

**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.

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT****A. State of the City**

Mayor Reynolds provided an overview on the current state of Fircrest. Mayor Reynolds detailed the City's financial health, parks and recreation programming, and economic development. She stated two new businesses have opened in the City. Lastly, Mayor Reynolds reported that the City is preparing for its Centennial anniversary of incorporation.

**B. Proclamation: Women's History Month**

Councilmember Bufford read the proclamation titled Women's History Month into the record. **Councilmember Viafore MOVED to authorize the Mayor's signature on the proclamation proclaiming the month of March is Women's History Month in the City of Fircrest; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment. Mayor Reynolds provided a brief history on women's suffrage. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

**The Motion Carried (7-0).****CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

Acting City Manager Grover reported that he will be the Acting City Manager until March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and will be off on Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

City Manager Masko, who attended the meeting virtually, briefed the Council on the motion to appoint the 2025 AWC Annual Business Meeting Voting Delegates and stated that AWC has opened their registration early for their annual conference. Mrs. Masko stated that the City can have a maximum of three voting delegates.

City Manager Masko also briefed the Council on the motion to authorize Council travel for the Councilmembers attending the AWC Annual Conference.

There was a brief discussion on the wealth of knowledge gained from attending the conference.

**A. Motion to Appoint AWC Business Meeting Voting Delegates**

**Councilmember Viafore MOVED to appoint Councilmember Bufford, Councilmember Andrews and City Manager Masko as the City of Fircrest's Voting Delegates; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment; none were provided. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

**The Motion Carried (7-0).****B. Motion to Approve Council Travel**

**Councilmember Viafore MOVED to authorize the proper expenditures for Councilmember Andrews and Councilmember Bufford to the AWC Annual Conference and instruct the City Manager to assist in the preparations; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment; none were provided. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

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

City Manager Masko reported on several items to include the upcoming Whittier School Community Meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the filing and acceptance of the revised Notice of Intent with the Washington State Department of Commerce, Civil Service oral boards, the Administrative Assistant position interviews, the Assistant Planner recruitment update, and the upcoming Police Chief recruitment.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

- Finance Director Deskins reported that the City received the 2025 Well Cities award.
- Police Chief Schaub reported that the department received the new detective patrol vehicle. He also reported on the Coffee with the Chief event, and mentioned his commitment to assist with the Police Chief recruitment process.
- Public Works Director Bemis provided a brief update on the current weather's impact on City facilities and infrastructure, stated street sweeping continues and there were minimal impacts to storm drains.
- Acting City Manager Grover provided a brief update on the upcoming pool season to include the advertisement for seasonal pool passes and returning staff. He also commented on the centennial celebration planning.

**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

- Councilmember Viafore; no comment.
- Councilmember Mauer-Smith; no comment.
- Councilmember Wittner; no comment.
- Councilmember George commented on the Coffee with the Chief event and stated community members enjoyed the police enforcement data. He recommended adding supplemental information explaining staffing shortages in 2023. Lastly, he reminded meeting attendees about the upcoming Whittier School Community Meeting.
- Councilmember Bufford commented on the Coffee with the Chief event and stated she would like to see the police enforcement data on the City's website. She stated she would like to see the Coffee with the Chief event continue with the new Police Chief. Lastly, she reported on the Slice Garden ribbon cutting event.
- Councilmember Andrews reported that his granddaughter, Mariana, took fourth place in the State Wrestling Championship and stated he was proud. He also provided a positive review of Slice Garden restaurant.
- Mayor Reynolds requested a status update on the Legislative Appropriation Funding Requests. City Clerk Burkhart stated that she missed the deadline and apologized to the Council.

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

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

- Jerry Foss, 1101 Paradise Parkway, provided a positive review of Slice Garden restaurant.

## **COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS**

### **A. Parks & Recreation**

Councilmember Andrews commented on the basketball programming and stated he was excited to see the park facilities being used. He provided kudos to the Parks and Recreation Department.

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

There was no report.

### **C. Public Works**

Councilmember George provided several reports to include the Pierce County and University Place's sewer extension and pedestrian improvement project on Mildred Street, current capital projects, Masko Park playset project, and the water meter project. Councilmember George requested to have a Study Session on the AMI Water Meter Program.

### **D. Other Liaison Reports**

Mayor Reynolds provided a report on the Pierce County Regional Council and stated the Council approved their 2025 work plan to include Growth Management Act and planning.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Mayor Reynolds requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar:

- A. Approval of Check No. 222508 through 222553 in the amount of \$179,949.82  
Approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$164,268.19
- B. Approval of January 21, 2025, Study Session minutes  
Approval of January 28, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes  
Approval of February 4, 2025, Joint Meeting

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

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

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

There was no public hearing scheduled.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Ordinance No. 1737: Salary Plan Amendment**

City Manager Masko briefed the Council on the proposed ordinance to replace the Deputy City Clerk position with the Deputy City Clerk/Human Resources Specialist position. **Councilmember Mauer-Smith MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1737, amending Fircrest Municipal Code 2.44.050 relating to salaries of non-union City employees and amending Section 1 of Ordinance No. 1731; seconded by Councilmember Viafore.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments; none were provided. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

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

**B. Resolution No. 1963: Fun Days Performers and Entertainment Agreements**

Acting City Manager Grover briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted the agreement would provide entertainment at the Fircrest Fun Days event. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1963, authorizing the City Manager to execute agreements with performers and entertainers for entertainment at the 2025 Fircrest Fun Days event in an amount not to exceed \$22,500; seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. There was a brief discussion on returning vendors in good-standing. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

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

**C. Resolution No. 1964: Emerson Sidewalk Design Overage Contract**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted Shea, Carr & Jewell, Inc. would provide additional engineering design services for the Emerson West Sidewalk Project. **Councilmember George MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1964, 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).**

**D. Resolution No. 1965: Emerson Sidewalk Construction Management**

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted Akana would provide construction management services of the Emerson West Sidewalk Project to include project management, construction observation, inspections, and contract administration. **Councilmember George MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1965, authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Akana for construction management 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 Viafore stated he looked forward to the new position of the Deputy City Clerk/ Human Resources position. He also thanked Community Development Director Newman for his accomplishments with the City and wished him well. Lastly, Councilmember Viafore stressed the importance of filling vacant positions.

Councilmember Andrews provided recognition to the Curtis High School Swim Team and congratulated them for taking second place in Regionals.

City Manager Masko reported that the City received their first Centennial donation from the Tacoma Rainiers Baseball Club.

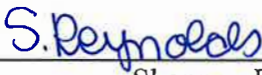
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session scheduled.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Mauer-Smith MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Bufford.**

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

  
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Shannon Reynolds, Mayor

  
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Arlette Burkhart, City Clerk