

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

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

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT**

**A. Centennial Committee Appointments**

Mayor Reynolds briefed the Council on the Centennial Committee appointments. **Councilmember Viafore MOVED to confirm the Mayor's appointments to the City of Fircrest Centennial Celebration Steering Committee as follows: Councilmember Nikki Bufford – Committee Chair, Councilmember Brett L. Wittner and Public Works Director Tyler Bemis; seconded by Councilmember George.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment. There was a brief discussion on the number of Councilmember seats on the committee.

**The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

City Manager Masko briefed the Council on the upcoming City Hall closure for President's Day, the Lateral Police Officer eligibility list recertification, and gave kudos to the Parks and Recreation staff for the Daddy/Daughter dance event. Ms. Masko commented on the upcoming Senior's Valentines Day event.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

There were none.

**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

- Councilmember Andrews commented on the electric vehicle (EV) grant and the proposed installation location. He asked staff to consider different locations for installing EV stations. There was a brief discussion on the installation cost.
- Councilmember Bufford gave kudos to the Parks and Recreation staff for their programming and stated that she participated in Tot Story Time.
- Councilmember George commented on the Pierce County elections for the Tacoma School bond. He requested updates on the Community Center's solar panels report and the Claremont Street right-of-way issue. There was a brief discussion regarding the blocking debris and communications with the homeowner. Councilmember Viafore reminded Council that the solar panels are under the City's Facilities report.
- Councilmember Wittner thanked the meeting attendees.
- Councilmember Mauer-Smith expressed her gratitude for everyone's patience as she familiarizes herself with her role.
- Councilmember Viafore acknowledged the Westside Disposal representatives.
- Mayor Reynolds; no comment.

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

Mayor Reynolds invited public comment. There were no public comments.

**COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS**

**A. Administration**

Councilmember Wittner reported that City Manager Masko has been overseeing personnel issues.

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

There was no report.

**C. Finance, IT**

There was no report.

**D. Other Liaison Reports**

Mayor Reynolds reported on Pierce County Regional Council's voting general convention.

Councilmember Bufford reported on the Puget Sound Regional Council's Growth Management Policy Board and provided a brief update on Washington House Bill 2160.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Mayor Reynolds requested the Acting City Clerk read the Consent Calendar:

- A. Approval of Check No. 14335 through 14336 in the amount of \$9,208.50  
Approval of Check No. 14337 through 14343 in the amount of \$68,635.79  
Approval of Check No. 220733 through 220799 in the amount of \$221,920.32  
Approval of Check No. 220800 through 220880 in the amount of \$684,277.96  
Approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$164,985.66  
Approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$170,629.59
- B. Registering no objections to the Sunset Christian Preschool Special Liquor License Application.
- C. Approval of January 16, 2024, Study Session minutes.  
Approval of January 23, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes.
- D. Setting a Public Hearing on February 27, 2024, at 7:15 pm or shortly thereafter to receive comments on a 6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan Amendment.

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

Councilmember Viafore requested to remove the January 23, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes.

**The Motion Carried as amended (7-0).**

Councilmember Viafore requested that the meeting minutes be deferred to the February 27, 2024, Council meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

There was no public hearing scheduled.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Ordinance No. 1718: Solid Waste Rate Adjustment**

City Manager Masko briefed the Council on the proposed ordinance setting new solid waste rates due to the disposal fee adjustment, the annual CPI adjustment, and the recycling commodity surcharge adjustment. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED move to adopt Ordinance No. 1718, amending Section 1 of Ordinance No. 1703 and Fircrest Municipal Code 6.08.130 relating to the schedule of rates and charges for solid waste collection; seconded by Councilmember George.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. There was a brief discussion on recycling education, glass recycling, and rates. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

**The Motion Carried (7-0).**

Councilmember Viafore acknowledged the Westside Disposal Family and gave them his sincere appreciation.

**B. Ordinance No. 1719: Water General Facility Charge & Connection Fees**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed ordinance adjusting the water general facility charge and connection fees by 4.3% in accordance with the Consumer Price Index All Urban Consumers (CPI-W) for the Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton area. **Councilmember Wittner MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1719, amending Sections 1(a), 2(a), and 2(b) of Ordinance No. 1706 and amending Fircrest Municipal Code 21.01.030 – General Facilities Charge, and Fircrest Municipal Code 21.04.130 – Service Connection Fee and Meter Drop-In Fee; seconded by Councilmember George.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment; there were none. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

**The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**C. Ordinance No. 1720: Sewer General Facility Charge & Connection Fees**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed ordinance adjusting the sewer general facility charge and connection fees by 4.3% in accordance with the Consumer Price Index All Urban Consumers (CPI-W) for the Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton area. **Councilmember Wittner MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1720, amending Sections 1(a), 2(a), and 2(c) of Ordinance No. 1705 and amending Fircrest Municipal Code 20.04.025 – General Facilities Charge, and Fircrest Municipal Code 20.04.030 – Service Connection Fee and Inspection Fee; seconded by Councilmember George.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment; there were none. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

**The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**D. Resolution No. 1883: Approval of the Department of Commerce PUG Grant Agreement**

Community Development Director Newman briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and stated that this grant agreement was the second of the two contracts. The grant award would assist in the implementation of the 2024 periodic update. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1883, authorizing the City Manager to execute a grant contract with the Washington State Department of Commerce for \$62,500 to assist with the periodic Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations update required by the Growth Management Act; seconded by Councilmember Wittner.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment. There was a brief discussion on increasing the requested amount, contract language regarding mileage, and budget. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

**The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**E. Resolution No. 1884: Council Rules of Procedure Amendment**

City Manager Masko briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and stated that the revision would implement Mayor Reynolds' proposed liaison program assignments. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1884, rescinding Resolution No. 1832 relating to City Council Rules of Procedure and adopting new City Council Rules of Procedure; seconded by Councilmember Wittner.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment. Mayor Reynolds stated that the proposed liaison assignments would be reassessed after the first year. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

**The Motion Carried (7-0).**

**CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS**

- Councilmember Viafore; no comment.
- Councilmember Mauer-Smith; no comment.
- Councilmember Wittner; no comment.
- Councilmember George commented on the South Sound Affordable Housing budget surplus.
- Councilmember Bufford commented on the Black History Month celebration.
- Councilmember Andrews wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day, stated it was his grandson's birthday, and commented on the Curtis High School dance event.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:45 P.M., Mayor Reynolds reported that the Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed sixty (60) minutes, to discuss potential litigation, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and to review the performance of a public employee, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(g). Mayor Reynolds noted that City Manager Masko, City Attorney Zeinemann, and Project Coordinator Bob Jean were invited to the Executive Session. Mayor Reynolds noted that Project Coordinator Bob Jean would only be invited to the Executive Session regarding potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember George MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Wittner.**

**The Motion Carried (7-0).**

*S. Reynolds*

Shannon Reynolds, Mayor

*A. Burkhart*

Arlette Burkhart, Acting City Clerk