

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tempore Nikki Bufford called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers David M. Viafore, Brett L. Wittner, Hunter T. George, and Jim Andrews were present. Councilmember Karen Mauer-Smith was absent and excused. Mayor Shannon Reynolds attended the meeting virtually.

PRESIDING OFFICER’S REPORT

A. Proclamation: Black History Month

Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford read the proclamation Black History Month into the record. **Councilmember Viafore MOVED to authorize the Mayor Pro Tempore’s signature on the proclamation proclaiming the month of February is Black History Month in the City of Fircrest; seconded by Councilmember George.** Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford invited Councilmember comment. Councilmember George expressed his excitement for the Black History Month community-led event. Councilmember Andrews stated that his granddaughter was taking part in an interpretive dance honoring Black History Month. Mayor Pro Tempore invited public comment.

- Jennifer Arnold, 333 Farallone Ave, commented on the Black History Month community event.
- Vince Navarre, 1205 Del Monte Ave, commented on the proclamation and African American history.
- Anastasia Greenmore, 502 Buena Vista Ave, thanked the City Council for the proclamation.

The Motion Carried (6-0).

B. 2024 Liaison Assignments

Mayor Reynolds reported on her proposed changes to the Council liaison assignments and read the Council liaison assignments into the record.

- Administration – Councilmember Wittner
- Finance, IT, & Facilities – Councilmember Mauer-Smith
- Parks & Recreation, & Sustainability – Councilmember Viafore
- Planning & Building – Councilmember George
- Public Safety & Court – Councilmember Bufford
- Street, Water, Sewer, & Storm – Councilmember Andrews

Council discussion included the process for amending the liaison titles and providing efficient workloads to the Council.

C. 2024 Committee Assignments

Mayor Reynolds briefed the Council on the Centennial and Investment Committees. There was a brief discussion on the Fircrest Centennial Celebration Steering Committee member's sunset date.

Councilmember Viafore MOVED to confirm Councilmember Wittner to the Fircrest Investment Committee; seconded by Councilmember George. Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford invited Councilmember comment; none were provided. Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (6-0).

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

A. Planning Commission Joint Meeting Topic

Acting City Manager Corcoran stated that the City Council and Planning Commission Joint Meeting is scheduled for February 06, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. regarding the Comprehensive Plan Update and public outreach.

B. Capital Requests Update

Acting City Manager Corcoran provided an update to the Council regarding the City's request for the Alameda Ave. Sidewalk Extension Project. Discussions included the project cost and grant application deadline. Councilmember Viafore requested further information on the City's Capital Request.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Community Development Director Newman commented on several departmental work items including the upcoming Joint City Council and Planning Commission meeting, Planning and Building webpage updates, and the Comprehensive Plan update process.
- Parks & Recreation Director Grover commented on the upcoming Daddy/Daughter dance event, seasonal summer pool logistics, and Fircrest Parks and Recreation Foundation reporting.
- Public Works Director Bemis commented on current departmental work items including transportation meetings, and security system installs.
- Finance Director Corcoran commented on the State Auditor's final report, employee W-2s, and year-end reports.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Councilmember Viafore commented on the City Council Rule 11. City Manager.
Councilmember Viafore MOVED to excuse City Manager Masko for the January 23, 2024 City Council meeting; seconded by Councilmember George. Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford invited Council comment. Discussions included Council policy adherence and policy clean-up.

The Motion Carried (6-0).

Lastly, Councilmember Viafore commented on his excitement for his liaison assignment.

- Councilmember Wittner thanked the meeting attendees.
- Councilmember George commented on the 7 Trees podcast and stated that he is excited about his liaison assignment.
- Mayor Reynolds; no comment provided.
- Councilmember Andrews commented on his liaison assignment and stated that he is excited.
- Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford thanked the meeting attendees and the Whittier Work Party volunteers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford invited public comment. There were no public comments.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Parks & Recreation

There was no report.

B. Public Safety, Courts

There was no report.

C. Streets, Water, Sewer, Storm Drain, Facilities, & Equipment

There was no report.

D. Pierce County Regional Council

Councilmember Reynolds reported on Pierce County Regional Council's work plan to include amendments to the Urban Growth Area.

E. Other Liaison Reports

There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford requested the Acting City Clerk read the Consent Calendar:

- A. Approval of Check No. 220733 through 220799 in the amount of \$221,920.32.
Approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$159,124.19.
- B. Approval of the January 09, 2024, Regular meeting minutes.

Councilmember George MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Councilmember Wittner.

The Motion Carried (6-0).

PUBLIC HEARING

A. To receive comments on a proposed Solid Waste Rate Adjustment

At 7:52 P.M., Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford opened the public hearing. Acting City Manager Corcoran briefed the Council on the proposed solid waste rate adjustment, stating the public hearing was to receive comments on the proposed solid waste rate adjustment. Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford invited Councilmember comments. There was a brief discussion on inviting solid waste representatives to the Council meeting.

Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford invited public testimony.

- Brian Rybolt, 1036 Daniels Drive, commented on the scheduled rate increase and the service provided.

At 7:57 P.M., Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford closed the public hearing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Memorandum of Understanding – Fircrest Police Guild Incentive Pay

Acting City Manager Corcoran briefed the Council on the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Fircrest Police Guild incentive pay. **Councilmember Wittner MOVED to authorize the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Fircrest Police Guild regarding signing bonus incentive pay; seconded by Councilmember George.** Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford invited Councilmember comments; none were provided. Mayor Pro Tempore Bufford invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (6-0).

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

There was a brief discussion on the City Manager's contract.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Viafore MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Wittner.

The Motion Carried (6-0).



Nikki Bufford, Mayor Pro Tempore



Arlette Burkhart, Acting City Clerk