planning and Building**

Reynolds had no new updates.

**C. Finance, IT, Facilities**

Nixon had no new updates.

**D. Other Liaison Reports**

There were none.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 212392 through Voucher Check No. 212429 in the amount of \$21,301.94; approval of Voucher No. 212430 through Voucher Check No. 212457 in the amount of \$81,768.92; approval of Payroll Check No. 13533 through Payroll Check No. 13536 in the amount of \$5,711.78; approval of Payroll Check No. 13537 through Payroll Check No. 13542 in the amount of \$88,188.08; approval of Payroll Check No. 13543 through Payroll Check No. 13547 in the amount of \$99,188.51; approval of the December 26, 2018 regular Council meeting minutes; and setting a special meeting of the City Council on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 6:00 P.M at the Roy H. Murphy Community Center, 555 Contra Costa Avenue, Fircrest, Washington for the sole purpose of discussing the Fircrest community center and pool project. **Reynolds MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Surina.** George inquired whether further action was required regarding the Scribner’s error on the consent calendar as written; City Attorney Smith stated that the motion upheld the consent calendar as read. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

None scheduled.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Bond Measure for April 2019 Special Election**

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed ordinance that, if approved, would place the bond proposal on the April 23, 2019 Special Election ballot for voters to consider financing up to \$13.5 million for the rebuild of the City’s pool, bathhouse, community center, and certain parks projects. Pingel indicated that, if approved, the bond would authorize issuance of \$13.5 million of general obligation bonds maturing within 25 years and authorize the annual levy of excess property taxes to pay such bonds. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1631, providing for the submission to the voters of the City at a special election to be held on April 23, 2019, of a proposition authorizing the City to issue its general obligation bonds for pool, community center and parks projects, in the principal amount of no more than \$13,500,000 payable by annual property tax levies to be made in excess of regular property tax levies, and to levy those excess property taxes; seconded by Waltier.** George invited councilmember comment; Reynolds commented on her concern regarding voter turnout for an April election and building a capital campaign. Viafore inquired about the proposed ordinance, Section 7 of the ordinance, and election costs funding; City Attorney Smith recommended deferring to the City’s bond attorney and Finance Director Corcoran confirmed funds had been included in the budget. Surina inquired about what the City and City Council were permitted to do regarding the ballot measure; Pingel indicated City resources could only be used to provide facts and that elected officials were permitted to have an opinion, and to heed the City Attorney’s advice. Wittner inquired about the pamphlet statement; George stated it was prepared by a committee coordinated by the Pierce County Auditor’s office. George and Wittner thanked Council and everyone for their work on this project. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

With no objections from Council, George reordered the Tacoma Fire Department Contract Amendment agenda item to immediately proceed after the Bond Measure for April 2019 Special Election agenda item.

**C. Tacoma Fire Department Contract Amendment**

Tacoma Fire Department Assistant Chief to the Chief, Budget and Finance, Michael Fitzgerald, briefed the Council on the proposed contract amendments to the fire services agreement, stating that the proposed penalties and fees would include: lift assistance penalty, false fire alarm penalty, and commercial fire protection systems compliance fee. There was a brief discussion regarding the minimal impact it would have on Fircrest residents and businesses. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1572, authorizing the City Manager to amend the fire services agreement with the City of Tacoma Fire Department for fire services; seconded by Nixon.** George invited councilmember comment; Surina inquired how these penalties and fees would impact his business. Fitzgerald stated although there was not a fire inspection fee, there was a system compliance and fire suppression fees

and that businesses would still be required to follow state and county fire codes. Viafore commented on the good faith relationship the City has with the Tacoma Fire Department and hoped that fees would continue to be affordable, and stated he was in support of the proposed contract amendments. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0)**. Tacoma Fire Department Medical Services Officer, Mary Hallman, addressed Surina and commented on Fire Extinguisher Self-Inspection Program, and stated she would provide more information to councilmembers regarding this program.

**B. 2019 Pierce County Regional Council Appointments**

Pingel briefed the Council on the Pierce County Regional Council (PCRC) appointments for 2019. Reynolds commented on continuing to build a rapport on the regional forum and stated she was willing to continue representing the City, and Nixon stated he was willing to serve as alternate. **George MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1571, 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 2019; seconded by Wittner.** George invited councilmember comment; Waltier thanked Reynolds and Nixon. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0)**.

