

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. Presentation by Tacoma Community College President Dr. Harrell

Tacoma Community College (TCC) President Dr. Harrell provided a brief presentation on recent updates, enrollment statistics, and highlights of its signature programs, support programs, and educational opportunities. Dr. Harrell invited the community to an event the college would be hosting on January 30, 2019, entitled "TCC Future Summit", to obtain guidance and feedback from the community regarding the direction of the college. After a brief discussion on the background of the naming of the community college, regional soccer center, on campus housing, TCC's early learning center, the Council thanked Dr. Harrell for his presentation and Dr. Harrell stated he was committed to strengthening the relationship with the City and looked forward to discussing partnership opportunities.

B. Community Center and Pool Project

George indicated New Business Item A (Capital Campaign Consultant Agreement) would be moved up after the debriefing of the community center and pool project by Parks and Recreation Director Grover. Grover stated staff was working with ARC Architects on the project timeline as it moved forward into design development, indicating an environment site assessment was scheduled in the coming week and that the next meeting of the Steering Committee was tentatively scheduled for the third week of January 2019. Viafore inquired about the purpose of the Committee; George indicated the Committee would assist with the educational campaign. City Manager Pingel briefed the Council on the project costs and draft special election ordinance, stating that the updated project costs reduced the total project costs from \$18.5 million to \$18 million, which decreased the bond request from \$14 million to \$13.5 million due to reduced storm retention requirements. Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed parks projects under the bond, stating the parks projects could be funded depending on bond funding availability and prioritization, and that the ball field adjustments would need to be a priority due to the proximity of the new community center. Viafore inquired about the paved paths project; Grover indicated the project was part of the Fircrest Comprehensive Park, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) and would complete ADA compliant accessible routes within the park. Viafore commented on his concern about the 26-year bond period in the proposed bond language; Pingel stated the time period was for the total time of the phased bond issuance approach with an extra year added as advised by the City's bond counsel. There was a brief discussion on improving the bond language to clarify the 20-year bonds and the importance of the educational campaign, and Pingel requested additional information from Council before the proposed ordinance would be brought for Council consideration at the January 2019 meeting; Viafore requested updated project costs and traffic impact fees. George requested Council to forward questions and comments to Pingel before the January meeting, and inquired about the tax impact from the phased bond issuance approach; Pingel indicated that the phased issuance of bonds approach was for the costs to be consistent throughout the life of both bonds.

C. Capital Campaign Consultant Agreement

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed professional services agreement with The Briggs Group for capital campaign consulting services for the pool and community center project,

stating The Briggs Group was the only RFQ submittal and that the interview panel, consisting of himself, George, Waltier, Surina, and the City's grant writer, were pleased with The Briggs Group's presentation. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1565, authorizing the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with The Briggs Group for capital campaign consulting services for the pool and community center project seconded by Waltier.** George invited councilmember comment; Waltier and Surina recommended approval of the agreement, and commented on the necessity of councilmember participation. Viafore inquired about the start date and identification of funding source; Pingel indicated the contract would be effective and would start on December 11, 2018. Pingel stated the donated funds would be used for payment, and Finance Director Corcoran indicated a budget amendment would be brought before Council in January that would include a dedicated line item. George commented on the cap amount built into the contract. George invited public comment; Mark Newey, 106 Summit Avenue, commented on the importance of a grant writer and his appreciation of Council's efforts. George noted the presence of the City's grant writer, Julie Ryan. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

George welcomed Tacoma Fire Department (TFD) Assistant to the Chief for Budget and Finance, Michael Fitzgerald, and Fitzgerald commented on the TFD's new penalties and fees included in the proposed 2019-2020 biennial budget that would impact Fircrest. Fitzgerald requested Council to consider a contract amendment in January 2019 that would extend the non-emergent lift assistance in State license care facilities, false fire alarms, and commercial fire protection systems compliance penalties and fees into the City. Fitzgerald indicated he would be retiring mid-year in 2019 and introduced the new appointment liaison to the service contract, Medical Services Officer Mary Hallman. Hallman briefed the Council on her background and stated she was honored to be a liaison to Fircrest. Council welcomed Hallman, and Viafore commented on the historical significance of the Fircrest/TFD contract and thanked Fitzgerald for his service. Fitzgerald reminded Council that the contract fee included all the fire services that TFD offered and that these services were conveyed in the contract regardless if the City utilized them, and thanked the Council for the continuation of the partnership and service contract and Viafore for his comments. Surina, George, and Viafore commented on their appreciation of TFD.

CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

George invited public comment; none were provided.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Administrator

Waltier reported that he participated on the interview panel for the capital campaign consultant and commented that he was impressed with The Briggs Group and how they could assist the City.

B. Environment, Planning and Building

Reynolds reported that Pierce County Regional Council December meeting was canceled, and indicated Council would need to take action to appoint its representative for 2019. Viafore requested to handle the appointment at the December 26, 2018 regular meeting. Waltier departed at 8:07 P.M. and returned at 8:09 P.M.

C. Finance, IT, Facilities

Nixon reported that the audit was complete with no findings and that the report would be available on the City's website once the report was published on the State Auditor's website. Corcoran indicated that the City's Wi-Fi was back up and working.

D. Other Liaison Reports

George reported that he had attended the Pierce County Cities and Town Association meeting where there was an update to the potential changes to the South Sound 911 governance. There was a brief discussion on amendments and weighted voting, and George indicated he would request more information and share it with the Council. George reported that there was a presentation on Pierce County Department of Emergency Management on Mount Rainier and emergency preparedness.

CONSENT CALENDAR

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 212211 through Voucher Check No. 212281 in the amount of \$338,537.21; approval of Payroll Check No. 13511 through Payroll Check No. 13514 in the amount of \$6,196.23; approval of Payroll Check No. 13515 through Payroll Check No. 13520 in the amount of \$87,276.99; approval of Payroll Check No. 13521 through Payroll Check No. 13526 in the amount of \$98,990.34; approval of the October 29, 2018 special Council meeting minutes; approval of the November 13, 2018 regular Council meeting minutes; approval of the November 19, 2018 special Council meeting minutes; and approval of the November 27, 2018 regular meeting minutes. **Reynolds MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Nixon. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

None scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Capital Campaign Consultant Agreement

[relocated under Presiding Officer's report]

B. 2018 Budget Amendment, 2nd Reading and Adoption

Corcoran briefed the Council on the third amendment to the 2018 Budget, stating the proposed amendments would increase revenue for Parks Donation for Pool/Community Center, provide additional funds required for the three year audit, provide additional funds required for insurance premiums, provide additional funds for citizen mailings for pool and community center, match actual revenue and expenditures for Traffic Signal Grant rollover amounts, and match actual revenue for WA State TIB Emerson/Orchard Grant rollover amount. Corcoran indicated the total amended budget for 2018 was \$28,156,192. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1629, authorizing expenditures of funds for matters not foreseen at the time of filing of the 2018 Preliminary Budget and not provided for in the Adopted 2018 Budget; seconded by Wittner.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

C. Fircrest Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Planning and Building Administrator Stahlnecker briefed the Council on the proposed amendments to the City's Comprehensive Plan, stating the amendments would be consistent with state and regional regulations and planning policies as well as meet several federal, state, and regional funding grant and loan programs' requirements. Stahlnecker indicated a public hearing was held during the November 27, 2018 regular City Council meeting and no comments were submitted. **Waltier MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1630, amending Ordinance No. 1603, Section 1 and FMC 23.04.020 to update the City of Fircrest Comprehensive Plan; seconded by Wittner.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

D. Communications Site Lease Amendment – High Tank

Public Works Director Wakefield briefed the Council on the proposed amendment to the October 3, 2005 Communication Site Lease Agreement with Sprint Spectrum Realty Company, LLC for the High Tank site, stating the amendment would increase the current monthly rent of \$1,391 by \$500 per month. **Nixon MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1566, authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the October 3, 2005 Communication Site Lease Agreement with Sprint Spectrum Realty Company, LLC for the High Tank site; seconded by Surina.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; Mark Newey, 106 Summit Avenue, commented on the strategic importance of investing in professional grade communications infrastructure. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

E. 2019 Joint City Council/Planning Commission Meeting Date Change

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed resolution that would cancel the regularly scheduled annual City Council/Planning Commission joint meeting as the meeting had been rescheduled by the City Council at its November 13, 2018 meeting to January 29, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1567, canceling the February 5, 2019 joint meeting with the Fircrest Planning Commission; seconded by Wittner.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

F. December 26, 2018 Regular Council Meeting Time Change

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed resolution that would change the time of the December 26, 2018 regular Council meeting from 7:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1568, changing the time of the December 26, 2018 regular Council meeting from 7:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M; seconded by Waltier.** George invited councilmember comment; Wittner indicated he would be unable to attend the meeting at 4:00 P.M. due to schedule conflicts. George stated the intent of the meeting and requested the presence of a quorum; George, Waltier, and Surina, indicated they would be present. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

