

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

Mayor Reynolds recognized and celebrated City Manager Masko's birthday.

A. Proclamation: National Police Week

Councilmember Mauer-Smith read the proclamation titled National Police Week into the record. **Councilmember Viafore MOVED to authorize the Mayor's signature on the proclamation proclaiming the week of May 11th – 17th, 2025, as National Police Week in the City of Fircrest; seconded by Councilmember Wittner.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment; none were provided. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

Mayor Reynolds reported that she and City Manager Masko attended the Law Enforcement Memorial event.

B. Proclamation: National Public Works Week

Councilmember George read the proclamation titled National Public Works Week into the record. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to authorize the Mayor's signature on the proclamation proclaiming the week of May 18th – 24th, 2025, as National Public Works Week of the City of Fircrest; 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).

C. Proclamation: Memorial Day

Mayor Reynolds read the proclamation titled Memorial Day into the record. **Councilmember Viafore MOVED to authorize the Mayor's signature on the proclamation proclaiming Monday, May 26th, 2025, as Memorial Day in the City of Fircrest; seconded by Councilmember Wittner.** Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comment. There was a brief discussion on the length of recognition for fallen heroes. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Masko reported on several items to include the community meet-and-greet for the Police Chief finalists, and stated that two finalists have been selected and backgrounds are in progress. She also reported that Congresswoman Strickland included the City's funding request for the Alameda Avenue Sidewalk Project in her submission to the House Appropriations Committee. The City's 2024 Comprehensive Plan was recommended for certification by the Puget Sound Regional Council Growth Management Policy Board. Mrs. Masko reminded the Council that the Planning Commission will hold a special meeting on May 20, 2025, to finalize recommendations

on the Middle Housing Code Amendments and stated that the City Council's upcoming study session will also cover the Middle Housing Code Amendments topic. Mrs. Masko provided staffing updates to include the reposting of the Assistant Planner/Permit Coordinator position, the recruitment efforts for the Human Resources Specialist/Deputy City Clerk position, and a temporary custodial worker started to help during the busy season. Mrs. Masko reported that she met with America 250 Washington State Coordinator, Lorraine Ralston, to discuss the City's participation in the upcoming 250th anniversary of the nation's founding. Lastly, she reminded the Council that the ribbon-cutting ceremony for Masko Park is scheduled for May 19, 2025, at 5:30 P.M. and stated that she will be out of the office attending a conference for the remainder of the week.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Interim Police Chief Kevin Gollinger reported on the Police Department's active involvement with the Soapbox Derby event and showed the Council the Fircrest Patrol-themed soapbox derby car.
- Public Works Director Bemis provided an update on the City of University Place's Claremont Street sewer main project and stated that there will be intermittent daytime road closures. He also reported on the City's Claremont Street Grind and Overlay and stated that survey and prep work are ongoing to include community outreach. Puget Sound Energy will also update a gas main near the project, which will not impact the project. There was a brief discussion on Tacoma Water's meter valve installation project on Emerson Street.
- Parks and Recreation Director Grover provided a report on several items, including the upcoming pool opening and preparations, and Soapbox Derby registrations. There was a brief discussion on posting the current pool season schedule.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Councilmember Viafore expressed support for the City's ongoing recruitment efforts and encouraged continued momentum for having key positions filled by June 30, 2025.
- Councilmember Mauer-Smith; no comment.
- Councilmember Wittner wished City Manager Masko a Happy Birthday.
- Councilmember George thanked City staff for organizing the community reception for the Police Chief finalist. He also thanked the Tacoma Fire Department for their quick response to the Rainier Drive home fire. He also shared that a GoFundMe is being circulated.
- Councilmember Bufford expressed appreciation to City Clerk Burkhart for Municipal Clerks Week.
- Councilmember Andrews commented on the importance of educating renters on renters' insurance.
- Mayor Reynolds; no comment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

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

- Vince Navarre, Fircrest resident, read a birthday poem for City Manager Masko into the record.
"A Birthday Ode to Dawn City Manager of Fircrest: In Fircrest's heart, you lead the way,
With tireless care, both night and day. Through plans and meetings, big and small, you rise
with grace and give your all. With every task, you show such pride, a steady hand, a faithful

guide. You build, you serve, you light the spark, you leave in Fircrest a lasting mark. So here's to you on your special day, May joy and laughter come your way. For all you do, for how you care, A better leader? None compare. Now pause the work, let stress be gone— It's time to celebrate you, Dawn!"

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Administration

Councilmember Viafore recognized a City employee who was the subject of an unfair social media post. He encouraged everyone to be mindful of what is posted online and how quickly misinformation can spread.

B. Built Environmental, Planning, and Building

There was no report.