**D. Drake Street Lift Station Project Close-Out**

Public Works Director Wakefield briefed the Council on request to provide a “close-out” change order that would result in acceptance of the contract amount of \$415,111.05 and extend the completion date to November 14, 2018. Wakefield indicated that by this action, the completed project would be considered accepted. Wakefield stated that the original contract awarded by Council was for \$404,981.50 with an additional \$10,000 contingency allowance for unforeseen problems encountered during construction, and that the completed project exceeded the amount awarded by \$129.55. **Reynolds MOVED for the City Council to approve Close-Out Change Order to Pape & Sons Construction, Inc. for the Drake Street Lift Station project for the total contract price of \$415,111.05 including tax and acceptance of the project; seconded by Surina.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; there were none. **The Motion Carried (7-0)**.

**E. Police Vehicles Purchase**

Corcoran briefed the Council on the request to purchase two new police vehicles to replace the two 2009 police vehicles, stating the total price for the two vehicles was \$61,984 and that the budget included \$100,000 in the General Fund to purchase and outfit the vehicles. Corcoran indicated the vehicles would still need to be outfitted with emergency equipment and that the overall costs would most likely be within budget. **Reynolds MOVED to authorize the City Manager to purchase two 2019 Ford Police Interceptors from Corwin Ford for the amount of \$61,984.00 plus sales; seconded by Waltier.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0)**.

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

Pingel publicly thanked the City’s bond underwriter, Jim Nelson, for his timely response on the update to the estimated bond impacts.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

- Chief Cheesman commented on recent incidents, which included an update on a robbery incident and cleanup on the site at Orchard and 40th. Wittner commented on the sling-shot incident, and Cheesman provided an update on that incident as well.
- Wakefield provided an update on the clean-up efforts from the recent wind storm, stating staff was advising residents to contact Westside Disposal for pickup of their debris. Wakefield commented on Golf Course grade and drainage issues and that staff was working with them on installing a catch basin; Viafore asked for clarification and Wakefield stated this would be at the developer's expense and that he had notified them that their diversion effort would not be an acceptable alternative.
- Grover provided a brief update on the Park's effort to clean-up the parks from the wind storm. George inquired when the new Community Events Coordinator would start; Grover indicated she would begin on January 14, 2019.

**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

- Viafore commented on his excitement regarding the ballot bond measure, commended staff for their clean-up efforts, and commented on his concerns regarding dead trees on the Golf Course site and the impact they could have on the right-of-way.
- Reynolds thanked Council for their endorsement to the PCRC, and inquired if the FEMA class would be impacted by the furlough from the federal government shutdown; Pingel indicated he had not received any updates on the class being canceled. Viafore commented that it was scheduled on the same date as the City Council/Planning Commission joint meeting. Pingel stated he intended on scheduling the emergency management training as originally intended for the September 2018 study session for a future meeting.
- Wittner thanked the audience for their attendance and recognized former Fircrest resident, Aaron Best, head football coach at Eastern Washington University, who recently commented on his residency in the City of Fircrest on the radio.
- Waltier provided no comments.
- Surina commented on what the Council had accomplished thus far and thanked Council and staff for the progress. Viafore commented that the Chick-fil-A franchise appointed a Fircrest resident as the franchisee.
- Nixon commented on the upcoming bond measure and stated he believed there would be a good turn-out. Viafore inquired if the pre-paid ballot postage would continue this year; Nixon provided some background and Viafore inquired if the City could provide funding for the postage.
- George thanked the audience for their attendance and commented on his appreciation for what was accomplished in 2018.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

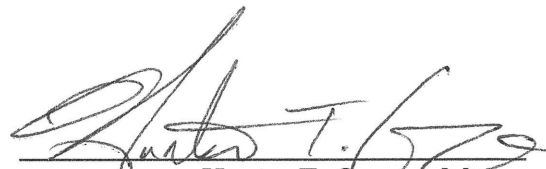
At 8:28 P.M., George reported that Council would take a four minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed the hour of 9:02 P.M., to discuss the performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110. George noted that only councilmembers would convene into Executive Session and that no further action would take place other than adjournment.

At 8:59 P.M., George extended the Executive Session, not to exceed the hour of 9:10 P.M.

The Council reconvened into regular session at 9:13 P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Reynolds MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 P.M., seconded by Waltier. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

  
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Hunter T. George, Mayor

  
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Jessica Nappi, City Clerk