

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL (Meeting was held primarily by remote attendance)

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, Joe Barrentine, Denny Waltier, and Jamie Nixon were present.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Community Center Pre-Bid Presentation

ARC Architect Emily Wheeler presented the most recent renderings and highlighted the building finishes. The plan is to go out for bid mid-July and construction should begin in October. Discussions included acoustic panel and glass options, flooring color options, and the mirrored wall and ballet bar in the fitness room. Parks and Recreation Director Grover reported that the city has had ballet classes for 30 years and typically there are 20 participants per session. He also reported that the yoga classes utilize the ballet bar and the mirror will be cleaned regularly. Wheeler reported that there will be two windows with blinds and one wall of Kalwall which would allow natural light in the fitness room and provide privacy. A brief discussion was held on security cameras for the building exterior and the potential of interior cameras. Wheeler and Grover are meeting next week to discuss camera systems. Grover reported that it should not be an issue to put in interior cameras. Council asked for a budget update and Wheeler reported that we are currently on budget and are awaiting asbestos abatement figures. Pingel reported that the staff will continue to apply for grant funds from the Department of Emergency Management. Councilmember Viafore asked Grover if he has started inventorying all the assets of the building before demolition. Grover reported that he has been working on going through the building for the past year and his staff is on top of it. He reported that within the next three to four weeks he should have a list of inventory items and where those items will be stored.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None were provided

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Parks & Recreation

No report at this time.

B. Pierce County Regional Council

Reynolds reported that the PCRC met and committee/ commission appointments were made.

C. Public Safety, Courts

No report at this time.

D. Street, Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain

Wittner reported that the crew will be sealing the roadways this week and several people were interviewed for the Administrative Assistant Position. The anticipated start date will be mid-July. Wittner also reported that the Emerson Sidewalk Project grant is recommended for funding in the 2023-2024 cycle.

E. Other Liaison Reports

There were none.

The Council was in recess from 7:43 pm until 7:46 pm

CONSENT CALENDAR

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 215131 through Voucher Check No. 215180 in the amount of \$739,583.45; approval of Payroll Check No. 13917 through Payroll Check No. 13918 in the amount of \$117,085.74; registering no objections to the Shogun Japanese Express liquor license renewal; approval of the June 9, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes; approval of the June 15, 2020, Study Session Meeting Minutes; **Wittner MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Viafore. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

There was no Public Hearing scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 1656: Approval of the 6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan

Public Works Director Wakefield introduced the 6-year improvement plan for the years 2021-2026 and reported that he did receive comments from the Department of Ecology about the construction phase of the project. Wakefield reports that the approved plan will be forwarded onto the State for future funding opportunities. **Wittner MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1656 approving the City of Fircrest’s Six-Year Transportation Improvements Program for the period of 2021 – 2026.; seconded by Nixon.** George invited Councilmember comments; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The motion carried (7-0)**

B. Resolution No. 1657: Approval of Amendment #1 to the Geotechnical Services Contract

City Manager Pingel introduced the amendment and reported that the amendment adds the community center phase and includes the additional cost \$1800 incurred during the pool & bathhouse phase.

Wittner MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1657 authorizing the City Manager to execute Amendment #1 to the Geotechnical Services Contract with GeoEngineers, Inc. for the Pool and Community Center project.; seconded by Waltier. George invited Councilmember comments; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The motion carried (7-0)**

C. Resolution No. 1658: Department of Commerce CARES Act Funding Contract Approval

City Manager Pingel briefed the Council on the CARES funding program administered by the Department of Commerce. Pingel reports that we do not have many COVID-19 related expenses to date but we may utilize the funds for future assistance programs.

