

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. Councilmember Andrews attended the meeting virtually.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

Mayor Reynolds stated that a public hearing is scheduled to receive comments on the City's stormwater management program plan and that the City Council will convene in Executive Session prior to adjournment this evening.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Masko introduced the substitute City Attorney Kendra Rosenberg, who attended in person. Mrs. Masko reported on the Assistant Planner/Permit Coordinator interviews and upcoming interviews for the Public Works Office Coordinator position. City Manager Masko briefed the Council on her discussion with a consultant regarding a City audit of utility taxes, sales tax, and franchise fees. Lastly, she reported that SSHAP requested a letter of support for coordinating a low-income housing planning grant. Councilmember Viafore requested a copy of the letter of support. There was a brief discussion on the middle housing grant, House Bill 1998 requirements, housing development exemptions, and the 2023 City Attorney's State Housing Laws memo. Mayor Reynolds requested low-income data for Fircrest.

There were no noted objections by the Council to provide a letter of support.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Parks and Recreation Director Grover reported that the new Recreation Specialist will start next week and will focus on expanding community programming.
- Community Development Director Newman reported on the Electric Vehicle (EV) charger grant and its requirements. He recommended that the City no longer pursue the grant and provided information on the Tacoma Public Utilities rebate for EV chargers. Mr. Newman commented on other options for EV chargers in the City.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Councilmember Andrews commented on the Prisoner of War (POW) Flag and acknowledged the meaningfulness of the flag. He also commented on International Be Kind to Lawyers Day.
- Councilmember Bufford; no comment.
- Councilmember George; no comment.
- Mayor Reynolds; no comment.
- Councilmember Wittner thanked the meeting attendees.
- Councilmember Mauer-Smith; no comment.
- Councilmember Viafore; no comment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

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

- Arlette Laudy, 1014 Brentwood Pl, commented on the traffic issue on Alameda Ave and 19th Street.

There was a brief discussion on appropriate signage, communication with the City of Tacoma, and driver education. Councilmember Bufford requested an update from the City Administration regarding the traffic issue.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Administration

There was no report.

B. Built Environment, Planning, and Building

Councilmember George reported on the City's EV Charger grant, permit issuance, provided kudos to Community Development Director Newman, and encouraged public participation in the City's Comprehensive Plan.

C. Finance, Information Technology, and Facilities

Councilmember Mauer-Smith provided a report on Finance that included staffing, the new part-time Accountant I cross-training, State reports, and postage machine replacement.

The Information Technology report included the City's network upgrade on May 9, 2024. The City network will be offline that day.

The Facilities report included the Fircrest Park Maintenance Garage, the Alice Peers Park sign, and pool and field preparation.

D. Other Liaison Reports

Councilmember Bufford reported on the Puget Sound Regional Council. She attended the Group Management Policy board meeting, reported on the upcoming general assembly, and provided a brief update on local climate planning.

Mayor Reynolds commented on the Pierce Transit's 63 bus line.

Councilmember George reported that Alexandra Mather has left Pierce Transit as she was selected for C-TRAN's Director of Government and Community Relations position. He also reported on the Pierce County Climate Conversation and stated that the June meeting will focus on climate elements.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- A. Approval of Check No. 221078 through 221143 in the amount of \$102,541.90
- Approval of Check No. 14354 through 14355 in the amount of \$9,474.81
- Approval of Check No. 14356 through 14362 in the amount of \$61,204.08
- Approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$160,553.61

- B. Approval of the March 12, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes
- Approval of the March 18, 2024, Study Session minutes
- Approval of the March 26, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes

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

The Motion Carried (7-0).

PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:33 P.M., Mayor Reynolds opened the public hearing. Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the City's 2024 Stormwater Management Program Plan, stating the public hearing was to receive comments on the City's 2024 Stormwater Management Program Plan. Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments; none were provided.

Mayor Reynolds invited public testimony; none was provided.

At 7:37 P.M., Mayor Reynolds closed the public hearing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Ordinance No. 1723: 2024 Budget Amendment #1 – 2nd Reading

Finance Director Corcoran briefed the Council on the proposed ordinance and highlighted that the amendment included increased costs for legal fees and capital projects. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1723, authorizing revenues and expenditures of funds for matters not provided for in the Adopted 2024 Budget; seconded by Councilmember George.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments; there were none. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 1891: Pierce County System Access & Use Agreement

City Manager Masko briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted that the fee has increased 135% since 2021. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1891, authorizing the City Manager to execute the 2024 Pierce County System Access and Use Agreement between the City of Fircrest and Pierce County for continued access to the Single County-Wide Communication System; seconded by Councilmember George.** Police Chief Schaub reported that the agreement would continue to provide access to the Single County-Wide Communication System. Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. There was a brief discussion on the need for a budget amendment. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

B. Resolution No. 1892: Sunnyside Jail Interlocal Agreement

Police Chief Schaub briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted that the City of Sunnyside jail has a lower rate for long-term inmate housing. City Manager Masko reported that the court is sensitive to the cost of housing inmates when making prosecution decisions. **Councilmember George MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1892, authorizing the City Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sunnyside for inmate housing; seconded by Councilmember Bufford.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. There was a brief discussion on the cost of transporting inmates. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

The Motion Carried (7-0).**C. Resolution No. 1893: Electron Way/Contra Costa Ave. Project Grant Agreement**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted that the project would provide for ADA upgrades, curb improvements, and the installation of a crosswalk. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1893, authorizing the City Manager to execute a grant agreement with the Washington State Department of Commerce for \$148,410 for the Electron Way & Contra Costa Avenue Intersection Improvement Project; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. There was a brief discussion on additional traffic calming devices and budget. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment.

- Arlette Laudy, 1014 Brentwood Pl, commented on providing more space for larger vehicles to drive by the Community center.

The Motion Carried (7-0).**D. Resolution No. 1894: Claremont Street Grind & Overlay Project Design Consultant Agreement**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and stated that the project would grind and overlay Claremont Street from Claremont Court to 67th Avenue West and update sidewalks to ADA standards. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1894, authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with KPG Psomas for engineering design services for the Claremont Street Grind & Overlay Project; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. There was a brief discussion on the project schedule. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

The Motion Carried (7-0).**E. Resolution No. 1895: Climate Planning Grant Agreement**

Community Development Director Newman briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and stated that the City was awarded \$120,000 in funding to begin studying its urban tree canopy and critical areas ordinance. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1895, authorizing the City Manager to execute a grant agreement with the Washington State Department of Commerce for \$120,000 for the development of the Growth Management Act (GMA) Climate Change and Resiliency Sub-Elements related to the implementation of House**

Bill 1181; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith. Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. There was a brief discussion on public participation, budget concerns, partnering with other cities, and local government resources. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; there were none.

The Motion Carried (6-1), with Councilmember Andrews dissenting.

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

- Councilmember Viafore commented on the Pierce County Cities and Towns' Association.
- Councilmember George commented on the upcoming study session and current police stats.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:19 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 discuss labor negotiations, pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b). Mayor Reynolds noted that City Manager Masko, substitute City Attorney Rosenberg, and Project Coordinator Bob Jean were invited to the Executive Session to discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i). Mayor Reynolds noted City Manager Masko and Police Chief Schaub were invited to the Executive Session to discuss labor negotiations, pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b).

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Andrews left the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Viafore.

The Motion Carried (6-0).



Shannon Reynolds, Mayor



Arlette Burkhart, Acting City Clerk