

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, Hunter T. George, Nikki Bufford, and Jim Andrews were present. Councilmember Brett L. Wittner was absent.

PRESIDING OFFICER’S REPORT

There was no report.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Masko reported on the upcoming Association of Washington Cities’ annual legislative session recap webinar and briefed the Council on the City’s discussion with the City of University Place for potential recreational partnering opportunities.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Police Chief Schaub commented on current jail service costs, radio transmitter replacement plans, the Civil Service lateral police officer oral board, and the exploration of entry-level police officer candidates.
- Parks & Recreation Director Grover provided a brief report on the Community Center solar panels. There was a brief discussion on creative avenues to heat water.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Councilmember Viafore reported on the passing of former City Manager Danny Richards.
- Councilmember Mauer-Smith gave kudos to Councilmember Bufford and volunteers for the community-led Black History Month event.
- Councilmember George commented on his appreciation for the community-led Black History Month event.
- Councilmember Bufford thanked everyone who attended the community-led Black History Month event.
- Councilmember Andrews; no comment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mayor Reynolds invited public comment. The following individuals provided comment:

- Vince Navarre, 1205 Del Monte Ave, commented on the community-led Black History Month event and its representation.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Parks, Recreation, and Sustainability

Councilmember Viafore reported on the Fircrest Park Maintenance Garage, the Whittier Park Master Plan, the March Medallion Madness event, the Fircrest Park fencing, and public notices on the reader board.

B. Police/Public Safety and Court

Councilmember Bufford reported on the increasing police radio fees and potential community engagement opportunities.

C. Public Works

Councilmember Andrews reported that the City is working with the homeowners on Claremont Ave. to address their rock wall. He also reported on the City's Environmental Protection Agency reporting, the bucket truck sale listing, and the upcoming pool season preparation.

There was a brief discussion on the accessibility of the Claremont Ave. sidewalk near the rock wall and the City's liability to maintain a clear right-of-way.

D. Pierce County Regional Council

Councilmember Reynolds reported on the General Assembly, urban growth area amendments, and Small Cities Day.

E. Other Liaison Reports

Councilmember Bufford reported on the Centennial Committee meeting. The committee discussed the centennial celebration theme, subcommittee leads, and work plans.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- A. Approval of Check Nos. 220881 through No. 220939 in the amount of \$146,525.30.
Approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$160,090.45.
- B. Registering no objections to the Fircrest Golf Club Liquor License Renewal.
- C. Approval of the January 23, 2024, Regular meeting minutes.
Approval of the February 13, 2024, Regular meeting minutes.

Councilmember Bufford MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.

The Motion Carried (6-0).

PUBLIC HEARING

A. To receive comments on the City's 6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan Amendment

At 7:40 P.M., Mayor Reynolds opened the public hearing. Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the City's 6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) amendment, stating the public hearing was to receive comments on the TIP amendment. Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. There was a brief discussion on the TIP adoption process.

Mayor Reynolds invited public testimony; none were provided.

At 7:43 P.M., Mayor Reynolds closed the public hearing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Comprehensive Plan Update Budget Discussion

Community Development Director Newman provided an overview of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan budget overrun. Discussions included contract expectations and clear scope, budget amendment, change orders for contract changes, tracking changes, and contract transparency.

Councilmember Wittner joined the meeting at 7:58 P.M.

B. Ordinance No. 1721: Amending Fircrest Municipal Code 9.48 – Controlled Substances

City Manager Masko briefed the Council on the proposed ordinance amending the Fircrest Municipal Code Chapter 9.48 – Controlled Substances, stating that the changes would comply with new state law. **Councilmember George MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1721, amending Fircrest Municipal Code 9.48.015 related to offenses and penalties, and Fircrest Municipal Code 9.48.080 related to search and seizure of goods and property; seconded by Councilmember Wittner.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments; there were none. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

C. Resolution No. 1885: 6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan Amendment

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution, stating that the amendment would add Claremont Street from 67th Ave West to Alameda Ave. grind and overlay project to the 6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The City was awarded a Transportation Improvement Board grant for the Claremont Street grind and overlay project, and to utilize Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funds as matching funds, the City recommends adding the project to its 6-Year TIP. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1885, amending the City of Fircrest’s 2024-2029 6-Year Transportation Improvement Program; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. Discussions included project logistics, time-sensitive adoption process, and funding sources. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

D. 2023 Year-End Financial Report

Finance Director Corcoran provided an overview of the year-end report and highlighted changes in certain funds. She reported on the General Fund capital expenditures and REET balances. She also noted that the Water Operating Fund does not have enough fund balance to meet the 3-month operating reserve policy. She highlighted that the second interfund loan payment was made from the Park Bond Capital Fund to the Cumulative Reserve Fund. Lastly, she reported on the current balances of the Park Bond Capital Fund and ARPA funding.

Councilmember Bufford left at 8:22 P.M. and returned at 8:24 P.M.

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

Councilmember Viafore commented on the Finance Investment Committee. He requested an update on well house 6/7, the City’s entryway sign, and City insurance claims.

Police Chief Schaub reported on the City’s police vehicle repairs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:28 P.M., Mayor Reynolds 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). Mayor Reynolds noted that City Manager Masko, City Attorney Zeinemann, and Project Coordinator Bob Jean were invited to the Executive Session.

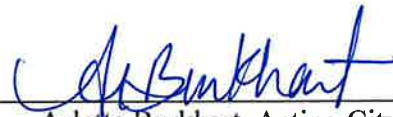
ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember George MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M., seconded by Mayor Reynolds.

The Motion Carried (7-0).



Shannon Reynolds, Mayor



Arlette Burkhardt, Acting City Clerk