G. Tacoma Hearing Examiner for Dog Hearings Contract Amendment

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed contract amendment to the professional services agreement with the City of Tacoma to extend the date of the agreement to December 31, 2019 and update the schedule of fees for hearing examiner services for dangerous and potentially dangerous dog appeal hearings. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1569, authorizing the City Manager to amend the professional services agreement with the City of Tacoma for hearing examiner services for dangerous and potentially dangerous**

dog appeal hearings; seconded by Wittner. George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

H. Department of Assigned Counsel Agreement

Court Administrator Perry briefed the Council on the proposed agreement for public defense services with Pierce County through the Department of Assigned Counsel, stating the agreement would incorporate the City's contracted services for the Ruston municipal court services, extend the contract through December 31, 2019, and update the compensation. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1570, authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement for Public Defense Services with Pierce County for indigent legal defense services; seconded by Nixon.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

A. December 2018 Study Session

Pingel requested cancel the December 14, 2018 study session and set the January 2019 study session, stating the January study session would include the Tacoma Fire Department (TFD) contract amendment, Personnel Policies and Procedures update, and the Family Wage Jobs incentive. Reynolds inquired if there would be a discussion on climate; Pingel indicated it would be included in the January 29, 2019 City Council/Planning Commission joint meeting. Viafore inquired if the TFD contract amendment could move forward for Council consideration without a study session discussion; there was a consensus to bring the item directly to a regular Council meeting for action. **Viafore MOVED to cancel the regularly scheduled study session for December; seconded by Reynolds.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

B. January 2019 Study Session

Pingel requested to set January 14, 2019 as the study session for January due to the conflicting scheduling of the third Monday of January falling on a holiday. **Viafore MOVED to set the January 2019 study session on January 14, 2018 at 6:00 P.M.; seconded by Reynolds.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

C. Cellular Phone and Smartphone Use Policy

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed cellular phone and smartphone use policy, stating staff would prefer to take advantage of current promotions that would allow the City to acquire phones and utilize bill credits. Pingel indicated the actual costs would be lower than the \$70 per month/per line budgeted, stating the actual costs would be \$40 per month/per line plus approximately \$13 per month/per line for records retention software. Pingel stated that the policy would be included in the Personnel Policies and Procedures update, and requested Council feedback. Viafore inquired about the contract term; Pingel stated the contract was a year to year and lines could be added/removed.

Pingel reported that the Fircrest Municipal Court would no longer be accepting passport applications effective January 1, 2019 due to the addition of the Ruston Municipal Court services, and indicated that the application with the State Department to move the services to the Planning and Building Department was underway. Pingel anticipated the services would resume in

approximately four weeks and that staff would be trained once the State Department confirmed the application.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Chief Cheesman thanked the Council for the December 26, 2018 regular meeting time change and building closures on December 14, 2018 for the employee luncheon. Cheesman briefed the Council on the upcoming holiday sleigh event. George inquired about the home invasion robbery; Cheesman provided an update, stating progress was being made and that warrants for an arrest would be served. George requested that the update be posted on the City's website and Facebook. Surina thanked Detective Deal for his work on this case.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Viafore congratulated Cheesman for the National Night Out award, and thanked the Public Works Director and crew for their work on the holiday decorations.
- Reynolds congratulated Cheesman, and commented on her endorsement of the Family Wage Jobs incentive.
- Wittner reported that he, George, and Pingel recently toured the Eastside Community Center and encouraged councilmembers to tour the facility.
- Waltier indicated he would tour the Eastside Community Center and thanked the audience for their attendance.
- Surina commented on the TFD fire inspection services and on the donation efforts of local pet store, Choppers. Viafore commented on the TFD fire inspection services fee and extinguisher self-inspection program.
- Nixon thanked the audience for their attendance.
- George congratulated Cheesman for the National Night Out award, reported that he and Wittner attended a recent Pierce County Chambers event, and commented on Dr. Harrell's presentation.

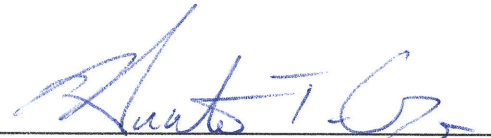
EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:44 P.M., George reported that Council would take a three 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 Pingel would join the Council into Executive Session.

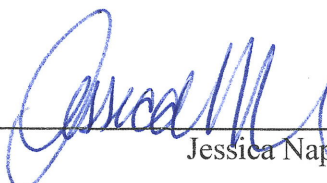
The Council reconvened into regular session at 8:56 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Reynolds MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 P.M., seconded by Wittner. The Motion Carried (7-0).



Hunter T. George, Mayor



Jessica Nappi, City Clerk