C. Finance, Information Technology

Councilmember Bufford reported that the Finance Department has been busy with the year-end report for 2024.

D. Other Liaison Reports

Centennial Committee

Councilmember Bufford provided a Centennial Committee report to include the Centennial events calendar, and that upcoming meetings will focus on planning for the City's Centennial Birthday Week and volunteer recognition. Councilmember Bufford mentioned that Councilmembers are encouraged to participate in the Centennial Parade and are invited to join the Kiwanis in handing out strawberry shortcakes at the Strawberry Festival.

Pierce Transit

Mayor Reynolds reported on the recent Pierce Transit Board meeting, which discussed the Federal Transit Administration's recent changes, including a new Master Agreement No. 32.

Sound Transit

Councilmember George reported that Sound Transit opened a new three-mile light rail extension on the Eastside of Tacoma. The Tacoma Dome Link Extension is still in the planning phase.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Reynolds requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar:

- A.** Approval of Check No. 14483 through 14484 in the amount of \$9,847.90
Approval of Check No. 222833 through 222909 in the amount of \$353,974.37
Approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$163,131.76
- B.** Approval of April 8, 2025, Special Meeting minutes
Approval of April 8, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes
- C.** Setting a Public Hearing on May 27, 2025, at 7:15 pm or shortly thereafter to receive comments on the City's 6-Year Comprehensive Transportation Improvement Program

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

The Motion Carried (7-0).

PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public hearing scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 1973: 44th Street Sewer Lift Station Amendment #2

Councilmember Andrews left the chambers at 7:43 P.M.

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted that the second amendment would address a budget overrun incurred during the final stages of the 44th Street Lift Station Upgrade Project. **Councilmember George MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1973, authorizing the City Manager to execute a second amendment to the 44th Street Lift Station Upgrade Project Contract; seconded by Councilmember Bufford.**

Councilmember Andrews returned at 7:44 P.M.

Mayor Reynolds invited Councilmember comments. There was a brief discussion on including the overage in the next budget amendment. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (6-0), with Councilmember Andrews absent.

B. Resolution No. 1974: Claremont Grind & Overlay Project Amendment #1

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted that the change order #1 will extend the eastern project limits of the Claremont Street Grind and Overlay Project from Claremont Court to Alameda Avenue. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1974, authorizing the City Manager to execute Change Order #1 to the Public Works Contract with Miles Resources, LLC for the Claremont Street Grind & Overlay 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).

C. Resolution No. 1975: Claremont Grind & Overlay Project Construction Management Contract

Public Works Director Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted that the contract would provide construction management services for the Claremont Street Grind and Overlay Project. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1975, authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Psomas for construction**

management 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 acquisition of KPG, and the engineering consulting firm is now known as Psomas. Mayor Reynolds invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

D. Resolution No. 1976: National Night Out Fireworks Display Agreement

Interim Police Chief Gollinger briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted that the agreement would provide fireworks at the City's National Night Out event. **Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1976 authorizing the City Manager to execute an Agreement with Alpha Pyrotechnics to provide a fireworks display at National Night Out; 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).

E. 2024 Year-End Financial Report

Finance Director Deskins presented an overview of the year-end report and highlighted changes in several funds. She reported on the General Fund revenues and expenditures, and stated that underspending was largely due to staff vacancies and delayed capital projects. She also confirmed that property tax, sales tax, and EMS charges continue to be the City's primary revenue sources. Lastly, she acknowledged a positive growth in revenue from recreation programs.

Mayor Reynolds left the Council Chambers at 7:52 P.M. and returned at 7:54 P.M.

There was a brief discussion on court revenue, including fines assessed and collected.

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

There was a brief discussion on the voting procedures when Councilmembers are not in chambers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:13 P.M., Mayor Reynolds reported that the Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes, to discuss labor negotiations pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b). City Manager Masko, Labor Attorney Joanna Eide, and Public Works Director Bemis were invited to the executive session.

At 8:33 P.M., Mayor Reynolds reported that the executive session will be extended by an additional ten (10) minutes.

The Council reconvened at 8:43 P.M.

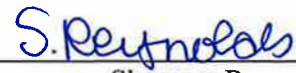
ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Bufford MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.

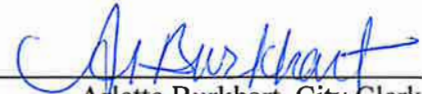
The Motion Carried (7-0).

MAY 13, 2025

FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR 6

Handwritten signature of Shannon Reynolds in blue ink.

Shannon Reynolds, Mayor

Handwritten signature of Arlette Burkhardt in blue ink.

Arlette Burkhardt, City Clerk