

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 Shannon Reynolds, Brett Wittner, Joe Barrentine, Denny Waltier, and Jamie Nixon were present. David M. Viafore was absent and excused.

PRESIDING OFFICER’S REPORT

A. Pierce Transit Presentation

Lindsey Sehmel and Alexandra Mather presented the overview of the 2021 Pierce Transit routes that affect the City and indicated that a change in service will be coming in March 2021. The service change will restore 95% of routes that were in place prior to COVID-19 and additional trips will be added on Sundays. Lastly, Mather reported that Pierce Transit has funded a Rapid Bus Transit System Expansion study to be completed in Summer 2021.

B. 2021 Council Liaison Assignments

George read into the record the 2021 Council Liaison Assignments. They are as follows:

- Administration- Councilmember Viafore
- Public Safety & Court – Councilmember Reynolds
- Finance, IT, & Facilities – Councilmember Wittner
- Parks & Recreation – Councilmember Barrentine
- Street, Water, Sewer, & Storm – Councilmember Waltier
- Environment, Planning & Building – Councilmember Nixon

Councilmember Viafore joined the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

C. City Council Regular Meeting Agenda Order

Mayor George updated the Council on the history of the meeting agenda order change and requested feedback on potentially changing the Council Rules of Procedures, Rule 20 to permanently amend the regular meeting agenda order. The motion to alter the agenda order, moving the City Manager, Council, and Department Head comments to the beginning of the meeting, expired December 31, 2020. After a brief discussion, there was a Council consensus to have the staff bring forth a Resolution at the next Council meeting.

D. Community Center & Pool Project

Parks & Recreation Director Grover updated the Council on the construction progress at the Community Center and reported that rebar is installed, and the stem wall concrete is being poured tomorrow. There are samples of the finishes for the community center on display in the Pool Party Room. Grover reported that if anyone would like to visit, schedule a time with himself or Recreation Program Manager Chris Wells within the next two weeks. There was a brief discussion on bringing the final choices back to the Council and Grover confirmed that he will be bringing the final design choices back to a future 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 frustration regarding the COVID-19 vaccine rollout and the lack of availability to qualified individuals. Rybolt also commented that he likes the new agenda order.

The Council briefly discussed thier frustrations with the vaccine rollout and the potential for the City to host a vaccine site in the future.

- Yolonda Brooks, 6464 19th Street W, commented on her concerns about the code compliance and inspection process, especially with rental properties. She also expressed concern about faulty smoke alarm systems that may be installed in her rental property.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Other Liaison Reports

No reports were provided.

CONSENT CALENDAR

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar as follows: approval of Voucher No. 215942 through Voucher Check No. 215985 in the amount of \$126,347.59; approval of Voucher No. 215986 through Voucher Check No. 216026 in the amount of \$98,081.88; of Payroll Check No. 13997 through Payroll Check No. 14000 in the amount of \$7,947.48; approval of Payroll Check No. 14001 through Payroll Check No. 14001 in the amount of \$104,568.58; approval of Payroll Check No. 14002 through Payroll Check No. 14007 in the amount of \$105,134.30; approval of the December 22, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes; **Reynolds MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Wittner. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

No public hearing was scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 1707: ARC Contact Amendment No. 3

City Manager Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed Resolution and reported that ARC Architects is asking for additional funds. Pingel provided an overview of the additional charges. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1707, authorizing the City Manager to execute Amendment #3 of the professional services agreement with ARC Architects for the design and construction of the Firecrest Pool and Community Center project; seconded by Barrentine.** George invited councilmember comment; There was a discussion held on the wording choice that the costs were estimates and not solidified and the irrigation costs being paid to the landscape architect rather than the general contractor. Lastly, it was confirmed that the Community Center Project Steering Committee meetings have ended and will not be ongoing; George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Pingel reported that the one-on-one interviews for the Public Works Director recruitment will be Friday.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Police Chief Cheesman thanked Sergeant Celis for being Acting Chief in his absence and reported that he is monitoring the situation regarding potential protests or riots at public buildings. Cheesman reports there is no threat in Pierce County currently. Lastly, Cheesman thanked Councilmember Nixon for his support and leadership through 2020 as his liaison.
- Planning & Building Administrator Stahlnecker reported that there will be a Joint Planning Meeting on February 2nd at 6 p.m. and provided an overview of the topics the Commission would like to potentially add to the 2021 work plan. There was a brief discussion by the Council and it was requested that climate be added to the agenda and a draft agenda be sent to Council this week. Councilmember Waltier thanked Stahlnecker for the support in 2020 as the department liaison.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Viafore; commented that it has been a rainy week, and, in the past, Leach Creek would flood the surrounding areas. The City no longer has the issue and is evolving. Viafore looks forward to the update from Stahlnecker regarding the compliance issues at the apartment homes and believes that some of the concerns fall outside the City’s jurisdiction because we do not inspect fire or electric systems.
- Reynolds; commented that the new COVID-19 virus strain may become more contagious and reported that poverty is up, and food insecurity is increasing. Reynolds would like the City to keep the parks closed to not contribute to the spread of COVID-19
- Wittner; thanked those who attended and reported that he has a family member who fell ill and could not be admitted to a hospital in Pierce County due to there not being any room available. He reminded those to continue wearing a mask and stay home.
- Barrentine; commented on the graffiti that has been spray-painted on the sidewalks and asked that the City contact each homeowner to ask if they have any information they could provide to help capture the perpetrator and have the Public Works crew help with clean-up. Lastly, Barrentine asked that residents and visitors to the City pick up after themselves.
Police Chief Cheesman reported that the department is taking the graffiti seriously.
- Waltier; commented that the City will not tolerate tagging for any reason and would like an update on the electronic readerboard.
- Nixon; thanked the attendees.
- George; thanked the attendees and welcomed Chief Cheesman back. George agrees with Councilmembers Reynolds and Barrentine, we are living in frustrating times and the next week will be difficult.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:18 P.M. George reported that the Council would take a four-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed thirty (30) minutes to review the performance of a public employee per RCW 42.30.110

At 9:17 P.M., the Council reconvened into regular session

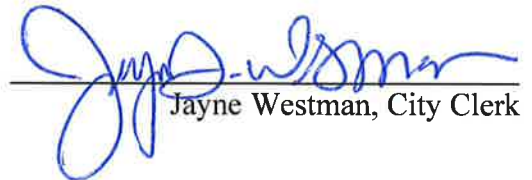
ADJOURNMENT

January 12, 2021

Fircrest City Council Meeting Minutes – Regular 4

Wittner MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 P.M., seconded by Barrentine. The Motion Carried (7-0).


Hunter T. George, Mayor


Jayne Westman, City Clerk