

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, Joe Barrentine, and Jamie Nixon were present. Councilmember Denny Waltier was absent and excused.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Community Center and Pool Project

Parks and Recreation Director Grover briefed the Council on the progress of the Community Center construction project and reported that concrete will be poured on Friday, weather permitting. Grover also discussed the anticipated design packet from Arc Architects with some anticipated finishes and paint colors for the Community Center.

B. Donor Wall Discussion

City Manager Pingel briefed the Council on the history, timeline, and process for the major donor wall recognition to date. Discussions included the design and manufacturing process with Rotator Creative and allowing for more characters on the donor wall recognition.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Pingel provided an update on the automatic ADA doors at City Hall and reported that the cost to install one set of doors on one side of the building will be roughly \$10,000. Discussions included the bid process, which side of the building is the ADA complaint side, and potentially installing openers on both sides of the building.

Councilmember Waltier joined the meeting at 7:15 P.M.

Pingel reported that HVAC repairs will be starting soon at the Public Safety Building and due to the Study Session Agenda for February, the department 2021 work plans were sent in the Friday packet. Pingel offered to bring the 2021 work plans to the March Study Session or the Council can email the staff with any questions. The Council will email staff with any questions. Lastly, the Public Works Crew is ready for inclement weather and the police will be calling them out early. There was a brief discussion on the timing of de-icing the streets and being proactive with de-icing, not reactive.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Police Chief Cheesman reported that the Police Department and the Public Works Department are ready for the upcoming weather and the Police will call out the Public Works Crew at the first sign of ice. Cheesman provided an update on the pharmacy break-in and lastly reported that the Department received an award from the Special Olympics.
- Parks & Recreation Director Grover briefed the Council on potentially allowing programming that complies with the State guidelines. There was consensus to bring the topic to the upcoming Study Session.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Viafore asked that the responding officers at the pharmacy break-in receive a letter of commendation for their exemplary work. Viafore offered condolences to the Johnson Family due to the passing of a long-time resident and beloved member of Fircrest, Mike Johnson. Mr. Johnson was a prime example of what Fircrest stands for and he will be missed.

- Reynolds provided a COVID-19 update stating that the number of deaths remains persistent and there are COVID-19 variants that are being closely watched. Lastly, Reynolds reports that Washington State is reporting over 9,000 lost jobs and at this time 10% of the population is vaccinated.
- Wittner thanked Chief Cheesman and the Police Department and reminded staff and the Council that February 12th is “Ken Still Day.”
- Barrentine thanked Chief Cheesman and the Police Department for their great police work. He also provided an update on the sidewalk graffiti reporting that he forwarded a few addresses to City Manager Pingel and appreciates that the Police Department is taking this seriously. Lastly, Barrentine asked that we check on our neighbors and take care of each other during the impending bad weather.
- Waltier offered condolences to the Johnson Family for the loss of Mike Johnson and would like to see the community come together to help the wife and kids in the future. Waltier asked about the Tot Lot swings and the work being done to the grass and brick wall. Parks & Recreation Director Grover reported that the repairs are a couple of weeks out and the staff is working on it.
- Nixon thanked the Police Department for their efforts during the pharmacy break-in and also thanked Councilmember Viafore for suggesting the idea of bringing the programming discussion to the upcoming Study Session.
- George thanked Chief Cheesman and the Police Department for their amazing police work and would like to see a letter of commendation to the responding officers. George thanked his neighbor, James Moore, and the Pierce Conservation District for cleaning the park and planting trees. They meet once a month and provide great work.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

George invited public comment; the following individuals provided comment:

- Rick Little, 1037 Fir Park Lane, urged the Council to reopen the Tot Lot and reported that he is seeing more dogs off-leash near the tennis courts. Mr. Little provided an update on the Foundation and reported that they have \$250,000 in funds committed and due to the return on the investment, the Foundation will be sustained for a long period. Lastly, Mr. Little reported that the Town Topics article resulted in 57 donors and thanked the Council for their support.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Administration

Viafore; no report provided.

