

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tempore Joe Barrentine 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. Mayor Brett L. Wittner was absent and excused.

PRESIDING OFFICER’S REPORT

A. Interim Police Chief Introduction

City Manager Masko introduced Interim Police Chief Robert LaTour and stated that he will be providing operational and administrative services to the City’s Police Department. Interim Police Chief LaTour provided a brief overview of his policing philosophy.

B. Proclamation: Independence Day 2023

Councilmember Andrews read the proclamation “Independence Day 2023” into the record. **Viafore MOVED to authorize the Mayor Pro Tempore’s signature on the proclamation proclaiming July 4, 2023, as Independence Day in the City of Fircrest; seconded by Bufford.** Barrentine invited councilmember comment; none were provided. Barrentine invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

C. Proclamation: Public Safety Month

Councilmember Andrews read the proclamation “Public Safety Month” into the record. **Viafore MOVED to authorize the Mayor Pro Tempore’s signature on the proclamation proclaiming the month of July as Public Safety Appreciation month in the City of Fircrest; seconded by Reynolds.** Barrentine invited councilmember comment. George expressed his gratitude to the police department. Barrentine invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

D. Acting City Manager Farewell

City Manager Masko expressed her gratitude for Bob Jean and assisting in the capacity of Acting City Manager. The Council thanked Bob Jean for his willingness to help.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

A. Motion: Update Authorized Signers for City Bank accounts and City Credit Cards

City Manager Masko briefed the Council on the motion to add herself and remove former employees from financial accounts. **Bufford MOVED to authorize the City Manager or designee to add Dawn Masko, City Manager to all City of Fircrest’s financial accounts, and to remove Lindsay Chambers and Jayne Westman; seconded by Viafore.** Barrentine invited councilmember comment; none were provided. Barrentine invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

City Manager Masko reported on several items including the comprehensive plan update, the Police Chief recruitment, political purpose booths, and Emerson Street project paving issues.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Parks and Recreation Director Grover commented on the pool operations, swim lessons and events, Community Center solar panels, the Strawberry Festival, and volunteer opportunities.

- Interim Police Chief LaTour commented on National Night Out logistics, community outreach, and providing officer support.
- City Manager Masko commented on the Planning Commission vacancy and reported that the application deadline is July 07, 2023.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Viafore welcomed Interim Police Chief LaTour, expressed concern on the Golden Gate issue and the Wainwright landscape issue, and stated that Masko Park looks great.
- Reynolds; no comment.
- George commented on the Fircrest Community Visioning event and stated that the City would like more feedback. George thanked staff and sponsor, Harborstone Credit Union, for the Fircrest Strawberry Festival event.
- Bufford; no comment.
- Andrews commented on the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) flag and political booths for community involvement.
- Barrentine welcomed Interim Police Chief LaTour.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Barrentine invited public comment and asked for a three-minute time limit for each comment.

- Bryan Rybolt, 1036 Daniels Dr, commented on the Accounts Payable voucher run, Kiwanis Beer garden, Fircrest Community visioning event and survey issues, and political booths.
- Vince Navarre, 1205 Del Monte Ave, expressed concern about obtaining a political booth.

City Attorney Zeinemann commented on the legalities regarding political purpose booths and campaigning.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Parks & Recreation

A brief report was provided on the FAST swim team and swim lessons.

B. Pierce County Regional Council

Reynolds provided a brief report on the PCRC meeting agenda to include affordable housing, the comprehensive plan update, South Sound Housing Affordability Partners, and Washington's Commercial Aviation Coordinating Commission.

C. Public Safety, Courts

Viafore reported on court administration and welcomed Interim Police Chief LaTour.

D. Street, Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain

Bufford reported on the Emerson Street paving issue and a future Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a geographic information system (GIS) consultant. There was a brief discussion on utilizing the City's current GIS consultant to map current City assets.

E. Other Liaison Reports

George reported on the City street striping.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Barrentine requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar: approval of Voucher No. 219741 through Voucher Check No. 219803 in the amount of \$196,400.21; approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$169,435.23; Registering no objections to the special event liquor license for Fun Days; Registering no objections to the Shogun Liquor License Renewal; and approval of the June 13, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes. **George MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Bufford. The Motion Carried (6-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public hearing scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 1838: RWJ Consultant Agreement Amendment

City Manager Masko reported on the proposed resolution and highlighted the City's need for assistance with ongoing projects. **Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1838 authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the professional services agreement with RWJ Consultants for City management assistance and project coordinator services; seconded by George.** Barrentine invited councilmember comment; none were provided. Barrentine invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

B. Ordinance No. 1709: Salary Plan Amendment

City Manager Masko reported on the proposed ordinance and stated that the proposed ordinance would re-establish the City Clerk's salary range. **George MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1709, amending Fircrest Municipal Code ("FMC") 2.44.050 relating to salaries of non-union City employees and amending Section 1 of Ordinance No. 1708; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date; seconded by Bufford.** Barrentine invited councilmember comment. Viafore commented on the human resources responsibility and having the City Clerk as a stand-alone position. Barrentine invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (6-0).**

C. Council Goals Follow-up Discussion

Bob Jean provided a brief report on the Council goals and stated that the goals will guide staff on their work plans.

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:10 P.M., Barrentine reported that the Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed thirty (30) minutes to Discuss Potential Litigation, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and Property Acquisition, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b).

ADJOURNMENT

JUNE 27, 2023

FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR 4

Bufford MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 P.M., seconded by George. The Motion Carried (6-0).


Brett L. Wittner, Mayor


Arlette Burkhardt, City Clerk