

**CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor George called the special meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers David M. Viafore, Shannon Reynolds, Brett Wittner, Joe Barrentine, Denny Waltier, and Marc Rieke were present.

**AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

There were none.

**PRELIMINARY 2022 BUDGET**

City Manager Pingel presented the Preliminary 2022 Budget, which included Street Fund, Enterprise Funds, and other significant items. Pingel stated that the 2022 Enterprise Fund Overview included a proposed two percent water rate increase and an increase in transfers from REET-1 for street improvements of \$100,000 following the Six-Year TIP.

Pingel presented the Street Fund overview, which included City goals and capital projects. There was a brief discussion on street markings prioritization. Public Works Director Bemis reported that the paint supply was scarce and difficult to obtain to finish main arterial streets and will be considering contracting Stripe Rite to perform thermoplastic pavement striping. Viafore commented on the ability to perform thermoplastic pavement striping in-house with training from University Place Public Works. Pingel reported that there was an increase in Professional Services line for contract negotiations, Land Rental due to the 6.3% CPI, and a decrease in ERR replacement and maintenance. Viafore commented on street light longevity and allocating appropriate funds. Pingel reported that street light maintenance will continue, and replacements will happen in the future.

Pingel presented the Storm Drain Fund, Water Fund, and Sewer Fund operating goals, revenues, and expenses to include Capital Fund revenues and expenditures. Viafore commented on catch basin inspections, street sweeping policy, and schedule. Reynolds requested updated work plans for each department per the budget allocation. There was a brief discussion on consistent information on the website with ongoing operations. Pingel reported that this is the last year of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan, which reflects a decrease in interest in the debt service. Viafore commented on the necessity to increase the water rate stating the City has received tangible revenue to sustain low water rates with ARPA funds. Pingel highlighted that it would be preferable to have smaller multiple rate increases rather than a significant increase to make it more manageable for households. There was a discussion on the water meter replacement program and revenue trends as the City moves to more efficient water meters. Reynolds requested that the Council discuss a strategy for data collection at a future Study Session. George requested a proposed list of projects that would be covered with ARPA funds. Viafore requested statistics on City households that use 1,500 c.f. or more of water usage.

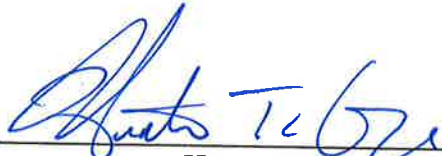
George stated Public Hearings will be held on revenue sources and the budget at the October 12<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Also on the agenda will be the salary ordinances. The through-lot study session is scheduled for October 18, 2021, at which time and at the will of the council, further budget items may be discussed. There was a brief discussion on flushing fire hydrants.

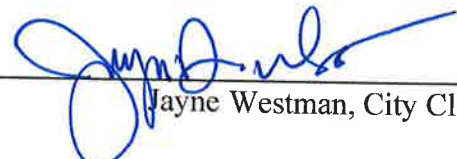
OCTOBER 11, 2021

FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING 2

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Viafore MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 P.M., seconded by Waltier. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

  
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Hunter T. George, Mayor

  
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Jayne Westman, City Clerk