

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

PRESIDING OFFICER’S REPORT

A. Pool Grand Opening Report

City Manager Pingel provided a brief overview of the donor event and reported that the event was very successful. Parks & Recreation Director Grover reported that the grand opening weekend swim sessions will be 90 minutes long and the social media campaign will start tomorrow. The reservation system opened for the weekend sessions and Grover reported that there were 500 sign-ups registered. Lastly, Grover reported that season passes will only be sold in-person, and swim lesson registrations open on June 24th to residents and June 25th to the general public. There were discussions held on the successful donor event and that there will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday before the first swim session.

B. Pool & Community Center Project

Parks & Recreation Director Grover updated the Council on the current state of construction at the Community Center. He noted that site grading is being completed and the electrical is getting installed. Staff continues to work with the contractor regarding the Fircrest Park irrigation issue.

C. Reappoint Ben Ferguson to the Planning Commission

George briefed the Council on the history of Ben Ferguson being appointed to the Planning Commission in 2020 and reported that he is the principal architect at his firm. **Wittner MOVED to confirm the Mayor’s appointment of Ben Ferguson to the City of Fircrest Planning Commission effective June 16, 2021, through June 15, 2027; seconded by Barrentine.** George invited councilmember comment; there was none. George invited public comment; Yolonda Brooks, 6464 19th Street W #C, asked if the vacancy was posted and about Mr. Ferguson’s attendance. It was reported that this was a reappointment, so it was not posted and there are no concerns about Mr. Ferguson’s attendance record. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

A. AWC Voting Delegates

Pingel reported that the City can appoint a delegate to attend the 2021 AWC virtual conference and business meeting. After a discussion, Pingel will be appointed, and Councilmember Reynolds will be appointed as the alternate.

B. Building Reopening & In-Person Meetings Discussion

Pingel reported that the staff would like to reopen the City buildings on July 1, 2021, or June 30, 2021. This would also allow for in-person meetings. There were discussions regarding continuing to allow remote participation by Council and the public as well as continuing to pursue Council chamber upgrades to better facilitate hybrid meetings and court hearings.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

There were no comments provided.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Viafore commented that the donor event was great, and he is sad to hear about City Attorney Michael B. Smith retiring. Viafore reported that John Childs passed away and he will be remembered for bringing fireworks back to Fircrest.
- Reynolds reported that she continues to watch the COVID-19 case numbers and is keeping her finger on the pulse of vaccine breakthrough data as it is released.
- Wittner; no comments provided.
- Barrentine thanked the Graduation Parade volunteers.
- Waltier thanked the staff for the Graduation Parade and reported that 30 graduates participated.
- Mayor George thanked the staff for their effort with the community events and congratulated City Attorney Michael B. Smith on his retirement. Lastly, he thanked the meeting attendees.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

George invited public comment. The following individuals provided public comment:

- Yolonda Brooks, 6464 19th Street W #C, expressed that she supports hybrid meetings and asked that long-term residents be included in the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Lastly, she congratulated her son on his achievements.
- Brian Rybolt, 1036 Daniels Drive, commented on his concern for the Electron Way angle parking and expressed that he does not support hybrid meetings for elected officials.
- Derek Wescott, 417 Buena Vista Ave, commented by email that he would like the City to revise the COVID restrictions for youth baseball based upon the update from the CDC.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Parks & Recreation

Barrentine reported that the baseball season is going well.

B. Pierce County Regional Council

Reynolds reported that PCRC is receptive to the Pierce County Citizens' Climate Lobby and there will be more discussion in the future regarding surface water programs.

C. Public Safety, Courts

Reynolds reported that the Police Department continues to onboard the new officer.

D. Street, Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain

Waltier reported that hanging baskets are on schedule.

E. Other Liaison Reports

There were none provided.

CONSENT CALENDAR

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar: approval of Voucher No. 216482 through Voucher Check No. 216537 in the amount of \$187,022.83; approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$123,569.31; approval of the May 11, 2021, Regular Meeting minutes; approval of the May 17, 2021, Study Session minutes; setting a public hearing on June 8, 2021, at 7:15 p.m. or thereafter to receive comments on proposed amendments to FMC 22.26.025 Sign Code Exemptions. **Wittner MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded**

by **Waltier**. After the motion, Viafore requested that the May 17, 2021, study session minutes be removed from the consent calendar and be placed on the June 8, 2021, regular meeting consent calendar. There were no objections. **The Motion Carried (6-0) as amended.**

PUBLIC HEARING

No Public Hearing was scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business was scheduled.

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

Viafore asked about the status of the slow pitch league and Grover reported the staff is planning to have a summer league.

There was a brief discussion regarding requiring in-person Councilmembers or attendees to be vaccinated.

Waltier commented that there is a time for public comments earlier in the meeting and would like to set rules regarding the chat function.

Reynolds asked about the laws or Council rules governing a pro-tempore councilmember for a leave of absence. There was a brief discussion about excused absences and the laws governing leaves of absence for elected officials.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session was scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT

Wittner MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 P.M., seconded by Waltier. The Motion Carried (6-0).



Hunter T. George, Mayor



Jayne Westman, City Clerk