

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tempore Joe Barrentine 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, Hunter T. George, Nikki Bufford, and Jim Andrews were present.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Proclamation: Arbor Day

Reynolds read the proclamation into the record. **George MOVED to authorize the Mayor's signature on a proclamation proclaiming the last Friday of April as Arbor Day in the City of Fircrest; seconded by Bufford.** Barrentine invited councilmember comment; George commented that the City has been making progress towards earning a Tree City designation. Pingel stated that the City will be holding a celebration, on May 7th, to fulfill the last requirement for the City Tree designation. Barrentine invited public comment; there were none.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

B. Proclamation: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Bufford read the proclamation into the record. **George MOVED to authorize the Mayor's signature on a proclamation proclaiming the month of May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the City of Fircrest; seconded by Bufford.** Barrentine invited councilmember comment; there was none. Barrentine invited public comment;

- Yolonda Brooks, 6464 19th Street W #C commented that the Asian Pacific Cultural Center website has information on celebratory events.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

C. Proclamation: Community Center Grand Opening

Wittner read the proclamation into the record. **George MOVED to authorize the Mayor's signature on a proclamation proclaiming April 26th, 2022 as Fircrest Parks and Recreation Day; seconded by Reynolds.** Barrentine invited councilmember comment; there was none. Barrentine invited public comment; there was none. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Pingel reported that the City phones are not operational, and staff is currently assessing issues. Pingel thanked the community, Council, and staff for the grand opening of the Community Center. There was a brief discussion held on the timeline for the phone system, including involving Mayor Wittner and City Attorney Hillary Evans for further escalation.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Administrative Services Director Westman introduced Passport Specialist, Laura Thompson.
- Parks & Recreation Director Grover introduced Recreation Coordinator, Ryan Brown and Office Assistant Raquel LaPointe. Grover reported that the Community Center is now officially open to the public. There were discussions held on a pool manager, registering for classes in-person, online facility rentals, community center fees, and the high rating for the air quality test at the Community Center.

- Police Chief Cheesman reported that the Community Center grand opening was a great community event. Cheesman reported that the Cops vs Teachers event will take place this Friday.
- Public Works Director Bemis reported that PSE has mobilized equipment and materials. Public outreach has taken place and the water main upgrade bid packet will be going out soon. Bemis thanked Bryce Wakefield, Maintenance Lead, for his hard work at the Community Center. Andrews commented that the residents love to see the street sweeper. There was a brief discussion held on open sidewalks, the six-month open permit process, and the accessibility conditions for residents.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Viafore commented on sending a letter to Tacoma for the NewCold storage warehouse and continuing efforts for alternative routes on Orchard Street. Viafore stated that Ray Faranda, a longtime Fircrest Resident, passed away. Faranda was a very active resident in Council meetings. Viafore gave kudos to the staff for the community center grand opening event.
- Reynolds; no comment.
- George gave kudos to all City staff including a special thanks to Bryce Wakefield. George stated that it was special to see the City’s vision come to life. George spoke to Rob Widmeyer, whose mother’s piano was donated to the community center, and Emily Wheeler, the lead architect at ARC, about the excitement of the grand opening.
- Bufford commented on the high energy at the grand opening event. Bufford gave kudos to the staff, Council, and the community.
- Andrews commented that the Tacoma Fire Department is giving tours to public officials.
- Wittner thanked everyone for their involvement in the grand opening and reminded the public that the pandemic is not over.
- Barrentine stated that he was impressed and proud to be a part of the grand opening. Barrentine thanked Councilmember George for his presentation at the grand opening.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Barrentine invited public comment. The following individual provided public comment:

- Yolonda Brooks, 6464 19th Street W #C, congratulated the staff for the community center. Brooks stated that she will contact the WSDOT ADA manager for the open sidewalk compliance. Brooks commented that the SW Washington Contractors Association is looking for equipment operators for Dozer Days scheduled on May 13th.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Parks & Recreation

George reported that there were 22 applications for the lifeguard positions. George also reported that there are final details to be added at the Community Center, including adding plaques to the Larry Anderson sculptures and piano. Lastly, George stated there will be grants in the near future for maintenance backlogs.

B. Pierce County Regional Council

Reynolds reported that PCRC met last Thursday and Bruce Dammeier, Pierce County Executive, gave an update on COVID and crime rates.

C. Public Safety, Courts

Viafore reported that Chief Cheesman is doing great with his weekly updates. Viafore reported that there may be possible legislative changes during the next full session that could attack our Municipal Courts. Viafore asked Pingel to forward the legislative agenda for updates.

D. Street, Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain

Barrentine reported he toured the Puget Sound Energy project site and discussed communication and outreach strategies for residents.

E. Other Liaison Reports

There were none provided.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Barrentine requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar: approval of Voucher No. 217899 through Voucher Check No. 217961 in the amount of \$192,063.62; approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$120,990.24; approval of the April 12, 2022, Regular Meeting minutes as corrected; and approval of the April 18, 2022, Study Session minutes. **George MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Reynolds. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

No Public Hearing was scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 1766: Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual Amendment

City Manager Pingel briefed the Council on amending the personnel policies and procedures manual to include Juneteenth as a recognized, paid holiday. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1766, amending the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual for employees of the City of Fircrest to include June 19th, also known as Juneteenth, as a recognized, paid holiday; seconded by Bufford.** Barrentine invited councilmember comment; Viafore asked how the City will address the addition of a paid holiday to the Teamsters bargaining unit. Pingel stated that it will be discussed in the executive session. Barrentine invited public comment; there was none.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

B. Ordinance No. 1684: Amendments to FMC Chapter 2.44 Personnel System

City Manager Pingel briefed the Council on approving the proposed ordinance to update the recognized paid holidays section by adding Juneteenth as a recognized holiday. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1684, amending Ordinance No. 1636 Section 2 and FMC 2.44.150 (a) relating to recognized paid holidays; seconded Bufford.** Barrentine invited councilmember comment; there was none. Barrentine invited public comment; there was none.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

- Viafore requested the crack sealing map schedule for the summer.

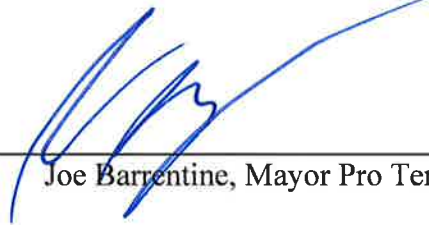
- Wittner commented that on Emerson Street, across from the Fircrest Commons, a tree is missing.
- Reynolds gave an update on the COVID vaccine for kids.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

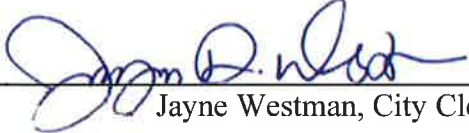
At 8:15 P.M., Barrentine reported that the Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed 25 minutes to discuss labor negotiations per RCW 42.30.140(4)(b). City Manager Pingel was invited to the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

George MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 P.M., seconded by Bufford. The Motion Carried (7-0).



Joe Barrentine, Mayor Pro Tempore



Jayne Westman, City Clerk