B. Environmental, Planning, and Building

Nixon; no report provided.

C. Finance, IT, Facilities

Wittner reported that the Finance Department is finalizing the year-end report and will bring it to the Council at the February 23rd meeting. Wittner also reported that the Accountant I position transitioned to an Accountant II and the Finance Department has started their cross-training program.

D. Other Liaison Reports

No other reports were provided.

CONSENT CALENDAR

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar: approval of Voucher No. 216076 through Voucher Check No. 216137 in the amount of \$383,148.82; approval of Payroll Check No. 14009 through Payroll Check No. 14009 in the amount of \$123,406.14; approval of Payroll Check No. 14010 through Payroll Check No. 14013 in the amount of \$8,405.52; approval of Payroll Check No. 14014 through Payroll Check No. 14019 in the amount of \$51,335.89; registering no objections to the Los Tapatios liquor license renewal; setting a public hearing on March 9, 2021, at 7:15 pm or shortly thereafter to receive comments on the Chapter 22.26.023 Wall Signs Development Code Amendments; approval of January 19, 2020, Study Session Meeting minutes; and approval of January 26, 2021, Regular Meeting minutes. **Viafore MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Wittner. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

None scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 1709: Westside Disposal Contract Amendment

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed Resolution to amend the contract with Westside disposal and provided a highlight of the major contract changes. **Viafore MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1709, authorizing the City Manager to execute Amendment #6 of the garbage contract with Westside Disposal, Inc, dated June 1, 1998, to be effective March 1, 2021; seconded by Wittner.** George invited councilmember comment; George complimented the staff and our partners at Westside Disposal for coming to terms and the contract benefits both parties. George invited public comment; there was none. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

B. Ordinance No. 1669: Solid Waste Definitions Amendments

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed Ordinance that amends the FMC to update the definitions sections to match the new contract. Pingel thanked Neil Holden, Finance Director Corcoran, and City Clerk Westman for their help throughout the contract process. **Viafore MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1669, amending Section 1 of Ordinance No. 1433 and Fircrest Municipal Code 6.08.010 relating to the collection and disposal of solid waste, recyclable materials, and yard waste definitions; seconded by Wittner.** George invited councilmember comment; there were none. George invited public comment; there were none. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

C. Ordinance No. 1670: Solid Waste Rate Adjustment

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed Ordinance that amends the FMC to update the Schedule of Rates and Charges sections to match the new contract. **Viafore MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1670, amending Section 1 of Ordinance No. 1653 and Fircrest Municipal Code 6.08.130 relating to the schedule of rates and charges for solid waste collection; seconded by Wittner.** George invited councilmember comment; George requested a summary of the fee increase for residents. Pingel reported the average rate increase. Viafore commented

that some bills will go up more than others due to having more than one recycling tote. Roughly 97 residents will be affected. There was a brief discussion held on residents who frequently shop online who accumulate cardboard may be impacted. George invited public comment; there was none. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

C. Ordinance No. 1671: Solid Waste Special Events Amendments

Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed Ordinance that amends the FMC to update the Special Events sections to match the new contract. **Viafore MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1671, amending Section 1 of Ordinance No. 1579 and Fircrest Municipal Code 6.08.140 relating to the collection and disposal of solid waste, recyclable materials, and yard waste for special events; seconded by Wittner.** George invited councilmember comment; Viafore and Waltier thanked the representatives of Westside Disposal for being a continued partner and supportive members of our community. George invited public comment; Neil Holden commented his thanks to City Manager Pingel and the Council for their partnership and told the story of how Westside Disposal and the City of Fircrest came into partnership. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

- Viafore asked that the City Manager have Utility Billing Clerk Walston reach out to the low-income or senior residents to inform them of the available resources.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT

Viafore MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 P.M., seconded by Barrentine. The Motion Carried (7-0).



Hunter T. George, Mayor



Jayne Westman, City Clerk