

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Wittner called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers David M. Viafore, Shannon Reynolds, Joe Barrentine, Hunter T. George, Nikki Bufford, and Jim Andrews were present.

PRESIDING OFFICER’S REPORT

Wittner reported that Interim City Manager Corcoran will be on vacation from December 28, 2022, to January 11, 2023.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

There were none provided.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Public Works Director Bemis reported that T-Mobile and Sprint are removing their equipment from the high tank near Lowe’s and that there were five water shut-offs for this utility billing cycle. Lastly, the facilities department is working on winterizing all systems and creating staff winter work plans.
- Parks & Recreation Director Grover reported that the department did not receive any proposals for the Fircrest Tennis Court Resurfacing RFQ and is planning to readvertise in 2023. Grover reported that he will meet with Landscape Architect, Robert W. Droll for the Fircrest Park improvements. Lastly, Grover stated that he is working on the RFP for the Whittier Master Plan.
- Administrative Services Director Westman requested feedback for the Prose Mildred Property development. Westman thanked Permit Coordinator, Suzie Cappiello, for her service. Wittner requested that at the next regular meeting, on October 11th, 2022, the Council set a public hearing for October 25th, 2022, on the consent calendar.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Andrews commented on the plaque at the community center. There was a discussion held on the councilmember recognition plaque at the community center and pool.
- Bufford; no comment.
- George thanked the meeting attendees and Suzie Cappiello.
- Barrentine thanked the Fircrest soccer staff.
- Reynolds stated that the community center groundwork started before 2018.
- Viafore commented on Jolibois’ service and stated that the previous City Manager presented the list of names for the community center and pool plaques.
- Wittner thanked the meeting attendees and asked for the cost of a replacement plaque. Grover stated that the cost is between \$2,800 and \$3,000.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

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

- Vince Navarre, 1205 Del Monte Ave, commented on the City proclamations.
- Morgan Medlock, 1228 Eldorado Ave, commented on the political signs being removed.
- Evan Lee, 514 Ramsdell St, commented on the addition of bike lanes.
- Brian Rybolt, 1036 Daniels Dr, commented on Council districts.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Parks & Recreation

George reported that he provided an overview at the September 19th, 2022 study session.

B. Pierce County Regional Council

Reynolds reported that Pierce County Sheriff Ed Troyer presented at PCRC and emphasized staffing shortages and their impacts. Lastly, Reynolds stated that PCRC is soliciting topics for the PCRC legislative agenda. All topics should be sent to Brynn Brady at Ceiba Consulting.

C. Public Safety, Courts

Viafore reported that the Court Administrator and Judge are tracking legislative issues that could have an impact on Municipal Courts. Viafore also reported that the Civil Service will be conducting Lateral Police Oral Boards soon. Lastly, Viafore reported that Chief Cheesman is monitoring Pierce County Jail impacts and that the Fircrest Police Department can book arrestees dependent on their crime.

D. Street, Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain

Barrentine reported on Public Works Department staffing, restriping of Regents Blvd and Alameda Ave intersections, the replacement of the Fircrest Municipal sign, and pool winterization.

Public Works Director Bemis stated that the department is assessing all crosswalk markings.

Viafore requested that the Claremont Street sign be placed on the solar panel post for emergency purposes. Bemis stated that he will identify proper placement.

George stated that the Pierce County's Sheriff Department's message should be relayed on Town Topics.

E. Other Liaison Reports

None provided.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Wittner requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar: approval of Voucher No. 218558 through Voucher Check No. 218610 in the amount of \$200,794.24; approval of Payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$130,645.42; approval of September 13, 2022, Regular Meeting minutes; approval of September 19, 2022, Study Session Meeting minutes as corrected; **Reynolds MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Barrentine. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

There was none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 1787: Adopting the 2020 Comprehensive Water System Plan

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the 2020 Water System Plan Update and highlighted that the financial analysis within the plan identifies a 2% rate increase per year. **Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1787, authorizing the City Manager to approve the 2020 Water System Plan Update; seconded by George.** Wittner invited councilmember comments. Viafore thanked Bemis for his efforts. George stated that the City's water system is healthy. Wittner invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

B. No Action Taken: 1st Reading of the 2nd 2022 Budget Amendment

Interim Finance Director Chambers briefed the Council on the request for additional appropriations for anticipated revenues and expenditures not provided for in the Adopted 2022 Budget. There was a brief discussion on addressing the City's revenue.

C. Resolution No. 1788: Appreciation of Joe Harrison's Public Service

Administrative Services Director Westman briefed the Council on the Resolution of Appreciation for Commissioner Harrison to recognize and thank his contributions to the City of Fircrest. **Viafore MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1788, recognizing Joe Harrison's 35 years of dedicated service to the City of Fircrest Civil Service, and Planning Commission; seconded by George.** Wittner invited councilmember comments. Viafore commented on Harrison's dedication to the City and stated that Harrison is the longest-serving public official in Fircrest. George thanked Harrison for his years of service. Wittner invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

D. Presentation of the 2023 budget

Interim City Manager Corcoran presented the 2023 proposed budget to the Council and stated that hard copies are available to be picked up at City Hall. Corcoran highlighted impacts on the budget to include a cost of living adjustment for city staff of 9.5% based on the Consumer Price Index and a property tax increase. The tax increase includes the annual 1% allowed by law and three years of deferred tax increases that the Council deferred in 2020, 2021, and 2022. Lastly, Corcoran provided an overview of the city's ARPA funds. Corcoran reported that the preliminary budget will be available on the City's website. Wittner invited councilmember comment. George requested that the City's website have more information about the City Manager's proposed budget.

Viafore stated that the Council has not given Interim City Manager Corcoran goals per her contract and would like to set a motion. **Viafore MOVED to have the quarterly and yearly written goals of the City Council be that Interim City Manager Corcoran continues the implementation of the 2022 budget, work on the 2023 budget, and assist department heads on their 2023 work plans; seconded by Barrentine.** Wittner invited councilmember comments. Viafore stated that the purpose was to remain in compliance with Corcoran's contract. George commented on a comprehensive pedestrian safety plan. There was a brief discussion on staffing shortages and focusing on the budget. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

Andrews commented on Alameda Ave's striping.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

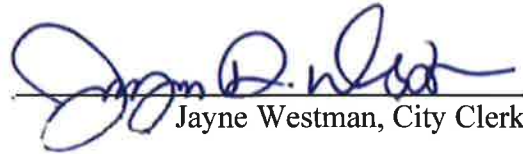
At 8:17 P.M., Wittner reported that the Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed sixty (60) minutes to discuss labor negotiations per RCW 42.30.140 (4)(b) and to discuss potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i). Interim City Manager Corcoran and City Attorney Zeinemann are invited to the Executive Session. Labor Attorney John Lee may be invited to discuss labor negotiations if needed.

ADJOURNMENT

Bufford MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 P.M., seconded by George. The Motion Carried (7-0).



Brett L. Wittner, Mayor



Jayne Westman, City Clerk