

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

City Clerk Nappi 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, Joe Barrentine, Hunter T. George, Denny Waltier, and Jamie Nixon were present.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT**A. Suspension of Rules for Agenda Item #4**

Nappi reviewed the process for the selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore based off the information Council received from Council's Rules of Procedures on Election of Officers and from Robert's Rules of Order relating to Nominations, Elections, and Voting. Nappi stated if Council concurred, two motions would be required: the first motion to suspend Council's Rules and Procedures for this item of business, and the second motion to adopt the procedure option for selecting a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore.

Viafore MOVED that Council suspend its Rules and Procedures for Item 4 – the Selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore; seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried (7-0).

Nixon MOVED that Council adopt the procedure option for election of a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore as listed in the information submitted by the City Manager using a majority rule; seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried (7-0).

B. Selection of Mayor

Nappi opened the floor for nominations for the position of Mayor for a two-year period:

- Viafore passed.
- Reynolds passed.
- Wittner nominated Councilmember George.
- Barrentine passed.
- George passed.
- Waltier passed.
- Nixon passed.

Nappi closed the nominations. **Reynolds MOVED to appoint Councilmember Hunter T. George to the position of Mayor of the City of Fircrest City Council for a two-year term effective immediately; seconded by Viafore. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

C. Selection of Mayor Pro Tempore

George stated that the selection of the Mayor Pro Tempore for the two-year term would follow the same procedure as the one for selection of the Mayor, and opened the floor for nominations:

- Viafore passed.
- Reynolds nominated Councilmember Waltier.
- Wittner passed.
- George nominated Councilmember Wittner.
- Barrentine passed.
- Waltier passed.
- Nixon passed.

Silent ballots were distributed and read into the record:

- Viafore voted for Councilmember Waltier.
- Reynolds voted for Councilmember Waltier.
- Wittner voted for Councilmember Wittner.
- George voted for Councilmember Wittner.
- Barrentine voted for Councilmember Wittner.
- Waltier voted for Councilmember Waltier.
- Nixon voted for Councilmember Wittner.

George announced Councilmember Wittner's appointment to the position of Mayor Pro Tempore of the City of Fircrest City Council for a two-year term by a vote of 4-3.

D. 2020 Council Liaison Assignments

George postponed the announcement of assignments and requested feedback on councilmember preference to liaison assignments; Reynolds indicated her preference for Parks and Recreation.

E. Community Center and Pool Project

Parks and Recreation Director Grover reported on the pool and bathhouse project update, commenting on the construction schedule and progress to date. Grover indicated ARC Architects would be presenting to Council at the January 28, 2020 meeting on the Community Center Design. Grover indicated that walk-throughs were available and could be coordinated through the City Manager. City Manager Pingel indicated he would like to schedule a community meeting on February 20, 2020 to update the public on the project; there were no objections.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

George invited public comment; none were provided.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

Reynolds reported that the first meeting of the Pierce County Regional Council would take place on January 16, 2020.

CONSENT CALENDAR

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar: approval of Voucher No. 214179 through Voucher Check No. 214227 in the amount of \$111,930.22; approval of Voucher No. 214228 through Voucher Check No. 214267 in the amount of \$439,507.41; approval of Payroll Check No. 13797 through Payroll Check No. 13800 in the amount of \$8,182.69; approval of Payroll Check No. 13801 through Payroll Check No. 13806 in the amount of \$107,711.60; approval of Payroll Check No. 13807 through Payroll Check No. 13811 in the amount of \$88,077.27; approval of the December 30, 2019 Regular Meeting minutes; approval of setting a public hearing on January 28, 2020 to receive comments on a proposed solid waste rate adjustment; and approval of setting a special meeting of the City Council on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 and Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. at Fircrest City Hall, 115 Ramsdell Street, Fircrest, Washington for the sole purpose of discussing potential changes to the Fircrest municipal code regarding Commercial Mixed Use and Residential-30 zones. **Wittner MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Nixon.** Viafore requested to remove item 7C. Setting a public hearing on January 28, 2020 to receive comments on a proposed solid waste rate adjustment. Reynolds requested to remove item 7D.

Setting a special meeting of the City Council on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 and Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. at Fircrest City Hall, 115 Ramsdell Street, Fircrest, Washington for the sole purpose of discussing potential changes to the Fircrest municipal code regarding Commercial Mixed Use and Residential-30 zones. **The Motion Carried As Amended (7-0).** Viafore requested clarification on what would be included for discussion in the January 28, 2020 public hearing; Pingel indicated the purpose of the public hearing was to obtain public comment on the proposed solid waste rate adjustments as prescribed in the contract. **Viafore MOVED to approve setting a public hearing on January 28, 2020 at 7:15 P.M or shortly thereafter to receive comments on a proposed solid waste rate adjustment; seconded by Waltier.** George invited councilmember comment; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).** Reynolds requested clarification on the purpose of the January 22 and January 23, 2020 public meetings; Pingel indicated the meetings were being set in order to allow councilmembers to attend the design charettes. **Reynolds MOVED to approve setting a special meeting of the City Council on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 and Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. at Fircrest City Hall, 115 Ramsdell Street, Fircrest, Washington for the sole purpose of discussing potential changes to the Fircrest municipal code regarding Commercial Mixed Use and Residential-30 zones; seconded by Wittner.** George invited councilmember comment; Viafore inquired if the Planning Commission members were invited to attend. Pingel confirmed they were invited to attend the study session and design charettes. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

None scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Information Technology Services Agreement

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed agreement with Right! Systems, Inc. to provide information technology services to the City of Fircrest. **Nixon MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1639, authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Right! Systems, Inc. to provide information technology services to the City of Fircrest; seconded by Waltier.** George invited councilmember comment; Viafore expressed his concerns on the process and lack of liaison involvement, and Reynolds commented on her disapproval of the proposed agreement as she considered the information provided to be insufficient. Wittner commented on his support for the proposed agreement and George commented on staff's efforts to research the issues, conduct vendor demonstrations, and include updates in the weekly reports to Council. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (5-2 with Viafore and Reynolds casting the dissenting votes).**

B. Extended Technical Support Services Agreement

Police Chief Cheesman briefed the Council on the proposed agreement with South Sound 911 Public Authority to provide extended technical support services to the City of Fircrest Police Department. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1640, authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement with South Sound 911 Public Authority to provide extended technical support services to the City of Fircrest Police Department; seconded by Nixon.** George invited councilmember comment; George inquired on whether other localities had similar agreements with South Sound 911. Cheesman confirmed. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

C. Special Services Interlocal Cooperative Agreement

Cheesman briefed the Council on the proposed agreement to provide special services by Pierce County to the City of Fircrest. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1641, authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement with South Sound 911 Public Authority to provide extended technical support services to the City of Fircrest; seconded by Waltier.** George invited councilmember comment; Reynolds commented on her appreciation of the information provided. George and Reynolds commented on the services provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

A. Salary Commission

Pingel requested Council feedback on moving forward with a salary commission. After a brief discussion, there were no objections to convening a salary commission.

B. Click! Franchise Transfer

City Attorney Smith and Pingel briefed the Council on the transfer of the cable TV franchise from the City of Tacoma to Rainer Connect North, LLC and commented on the Council's options. After a brief discussion, there were no objections to the City not doing anything as it related to the franchise agreement transfer.

C. Recycling Rate Annual Increase and Surcharge Request

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed annual solid waste rate adjustment and recycling commodity surcharge and stated staff's preference was to keep the items separate with the public hearing addressing the rate adjustments as prescribed in the contract and to work with Westside Disposal on addressing the recycling commodity surcharge request at a separate meeting. Waltier departed at 8:03 P.M. and returned at 8:05 P.M.

D. Executive Order Regarding Refugee Resettlement

Pingel briefed the Council on the local consent for refugee resettlement and Executive Order 13888 and commented on a draft resolution that would include language that would ensure that City resources would not be required in order to continue to have refugees resettled within the City. After a brief discussion, there were no objections to bring the draft resolution to Council for consideration for approval. Viafore departed at 8:07 P.M. and returned at 8:08 P.M.

Pingel requested Council feedback on scheduling a Council group photograph; there were no objections to scheduling a session before a regular meeting in February. Pingel reminded the Council of the upcoming joint meeting with the Planning Commission in February. George commented on the City Manager's efforts to include information under the City Manager Comments section in the agenda.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Public Works Director Wakefield requested Council feedback on moving forward with preparing and submitting two projects to PSRC for grant funding in 2023 and 2024: west end of Regents Boulevard to 67th Avenue grind and overlay preservation project and Emerson Street/67th Avenue sidewalk extension project. There were no objections to proceed with these grant applications and utilize REET funds to demonstrate secured funding. Wakefield provided an update on the deicing efforts to maintain safe streets.

- Cheesman commented on staff's snow removal efforts, and provided an update on the status of a runaway and reported of a break-in in a local pharmacy.
- Planning and Building Administrator Stahlnecker reported that notices had been mailed out to property owners, businesses, and residents within the Commercial Mixed Use and Residential-30 zones as well as properties within 500 feet of the focus area and various agencies and adjoining jurisdictions and Planning Commission members.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Viafore congratulated Barrentine, George, and Wittner, and commented on his concerns regarding the Council liaison assignments. Viafore provided an update on University Place councilmember Grassi and extended his well wishes to Grassi's family. Viafore commented on the Westside Disposal recycling commodity surcharge request.
- Reynolds congratulated Barrentine.
- Wittner congratulated Barrentine and thanked the audience for their attendance.
- Barrentine thanked the audience for their attendance.
- Waltier commented on the City calendars, and electronic reader board, and congratulated Barrentine, George, and Wittner.
- Nixon congratulated Barrentine, George, and Wittner.
- George thanked the Council, and commented on projects the City would be involved in this year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:37 P.M., Council convened into Executive Session after a three-minute recess, not to exceed the hour of 9:00 P.M., to discuss the performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110. George noted that no further action would take place other than adjournment. The Council reconvened into regular session at 8:46 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Wittner MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 P.M., seconded by Nixon. The Motion Carried (7-0).



Hunter T. George, Mayor



Jessica Nappi, City Clerk