

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor George called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers David M. Viafore, Shannon Reynolds, Brett Wittner, Joe Barrentine, and Denny Waltier were present.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Initial report on Pool Opening & Operations

Parks & Recreation Director Grover provided an overview of the grand opening weekend and the pool programming. Grover reported that there is 3700 RecDesk Accounts setup, and 208 season passes sold to residents, which is more passes sold than in years past. There was a brief discussion on season passes including lap swim.

B. Community Center and Pool Project

Grover briefed the Council on the progress of the Community Center construction project and reported that the site grading is taking place and electrical is being installed. City Manager Pingel reported that site walks are now available with the general contractor.

C. Pierce County's ARPA Strategy

Pingel briefed the Council on the Zoom call with Pierce County Council Chair Derek Young and Executive Dammeier regarding Pierce County's desire to partner with the surrounding jurisdictions to address homelessness and housing affordability utilizing the ARPA funds. Discussions included bringing the topic to a future study session and prioritizing the residents of Fircrest first with the ARPA funds.

D. Procedure for filling City Council Vacancy

Pingel briefed the Council on the resignation of Councilmember Jamie Nixon effective June 1, 2021, and the process to fill the vacant seat. Discussions included streamlining the application process due to the appointment being a short period and appointing a candidate running for one of the open Council positions. Reynolds requested a legal opinion. City Attorney Mike Smith reported that the position should not limit who can apply, and the majority of the Council will prevail. There was a consensus to open the application process tomorrow and close it on June 18, 2021, at noon. The candidates will be reviewed at the June 21, 2021, study session and the council would like to appoint the position at the regular meeting on June 22, 2021.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

A. Water System Plan Financials Follow-up

Pingel provided a brief overview of the Water System Plan, Chapter 10. He reports that water usage history and reported that customer behaviors have not changed year-to-year. Pingel highlighted that the proposed annual increase remains at 2% in the plan and that the staff would like to be proactive with water main replacements as emergency repairs are costly. Lastly, Pingel recognized that the water system plan is a planning level document due to changing needs, costs, and opportunities that may come during the plan period.

Pingel reported that our assessed property values increased 14% year-to-year and that the Avidex proposal will be discussed at a future study session. The staff would like to move quickly to accommodate hybrid meetings.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Police Chief Cheesman reported that the lateral officer has started with the department and is doing great.
- Public Works Director Bemis reported that the summer hires have started, and they are a good group and reported there may be a shortage of road striping paint.
- Finance Director Corcoran the State Reports will be reviewed on Thursday and the Wellness Committee recognized the Police Officers and showed the council the plaque that each officer received. Corcoran thanked Office Assistant Barb Gollinger and Recreation Supervisor Chris Wells for their hard work.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Waltier; no comments provided.
- Barrentine commented that litter is a problem along Orchard and thanked the Recreation Staff.
- Wittner thanked the attendees and commented that he loves the new pool.
- Reynolds commented that there are newer HVAC systems available that can provide a healthy workplace and may help combat a future covid-like outbreak.
- Viafore commented that he likes the plaques for the Police Officers and commented that this year the REIT revenue has increased due to the higher assessed value. Viafore asked about the StripeRight contract and Bemis confirmed that the contract is still in place and is waiting to hear if the paint shortage affects them. Lastly, Viafore asked that the senior van gets driven and asked about the status of the year-to-year pool report.
- George reported that the Governor’s liaison for Parks & Recreation has indicated that all restrictions will be lifted on gatherings, outside of large venue gatherings per CDC and LNI guidance on June 30, 2021, if not before.

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, asked if the city has been included in the conversations with Sound Transit regarding the 19th Street transit line. Pingel reported that the TCC connection will be pushed out as it is a Tier II project. Brooks asked that the city consider using the Senior van as residents would enjoy it.
- Brian Rybolt, 1036 Daniels Drive, commented that he would like to see the city use the senior van and that he does not believe that the Council should rush to fill the Council vacancy. Lastly, Rybolt commented that he supports the resignation of Councilmember Nixon and does not support collaboration with Pierce County for utilizing ARPA funds.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Administration

Viafore reported that the City Attorney position request for qualifications will be posted soon, and he has concerns about the Council Chambers upgrades.

B. Environmental, Planning, and Building

No report was provided.

C. Finance, IT, Facilities

Wittner reported that he will be meeting with staff to discuss the audit and the financials went out today.

D. Other Liaison Reports

Mayor George commented on the tax value report from the assessor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar: approval of Voucher No. 216538 through Voucher Check No. 216585 in the amount of \$229,675.53; approval of Payroll Check No. 14054 through Payroll Check No. 14057 in the amount of \$8,298.13; approval of Payroll Check No. 14058 through Payroll Check No. 14063 in the amount of \$52,177.73; approval of Payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$135,403.70; Setting a special meeting on October 4, 2021, October 11, 2021, October 18, 2021, and October 25, 2021, at 6 p.m. to review the 2022 budget; Setting a public hearing on July 13, 2021, at 7:15 p.m. or thereafter to receive comments on the 6-year Transportation Improvement Plan; approval of May 17, 2021, Study Session Meeting minutes as corrected; and approval of May 25, 2021, Regular Meeting minutes; **Wittner MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried (6-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

A. To receive comments on the proposed amendments to FMC 22.26.025 Sign Code Exemptions

At 8:14 P.M., George opened the public hearing. Planning and Building Administrator Stahlnecker briefed the Council on the proposed amendments to FMC 22.26.025 Sign Code Exemptions, stating the public hearing was to receive comments on the proposal to amend the City's municipal code to allow for city-oriented signs to be placed in the right-of-way. Stahlnecker reported that the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing and did not receive any comments or opposition. George invited councilmember comments; Viafore asked if the school district would be exempt and Stahlnecker reported that the school district would not be exempt. George invited public testimony; no testimony was provided. At 8:18 P.M., George closed the public hearing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 1713: AWC Voting Delegates

City Manager Pingel briefed the Council on the proposed Resolution and reported that will be attending the AWC business meeting. **Wittner MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1713, designating City Manager Scott Pingel as voting delegate and Councilmember Reynolds as the alternate voting delegate at the 2021 AWC Annual Conference; seconded by Barrentine.** George invited councilmember comments; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

B. Resolution No. 1714: Approval of American Rescue Plan Act Award Terms and Conditions Agreement

Pingel reported that the proposed Resolution allows for the city to receive ARPA funds and the City will be receiving roughly 1.9 million dollars over two years. **Wittner MOVED to adopt**

Resolution No. 1714, authorizing the City Manager to execute the U.S. Department of the Treasury Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Award Terms and Conditions Agreement and Title VI Assurances that are required in order to access the City’s American Rescue Plan Act funds; seconded by Reynolds. George invited councilmember comments; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. The Motion Carried (6-0).

C. Information Only: Finance Report on Sales Tax

Finance Director Corcoran provided an overview of the sales tax history and provided brief highlights of the different factors. Corcoran reported that there is a delay in reporting from the date of the sale and we will not see the sales tax revenue from the construction of the pool and community center in the future.

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

Pingel commented that he would like the Council to be thinking about their goals for the upcoming study session and more information will be coming soon.

Waltier commented that he believes a master plan at Whittier Park is needed and asked that the staff not lose sight of the electronic readerboard topic.

George commented that he would also like to see a master plan for Whittier Park and asked the Council to consider the long-range goals when thinking of the future.

Viafore asked that the staff provide the current Whittier Park master plan to help inform the planning of the potential new master plan.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT

Waltier MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 P.M., seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried (6-0).



Hunter T. George, Mayor



Jayne Westman, City Clerk