

**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, Brett L. Wittner, Karen Mauer-Smith, Hunter T. George, Nikki Bufford, and Jim Andrews were present. Councilmembers Wittner and Andrews attended the meeting virtually.

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mayor Reynolds invoked Rule 20. Order of Business from the Fircrest City Council Rules and requested to modify the Council agenda to add two items to the agenda, "City's Grant Strategy Discussion" and "Notice of Intent Discussion", under the Presiding Officer's Report. There were no objections from the Council.

**A. Proclamation: Black History Month**

Councilmember Bufford read the proclamation titled Black History Month into the record. **Councilmember Viafore MOVED to authorize the Mayor's signature on the proclamation proclaiming the month of February as Black History Month in the City of Fircrest; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment. Councilmember Bufford stated Parks Tacoma will be hosting Black History Month events. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

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

**B. Motion: Confirmation of Middle Housing Ad Hoc Committee Appointment**

Mayor Reynolds briefed the Council on the motion to confirm Jerry Foss to the Middle Housing Committee. Mayor Reynolds stated she had received an application from Jerry Foss and Middle Housing Co-chair Ladenburg suggested that Mr. Foss be appointed to the committee. **Councilmember Viafore MOVED to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Jerry Foss to the Middle Housing Ad Hoc Committee as requested by the Mayor; seconded by Councilmember Andrews.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment; none were provided. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

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

Mayor Reynolds stated the committee is considered at full capacity.

**C. City's Grant Strategy Discussion**

Mayor Reynolds briefed the Council on her request to City staff for a grant strategy report to include grant fund status, funding sources, and associated projects.

**D. Notice of Intent Discussion**

Mayor Reynolds briefed the Council on the Notice of Intent for an Extension to Implementation of House Bill (HB) 1110 and the Washington State (WA) Department of Commerce processing timeline. There was a brief discussion on providing a motion to allow City staff to review the Notice of Intent and providing the City Manager the authority to submit the Notice of Intent to the WA Department of Commerce. **Councilmember Viafore MOVED to authorize the City Manager to submit a formal Notice of Intent to the Department of Commerce, once reviewed and finalized by staff, as required in advance of applying for an extension for an alternative to or timeline extension for full implementation of House Bill 1110; seconded by Councilmember George.** Mayor Reynolds

invited Councilmember comment. Council discussions included continued committee efforts to maintain momentum, additional information for review, introducing an item to the agenda during a meeting, and the process for filing the Notice of Intent.

Community Development Director Newman provided a brief explanation of the purpose of the Notice of Intent and stated it would express to the Department of Commerce that the City will be reviewing its infrastructure issues.

Mayor Reynolds invited public comment.

- Jim Ottness, 973 Altadena Dr, commented on maintaining momentum with filing the Notice of Intent.

Mayor Reynolds requested a roll call vote: Andrews – Aye; Bufford – Nay; George – Aye; Mauer-Smith – Nay; Viafore – Aye; Wittner – Aye; Reynolds - Aye

**The Motion Carried (5-2), with Councilmembers Bufford, and Mauer-Smith dissenting.**

#### **CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

Acting City Manager Grover stated he will be the Acting City Manager through Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

- Public Works Director Bemis provided a brief update on the water meter exchange program and stated that the multi-family and commercial accounts remain to be completed. Public Works is conducting extensive outreach regarding intermittent service due to the meter exchange.

#### **COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

- Councilmember Wittner; no comment.
- Councilmember Andrews; no comment.
- Councilmember Viafore gave kudos to Public Works Director Bemis for continued updates.
- Councilmember Mauer-Smith; no comment.
- Councilmember George; no comment.
- Councilmember Bufford thanked the meeting attendees.
- 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. Parks & Recreation**

There was no report.

##### **B. Police/Public Safety and Court**

There was no report.

##### **C. Public Works**

There was no report.

**D. Other Liaison Reports**

Councilmember Bufford provided a brief update on the Centennial Committee and their efforts to include a 2025 event schedule, merchandise, and the timeline project at the Community Center. Councilmember Viafore requested that a copy of the 2025 event schedule be provided to the Council. There was a brief discussion on advertising merchandise for donations and revenue to cover the cost of the merchandise.

Public Works Director Bemis reported on water shut-offs and the Electron Way/Contra Costa Avenue Improvement Project and stated he is monitoring the weather for snow. There was a brief discussion on positive community feedback regarding the Electron Way/Contra Costa Avenue Improvement Project.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Mayor Reynolds requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar:

- A. Approval of Check No. 222322 through 222379 in the amount of \$157,584.30
- Approval of Check No. 222380 through 222436 in the amount of \$177,849.12
- Approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$160,658.55

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

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

**PUBLIC HEARING**

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

At 7:49 P.M., Mayor Reynolds opened the public hearing. Acting City Manager Grover 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 Reynolds invited Councilmember comments; none were provided.

Mayor Reynolds invited public testimony; none were provided.

At 7:51 P.M., Mayor Reynolds closed the public hearing.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution No. 1959: Electron/Contra Costa Project Design Contract Amendment #2**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted the amendment, which would provide construction management services for the Electron Way/Contra Costa Avenue Intersection Improvement Project. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1959, authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with KPG Psomas for construction management services for the Electron Way & Contra Costa Avenue Improvement Project; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments; none were provided. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

**B. Resolution No. 1960: 44th Street Lift Station Contract Amendment**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted the amendment would provide an extension to the project completion date due to supply chain impacts. **Councilmember Mauer-Smith MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1960, authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the 44th Street Lift Station Upgrade Project contract; seconded by Councilmember Bufford.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. Public Works Director Bemis stated the SCADA cabinet items and the emergency backup generator have been received, however extra time is needed to complete the installation. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

**C. Resolution No. 1961: Emerson Sidewalk Design Overage Contract**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted that Shea, Carr & Jewell, Inc. provided additional services required to coordinate with the Washington State Department of Transportation. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1961, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a supplemental Professional Services Agreement with Shea, Carr & Jewell, Inc. for engineering design services for the Emerson West Sidewalk Project; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments; none were provided. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

**CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS**

- Councilmember George commented on the Fircrest Kiwanis Club Annual Tulips Fundraiser.
- Councilmember Viafore requested information on public hearings for solid waste rate adjustments and expressed concern about the City's sewer infrastructure.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session scheduled.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.**

The Motion Carried (7-0).



Shannon Reynolds, Mayor



Arlette Burkhart, City Clerk