

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

Mayor Brett L. 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**

**A. Officer Lease Introduction & Swearing In Ceremony**

Police Chief Cheesman introduced Officer Jacob Lease and stated that he previously worked for the Longview Police Department. Administrative Services Director/ City Clerk Westman swore in Officer Jacob Lease.

**B. Presentation: City Attorney Council Rules and Etiquette**

City Attorney Zeinemann gave a presentation on Council Rules and Etiquette.

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

**A. City Manager Recruitment Update**

Colin Baeniziger & Associates representative, Lynelle Klein provided a recruitment update and recommended extending the deadline for applications. Discussions included recruitment timelines, group discussions, and candidate reports.

**B. Council Photos Discussion**

Interim City Manager Corcoran briefed the Council on setting a date for the Council group photo. There was a brief discussion on council member schedules and locations. There were no noted objections to having the Council photo taken outdoors. City Staff will provide dates and times via email.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

- Public Works Director Bemis reported on items including upcoming public works projects, Orchard Street and Center Street intersection maintenance, and the Water Well 7 repair.
- Police Chief Cheesman reported on the Coffee with a Cop event and provided an update on the recent lateral police officer oral board.
- Parks & Recreation Director Grover reported on the Fircrest Tennis Court bid.
- Interim finance Director Chambers reported on her completion of the Northwest Woman’s Leadership Academy and thanked the City of Fircrest for their support.

**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

- Andrews congratulated Curtis High School Boy’s Basketball team for winning the state championship.
- Bufford stated that 28<sup>th</sup> Legislative District State Representative Mari Leavitt and Dan Bronoske will be hosting a Community Town Hall on March 28, 2023, at Clover Park Technical College.
- George congratulated Interim finance Director Chambers on her completion of the Northwest Woman’s Leadership Academy.
- Reynolds; no comment.
- Viafore thanked and welcomed former Fircrest Public Works Director Burlingame for attending the meeting and commented on the City Manager recruitment process.

- Wittner congratulated Interim finance Director Chambers on her completion of the Northwest Woman’s Leadership Academy.

There was a brief discussion on holding an executive session for a Council discussion on the city manager recruitment. There were no noted objections to a group discussion and abstaining from individual phone calls.

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

Wittner invited public comment; the following individuals provided comments:

- Vince Navarre, 1205 Del Monte Ave, provided history on Thea Foss for Woman’s History Month.

**COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS**

**A. Administration**

There was no report provided.

**B. Environmental, Planning, and Building**

George reported on items including passports appointments, and the comprehensive plan, and provided an update on the Prose development.

**C. Finance, IT, Facilities**

Reynolds reported that the finance department is preparing for the state report and the deadline to submit a request for proposals (RFP) for Information Technology Services has been rescheduled to April 07, 2023.

**D. Other Liaison Reports**

There were no other reports.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Wittner requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar: approval of Voucher No. 219288 through Voucher Check No. 219346 in the amount of \$59,373.48; approval of Payroll Check No. 14238 through Payroll Check No. 14239 in the amount of \$9,406.80; approval of Payroll Check No. 14240 through Payroll Check No. 14245 in the amount of \$58,383.33; approval of Payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$143,449.83; approval of February 14, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes; and approval of February 28, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes. **George MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Barrentine.** Viafore requested to remove the February 28, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes. **The Motion to Approve the Consent Calendar Carried (7-0) as amended.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

There was no public hearing scheduled.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Ordinance No. 1705: Amending Sewer Connection Schedule of Fees**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed ordinance and highlighted that it will increase the sewer system General Facilities Charge's (GFC's), Service Connection Fee, and Inspection Fee. **George MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1705, amending Ordinance No. 1690 Section 1 and FMC 20.04.025 General Facilities Charge; amending Ordinance No. 1690 Section 2 and FMC 20.04.030 Service Connection Fees and Inspection Fees; seconded by Barrentine.** Wittner invited councilmember comment; there were none. Wittner invited public comment; there were none. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**B. Ordinance No. 1706: Amending Water Connection Schedule of Fees**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed ordinance and highlighted that it will increase the water system General Facilities Charges (GFC's), Service Connection Fees, and Water Meter Drop-In Fees. **Reynolds MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1706, amending Ordinance No. 1691 Section 1 and FMC 21.01.030 General Facilities Charge; amending Ordinance No. 1691 Section 2 and FMC 21.04.130 Service Connection Fees and Water Meter Drop-In Fees; seconded by Barrentine.** Wittner invited councilmember comment; there was none. Wittner invited public comment; there was none. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS**

- Andrews and Viafore welcomed Mimi's Tea business owner and Fircrest resident, Cheryl Burlingame and thanked for her community support.
- Chief Cheesman thanked meeting attendees, former Fircrest Police Officer and current Pierce County Sergeant Robert LaTour and retired Pierce County Detective and Fircrest resident Theresa Burg.


**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:09 P.M., Wittner reported that the Council would take a six-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed sixty (60) minutes to review the performance of a public employee per RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g) and to discuss potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i). Interim City Manager Corcoran and City Attorney Zeinemann were invited to the Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Bufford MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 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