

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Hunter T. George 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, Denny Waltier, and Blake Surina were present. Councilmember Jamie Nixon was absent and excused.

PRESIDING OFFICER’S REPORT

A. Pool and Community Center Project

Parks and Recreation Director Grover reported on the pool and bathhouse project, stating the project was on schedule and currently in the abatement process. City Manager Pingel reported that he was coordinating with ARC Architects to accelerate the community center design documents, and anticipated updated project schedule and estimates by late October 2019 and construction documents in November 2019. Pingel anticipated bidding the community center project in April 2020, construction in August 2020, and project completion in September 2021. Pingel recommended having a Steering Committee meeting and a public meeting to update the community on the status of the project.

Reynolds departed at 7:04 P.M. and returned at 7:04 P.M.

There was a brief discussion on updating the membership of the Steering Committee, exploring an Ad Hoc Committee of the Council, and incorporating the location of the soccer ball sculpture into the design plans. Pingel presented updated bond scenario estimates, levy rates, and amortization schedule and confirmed that the estimates assumed 2018 assessed values. After a brief discussion, there were no objections with moving forward with a 20-year period for the first bond issue.

George reported on a meeting he and Pingel attended hosted by the City of University Place regarding the Sound Transit project, stating representatives from Pierce Transit, City of Tacoma, Tacoma Housing Authority, Metro Parks, Tacoma Community College, and Governor’s office were also in attendance. George stated the meeting discussed storage facility preliminary site options and expressed concerns regarding a location in the City of Fircrest. George indicated he would provide councilmembers the Tacoma Link Extension to Tacoma Community College handout that was provided at that meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

George invited public comment; the following individuals provided comment:

- Brian Rybolt, 1036 Daniels Drive, commented on his concerns regarding traffic signal cycles, the University Place 67th Avenue W grind and overlay project, and voicing concerns to neighboring localities.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Parks and Recreation

Waltier reported on the pool and bathhouse construction status, an informational monthly newsletter, and time-lapse camera. Viafore requested the light at the project site to be turned on at night for security and safety reasons.

B. Pierce County Regional Council

Reynolds reported on that the joint letter would include the final edits, an adjoining letter from the Tacoma-Pierce County Department of Health on economic disparities of health, and Pierce County and Pierce Transit sex trafficking initiative.

C. Public Safety, Courts

Surina reported on the lateral police officer employment progress, I-940 independent investigations requirements, and Port of Seattle officer evaluations at the Exercise Science Center.

D. Street, Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain

As Nixon was absent, no report was provided.

E. Other Liaison Reports

There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 213687 through Voucher Check No. 213736 in the amount of \$180,034.92; approval of Payroll Check No. 13727 through Payroll Check No. 13730 in the amount of \$108,174.99; approval of the August 27, 2019 Regular meeting minutes; registering no objections to the Sammy’s Pizza liquor license renewal; setting a public hearing on October 8, 2019 to receive comments on 2020 Revenue Sources; setting a public hearing on October 8, 2019 to receive comments on 2020 Budget; and setting a public hearing on October 22, 2019 to receive comments on 2020 Budget. **Reynolds MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Waltier.** Viafore requested to remove 7C. Liquor License Renewals from the Consent Calendar. **The Motion Carried As Read (6-0 with Nixon absent).**

PUBLIC HEARING

None scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2020 Budget introduction by City Manager Pingel

Pingel briefed the Council on the preliminary 2020 Budget and provided an overview of the highlights and upcoming scheduled meetings. Pingel stated two new funds would need to be approved: Park Bond Debt Service and Park Bond Capital. Pingel indicated the preliminary budget included a funds for: salary adjustment for the Parks & Recreation Director, an employee reclassification, one full-time maintenance worker position, emphasis patrol, IT professional services, custodian, pedestrian safety, speed signs, financial/recreation software, acorn street light replacement, water master plan update, and water meter replacement program as well as an increase from 12% to 15% transfer of property tax collections to the Street Fund. After a brief discussion on the grant projects and street light fund, Pingel stated the budget would be posted on the City’s website.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Pingel reported on the Alameda Avenue grind and overlay parking strip options and potential costs, stating the staff recommendation was to keep the parking strip as is due to the pavement being structurally sound and the additional costs would adversely affect the street budget that had limited funds already. After a brief discussion on prioritization of funds, there was a general consensus from Council to keep the parking strip pavement as is.

Pingel reporting that staff would apply the parks and recreation sorting services to the pool and community center business plans; there were no Council objections.

Pingel reported that the second regular Council meeting of December 2019 was scheduled on December 24, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. and requested Council feedback on whether there was interest to change the date and/or time. After a brief discussion, there was a general consensus to bring a resolution to Council to move the meeting date and time to December 30, 2019 at 4:00 P.M.

Pingel commented on the second bond issue, stating that if the second issue of the bond was less than \$2 million, the Council should consider other options. Pingel indicated he would provide more information as he obtained more information. Viafore commented on his support to move forward with a second bond issue due to current market trends and City parks and recreation projects.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

There were none.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Viafore commented on the signage at Whittier elementary school, traffic congestion at Wainwright intermediate, and recent passing of former Planning Commissioner Dan McNally. Viafore inquired on the surveying on Claremont Street; Public Works Director indicated a telecommunications franchise was identifying locates.
- Wittner thanked the audience for their attendance.
- Waltier and Surina commented on the recent passing of McNally.
- George inquired on the City of University Place 67th Avenue W grind and overlay project; Wakefield provided a briefing of the project and indicated the City of University Place had not posted project information. George requested staff to request project information with the City of University Place so that Fircrest could post project information to address resident questions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:07 P.M., George reported that Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed the hour of 8:42 P.M., to discuss performance of a public employee per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). George noted that Pingel would be joining Council in the Executive Session.


At 8:35 P.M., the Council reconvened into regular session.

ADJOURNMENT

Reynolds MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 P.M., seconded by Wittner. The Motion Carried (6-0 with Nixon absent).



Hunter T. George, Mayor



Jessica Nappi, City Clerk