

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tempore Brett L. Wittner called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers David M. Viafore, Shannon Reynolds, Karen Mauer-Smith, Nikki Bufford, and Joe Barrentine were present.

Councilmembers Reynolds, George, and Mayor Bufford attended the meeting virtually.

Councilmember Hunter T. George was excused at roll call. Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner stated that Councilmember George would be joining later. There was no objection from the Council.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Proclamation: National Night Out

Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner read the proclamation titled “National Night Out” into the record. **Councilmember Viafore MOVED to authorize the Mayor Pro Tempore’s signature on the proclamation proclaiming August 4th, 2026 as National Night Out in the City of Fircrest; seconded by Councilmember Barrentine.** Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner invited Councilmember comment; none were provided. Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (6-0).

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Masko reported on the Deputy City Clerk/Human Resources Specialist candidate’s background progress, scheduled interviews for the Associate Planner position, the City’s website migration project, and the City’s bus wrap design for Pierce Transit.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Police Chief Celis provided a departmental update to include calls for service, Fircrest Fun Days incidents and future strategies on managing youth gatherings at large events, and staffing updates.
- Public Works Director Bemis reported that citywide crack sealing is occurring, and notifications of upcoming nighttime grinding work on Regents Boulevard.
- Finance Director Deskins reported on a resolved issue with the Police Department and South Sound 911 affecting communications. She thanked IS Manager Bunker for his efforts. Councilmember Viafore expressed concern regarding South Sound 911’s level of support. City Manager Masko will discuss concerns with South Sound 911.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Councilmember Viafore; no comment.
- Councilmember Reynolds; no comment.
- Councilmember Mauer-Smith thanked staff and volunteers for their work on Fircrest Fun Days.
- Councilmember Barrentine; no comment.
- Mayor Bufford thanked the Parks and Recreation staff and Police Department for their work during Fircrest Fun Days. She reported that four applications had been received for the Planning Commission vacancies and interviews are being scheduled.

Councilmember George joined the meeting virtually at 7:12 P.M.

- Councilmember George; no comment.
- Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner; no comment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner invited public comments. There were none.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Parks, Recreation, and Sustainability

Councilmember Viafore thanked Parks and Recreation staff, the Police Department, and Facilities staff for their efforts during Fircrest Fun Days. He also highlighted that the seasonal day camp programs are well attended.

B. Police/Public Safety and Court

Councilmember George reported that the Police Department is almost fully staffed with the addition of a new officer, and another candidate is in the final step of the hiring process.

C. Public Works and Facilities

Councilmember Reynolds reported that two grant applications were submitted for the Alameda Avenue East Sidewalk Project and the Emerson Street Sidewalk Project.

D. Pierce County Regional Council

Councilmember Reynolds reported that she was unable to attend the Pierce County Regional Council due to scheduling conflicts.

E. Other Liaison Reports

There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar:

- A. Approval of Check No. 224839 through 224893 in the amount of \$250,622.28
Approval of payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$217,828.30
- B. Approval of the July 14, 2026, Regular Meeting minutes

Councilmember Barrentine 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

A. Ordinance No. 1760: 2026 Budget Amendment #1 – Adoption

Finance Director Deskins briefed the Council on the proposed ordinance and highlighted that the ordinance provides for budget adjustments to account for anticipated revenues and expenditures that were not included in the Adopted 2026 Budget. **Councilmember Mauer-Smith MOVED to adopt Ordinance No. 1760, amending the 2026 Adopted Budget to authorize additional expenditures and revise estimated revenues and fund balances across various funds; seconded by Councilmember Barrentine.** Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner invited Councilmember comment; none were provided. Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner invited public comment; none were provided.

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 2035: NovoaGlobal Contract

City Manager Masko briefed the Council on the proposed resolution and highlighted that the proposed five-year agreement includes options for two additional three-year extensions. **Councilmember Mauer-Smith MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 2035, authorizing the City Manager to execute a services agreement with NovoaGlobal Inc. for the installation and operation of automated traffic safety cameras; seconded by Councilmember Barrentine.** Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner invited Councilmember comment. There was a brief discussion on the contract's early termination provisions, updates to the City park hours, and how public records requests related to the automated camera program would be handled. Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner invited public comment; none were provided.

The Motion Carried (7-0).

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

There were no final comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:31 P.M., Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner reported that the Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes, to review the performance of a public employee, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). City Manager Masko was invited into the Executive Session.

Councilmember George joined the meeting in chambers at 7:31 P.M.

At 7:49 P.M., Mayor Pro Tempore Wittner extended the Executive Session for an additional fifteen (15) minutes.

The Council reconvened at 8:06 P.M., and no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember George MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Mauer-Smith.

JULY 28, 2026

FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR 4

The Motion Carried (5-0).


Brett L. Wittner, Mayor Pro Tempore
Arlette Burkhardt, City Clerk