

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

City Clerk Westman 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, Hunter T. George, Nikki Bufford, and Jim Andrews were present.

**PRESIDING OFFICER’S REPORT**

**A. Suspension of Rules for Selection of Mayor**

Westman reviewed the process for the selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore based on the information Council received from Council’s Rules of Procedures on Election of Officers and Robert’s Rules of Order relating to Nominations, Elections, and Voting. Westman stated if Council concurred, two motions would be required: the first motion to suspend Council’s Rules and Procedures for this item of business, and the second motion to adopt the procedure option for selecting a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore. **Viafore MOVED that Council suspend its Rules and Procedures for Agenda Item 4 – the Selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore and furthermore adopt Robert’s Rules of Order relating to Nominations, Elections, and Voting to vote by a majority and silent ballots; seconded by Wittner. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**B. Selection of Mayor**

Westman opened the floor for nominations for the position of Mayor for a two-year period:

- Viafore nominated Councilmember Wittner.
- Reynolds nominated Councilmember Wittner.
- Wittner passed.
- Barrentine nominated Councilmember Wittner.
- George nominated Councilmember Wittner.
- Bufford nominated Councilmember Wittner.
- Andrews nominated Councilmember Wittner.

Westman closed the nominations. **Viafore MOVED to appoint Councilmember Brett Wittner to the position of Mayor of the City of Fircrest City Council for a two-year term effective immediately; seconded by Barrentine. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**C. Selection of Mayor Pro Tempore**

Wittner stated that the selection of the Mayor Pro Tempore for the two-year term would follow the same procedure as the one for selection of the Mayor, and opened the floor for nominations:

- Viafore passed.
- Reynolds nominated Councilmember Viafore.
- Wittner passed.
- Barrentine passed.
- George nominated Councilmember Barrentine.

- Bufford nominated Councilmember Barrentine.
- Andrews nominated Councilmember Viafore.

Mayor Wittner invited councilmember comment; there were none.

Silent ballots were distributed and read into the record:

- Viafore voted for Councilmember Viafore.
- Reynolds voted for Councilmember Viafore.
- Barrentine voted for Councilmember Barrentine.
- George voted for Councilmember Barrentine.
- Bufford voted for Councilmember Barrentine.
- Andrews voted for Councilmember Viafore.
- Wittner voted for Councilmember Barrentine.

**George MOVED to appoint Councilmember Joe Barrentine to the position of Mayor Pro Tempore of the City of Fircrest City Council for a two-year term effective immediately; seconded by Bufford. The Motion Carried (4-3).**

#### **D. Community Center and Pool Project**

Parks & Recreation Director Grover reported that Kassel is currently working on interior work to include electrical, lighting, fixtures, and various mechanical. The storefronts will be completed by the end of the week and the contractor has started mounting fixtures for the sound insulation. The paving has been placed on hold due to wet weather conditions. Viafore asked for an update on the tentative completion date. Grover stated that the City is waiting on an update from Kassel.

### **CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

#### **A. Snow and Ice Response**

Public Works Director Bemis provided a brief overview of the Snow and Ice Response report and stated he will be scheduling an after-action review with staff to discuss the timing of the event, type of unusual weather, call-out processes, equipment, and materials. Andrews and Wittner gave kudos to the Public Works Crew. Viafore requested to place this item on the September Study Session. Reynolds asked if there was a major financial impact due to the storm falling during the federal holiday. Bemis stated that there was overtime.

Pingel asked for the Council's feedback for the January 18<sup>th</sup> study session. Preliminary items include basics on public records, executive sessions and emails, and the Claremont Street traffic issue. There was a consensus to have both items on the January 18<sup>th</sup> study session. Pingel asked if there were any objections to rescheduling the February study session to the regular meeting on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 P.M. There was a consensus to reschedule. Pingel reminded the Council that University Place and Tacoma School District representatives will be at the January 25<sup>th</sup>

regular meeting to discuss the school levy on the upcoming elections. Pingel also reminded the Council of the upcoming joint meeting with the Planning Commission in February. Viafore requested that the joint city council meeting agenda items be added to the upcoming study session.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

- Public Works Director Bemis reported that discussions regarding Christmas décor and the Alice Peers tree should start soon to ensure smooth operations. The Claremont Street traffic study would cost an estimate between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

- Andrews congratulated Mayor Wittner and Mayor Pro Tempore Barrentine on their appointments. He welcomed Councilmember Bufford.
- Bufford thanked Council for the welcoming and thanked city staff for their assistance.
- Barrentine thanked Public Works and city staff for their efforts during the snowstorm. He also thanked the Parks & Recreation staff for the Holiday Lighting event. He congratulated Mayor Wittner on his appointment.
- George congratulated Mayor Wittner, Mayor Pro Tempore Barrentine, and the councilmember elects. He wished everyone a Happy New Year. George asked for an update on the city operations concurrent with the spread of the Omicron virus. City Manager Pingel stated that the city has procedural protocols for any staff member who is exposed and tests positive. George asked Police Chief Cheesman about protocols for the police officers. Cheesman stated that city police officers have procedural protocols for exposures and positive cases. Cheesman also stated that surrounding jurisdictions have agreed to assist Fircrest if there is insufficient staffing.
- Reynolds welcomed and congratulated the councilmember elects. Reynolds provided an overview of the current COVID-19 data.
- Viafore thanked the Fircrest Police Department, Police Chief Cheesman, Public Works Department, and Parks & Recreation staff. Viafore welcomed councilmember elects and congratulated Mayor Wittner on his appointment. Viafore stated that the city has been operating financially at its best and reminded the council of AWC training. Viafore asked for a status update of the reader board. Pingel stated that community outreach will happen next. Viafore commented on the Claremont Street stop sign obstruction due to vegetation. Bemis stated that the city is looking into options that would mitigate the vegetation issue.
- Wittner welcomed the councilmember elects and congratulated Mayor Pro Tempore Barrentine on his appointment.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Wittner invited public comment;

- Bryan Rybolt, 1036 Daniels Drive, thanked the Public Works crew for their diligence during the snowstorm.

**COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS**

George reported that the SSHAP committee met last Friday and drafted bylaws to be shared with cities for their review.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Wittner requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar: approval of Voucher No. 217470 through Voucher Check No. 217525 in the amount of \$484,693.89; approval of Voucher No. 217526 through Voucher Check No. 217550 in the amount of \$94,818.06; approval of Payroll Check Nos. 14118 through Payroll Check No. 14120 in the amount of \$8,131.07; approval of Payroll Check Nos. 14121 through Payroll Check No. 14126 in the amount of \$58,690.47; approval of Payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$128,638.78; Setting a public hearing on January 25, 2022, to receive comments on a proposed solid waste rate adjustment; Setting the 2022 City Council Study Session meetings on January 18, February 22, March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21, and December 19 starting at 6:00 pm at City Hall; Setting a joint meeting of the City Council and the Planning Commission on February 1, 2022, at 6:00 pm at City Hall; Registering no objections to the Los Tapatios Liquor License Renewal; and approval of the December 28, 2021, Regular Meeting minutes. **George MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Barrentine.** Viafore requested to remove Wimbles Tree Service invoice 25967 in the amount of \$2,728. **The Motion Carried As Amended (7-0).** Viafore clarified that the removal of the tree that is impeding on the street is not the responsibility of the city and stated that there should be a defined policy for the removal of trees. This is the second time trees are removed at the expense of the city. **Viafore MOVED to authorize payment of the Accounts Payable Wimbles Tree Service invoice 25967 in the amount of \$2,728 for the logging and removal of tree service; seconded by Barrentine. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

None scheduled.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was none.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Resolution No. 1749: Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Pierce County for Solid and Hazardous Waste**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed agreement with Pierce County for the Solid and Hazardous Waste Plan and the length of the term. **Viafore MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1749, authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Pierce County that identifies Pierce County as the preparer and keeper of the Solid and Hazardous Waste plan in which the City of Fircrest is in line with and abides by; seconded by Barrentine.** Wittner invited councilmember comment; none were provided. Wittner invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

#### **B. Resolution No. 1750: Axon Body-worn Cameras and Tasers Sole Source Purchase**

Police Chief Cheesman briefed the Council on the Sole Source contract with Axon Enterprise for Body Camera and Taser use, and the benefits for policing. **George MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1750, a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign and approve a Sole Source contract with Axon Enterprise for Body Camera and Taser use for 5 years; seconded by Barrentine.** Wittner invited councilmember comment; Barrentine thanked Cheesman and staff for their proactivity in pursuing body-worn cameras, stated that it should be included in the town

topics, and suggested using analytics to create training data. George gave kudos to Cheesman and the police department. George asked about the implementation timeline. Cheesman stated that Westman and himself have a meeting scheduled on February 14<sup>th</sup> to begin software implementation, and on March 9<sup>th</sup>, police officers will begin training. Bufford expressed gratitude to Cheesman for his research and asked about the invoice expiration date. Wittner invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**C. Resolution No. 1751: Water Tower Easement Approval**

Administrative Services Director Westman briefed the Council on the easement with The Alliance Northwest District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance for access to the water tower site off South Orchard Street. **George MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1751, authorizing the City Manager to sign the easement documents as a representative of the City of Fircrest for the water tower property located at 2611 South Orchard Street; seconded by Viafore.** Wittner invited councilmember comment; Viafore inquired about the original easement document. There was a discussion on the legalities of the easement agreement, the verbiage, and old recordkeeping processes. **Viafore MOVED to table Resolution No. 1751, authorizing the City Manager to sign the easement documents as a representative of the City of Fircrest for the water tower property located at 2611 South Orchard Street; seconded by Bufford. The Motion Carried As Amended (7-0).**

**D. Resolution No. 1752: PCRC Appointment**

City Manager Pingel briefed the Council on appointing a councilmember as the Fircrest representative and the alternate to the Pierce County Regional Council. **George MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1752, appointing Councilmember Shannon Reynolds as representative to the Pierce County Regional Council, and further appointing Councilmember Nikki Bufford as an alternate representative to the Pierce County Regional Council for 2022; seconded by Barrentine.** Wittner invited councilmember comment; there were none. Wittner invited public comment; there were none. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS**

- Cheesman congratulated Mayor Wittner, Mayor Pro Tempore Barrentine, and councilmember elects.
- Andrews commented on Town Topics rotation for councilmembers.
- Viafore commented on the Eagle Hardware document file.
- Reynolds thanked Chief Cheesman and wished to stay the police liaison.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was none scheduled.

January 11, 2022

Fircrest City Council Meeting Minutes – Regular 6

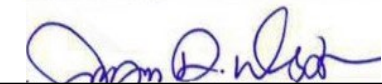
**ADJOURNMENT**

**Viafore MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 P.M., seconded by Barrentine. The Motion Carried (7-0).**



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Brett L. Wittner, Mayor



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Jayne Westman, City Clerk