Wittner MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1658 authorizing the City Manager to execute a grant contract with the Washington Department of Commerce for \$203,100 for reimbursement of COVID-19 related expenses; seconded by Nixon. George invited Councilmember comments; Viafore commented that other jurisdictions have already administered assistance programs and recommended Council listen to the City of University Place meeting audio as they were very detailed in where the funds will be allocated. Pingel reported that we have until October to utilize the funds and intends to bring more information to the Council in the future to understand where the priority of funding will be. George urged

the staff to move quickly to get benefits to those who need it. Barrentine commented that some independent business owners were not eligible for assistance and those businesses could use the help. George invited public comment; Mr. Little asked if the city could offset revenue losses due to the Community Center closure and offset PPE costs for the staff and customers. Staff reported that at this time we do not have exact answers, but we will explore the available options at future meetings. **The motion carried (7-0)**

D. Resolution No. 1659: Encourage the Use of Face Coverings in Public Spaces

City Manager Pingel introduced the resolution and briefed the Council on what other entities are doing to support the State's recommendation. Viafore commented that in light of the Governor's new state-wide mask requirement, this resolution may be confusing to residents. Nixon commented that COVID cases are rising and it is important to show our support. George agreed that showing support is important and amplifies the message.

Wittner MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1659 encouraging Fircrest residents to wear face coverings when in outdoor or indoor public spaces; seconded by Nixon. George invited Councilmember comments; Nixon asked if we have PPE for the public or just for city staff. Police Chief John Cheesman reported that he has been able to acquire PPE for staff and the public as they enter our buildings, but he has not requested PPE for the public distribution. He will ask the Department of Emergency Management about availability. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The motion carried (7-0)**

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Pingel briefed the Council on the Alameda Overlay project curb and gutter bid alternate and would like Council feedback. Pingel would like to use the storm fund rather than the street fund. Viafore commented that he would like to be presented with both financing options and is concerned about the longevity of rolled curbing. Pingel reported that the remote attendance exception is set to expire at the end of the month and would like to extend the motion. **Viafore MOVED to extend remote meeting attendance through December 31, 2020; seconded by Nixon.** George invited Councilmember comments; there was a brief discussion held on the importance of continuing the remote meetings and maintaining social distancing while the COVID cases are on the rise. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The motion carried (7-0).**

Pingel also commented that the staff would like Council feedback on canceling events and programming through the summer months. **Viafore MOVED to suspend all public gatherings and recreation programs through September 30, 2020; seconded by Reynolds.** George invited Councilmember comments; discussions included revisiting the suspension in the future as needed and the importance of canceling events due to the public not wearing masks at the garage sale event. A brief discussion was held on non-Fircrest sponsored sports clubs utilizing our facilities considering the canceling of Fircrest sponsored programming. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The motion carried (7-0)**

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Police Chief Cheesman reported that he has canceled the Law Enforcement Youth Camp and received some sad news about the recent passing of former Community Service Officer Burleigh Rowan. Cheesman also reported that he is moving forward with the policy changes and will now be reporting the use of force data to the FBI.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Viafore commented that Council has missed two performance reviews for City Manager Pingel and encouraged the Mayor to file a Memorandum of Understanding to satisfy the contract. Viafore also commented that we would like to have the staff present the current financial outlook for the pool and community center in the future.
- Reynolds commented that she did receive a few complaints about non-compliance of mask-wearing on the Public Works crew and during the garage sale event and hope with the new mask requirements that these issues will be mitigated. Reynolds would also like to report that there is promising research about treatment options and concurred with Councilmember Nixon that we must continue to wear masks and stay inside as much as possible.
- Wittner thanked the public who attended this evening and thanked City Manager Pingel for the reader board posting about wearing masks.
- Barrentine thanked City Manager Pingel for putting the best interest of the city staff at the forefront of his decisions and thanked the public for their attendance.
- Waltier commented that we need to continue to stick together through the pandemic and public safety is very important.
- Nixon commented that if the public wants a school year this upcoming Fall, staying home and wearing masks can help make that happen.
- George expressed his condolences to the entire police department about the recent passing of Burleigh Rowan and thanked Chief Cheeseman for his dedication in moving forward with his police policy review. George asked for an update about waving the sidewalk café seating regulations or allowing the use of a parking stall as extra seating considering the current health emergency. City Manager Pingel reported that the staff has been in contact with businesses and is awaiting the application paperwork. He also stated that the staff could use our special use permit to allow for a quick approval process. Viafore commented that approval is multifaceted and includes the Department of Health and the ADA requirements. The consensus was to gather more information and speak to our City Attorney to better understand liabilities and requirements. George lastly thanked the public who attended the meeting this evening.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT

Wittner MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 P.M., seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried (7-0).



Hunter T. George, Mayor



Jayne Westman, City Clerk