

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON

CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

November 27, 2006

The regular semi-monthly meeting, of the City Council of the City of Connell was called to order by the Mayor at 7:30 pm in the City Hall and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Gary Walton, Mayor Pro Tem Ron Boyer, Councilmembers Jim Klindworth, Rhonda Quinton and Monica Pruett.

EXCUSED: Councilmember Kent Mosbrucker, excused by consensus of the Council.

STAFF: City Administrator Art Tackett, Police Chief Rick Rochleau, City Clerk/Treasurer Joan Eckman, and Planning/Building Clerk Jed Crowther.

VISITORS: Larry Hueter, DOC; Alan Schroeder, Anderson Perry; and Kathy Bingham, Franklin County Graphic.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) WA State Liquor Control Board – Liquor license renewal for the Pizza Station. No objections were heard.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Walton appointed Councilmember Pruett and Councilmember Boyer to the Public Works Director Interview Committee.

Mayor Walton temporarily appointed Councilmember Quinton to the Finance Committee in the absence of Councilmember Mosbrucker.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to approve the Consent Calendar as listed:

- a) Minutes of the October 30, 2006 Special Council Meeting/Workshop
- b) Minutes of the November 13, 2006 Regular Council Meeting
- c) Warrant Register of November 15, 2006 for \$155.05
- d) Warrants for November 27, 2006 for \$51,781.91
- e) Payroll for November 27, 2006 for \$99,717.72

Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – November 27, 2006

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilmember Pruett moved to approve the agenda as listed. Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING – 2006 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Mayor Walton opened the public hearing at 7:36 pm for the purpose of amending the 2006 budget.

City Clerk Treasurer Joan Eckman provided that the budget was being amended by a total of \$70,605. Funds that were affected were: 101 Street Fund was increased by \$10,000, 206 Water/Sewer Bond Redemption was increased by \$605, 401 Water Fund was increased by \$50,000, and 633 State Remittance Fund was increased by 10,000. This brought the total budget for 2006 to \$13,467,990.

There being no comments from the public or from the Councilmembers, Mayor Walton closed the public hearing at 7:40 pm.

ORDINANCE NO. 815 – AMENDING THE 2006 BUDGET

City Clerk Treasurer Eckman read Ordinance No. 815.

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to adopt Ordinance No. 815 amending the 2006 Budget. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – FIXING THE 2007 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

Mayor Walton opened the public hearing at 7:45 pm for the purpose of fixing the 2007 Fiscal Year Budget.

City Clerk Treasurer Eckman reported that the Finance Committee had met and provided some directives, changes had been made according to those directives. The total for the 2007 budget was balanced at \$16,372,338.

There being no comments from the public or from Council, Mayor Walton closed the public hearing at 7:48 pm.

ORDINANCE NO. 816 – ADOPTING THE 2007 ANNUAL BUDGET

City Clerk Treasurer Eckman read Ordinance No. 816.

Councilmember Klindworth inquired about there being no cost share for benefits for the Police Department.

City Clerk Treasurer Eckman advised that the Union contract would not allow for cost share.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – November 27, 2006

Councilmember Klindworth expressed he did not feel it was fair for the non-union employees to pay a portion for the benefits when union employees did not.

City Clerk Treasurer Eckman noted that any changes to the benefit amounts would not impact the bottom line of the budget but would be an increase or decrease in the carry over for the following year's budget. The cost share for benefits had not been voted on and was going to be brought up later on the agenda for discussion.

Council questioned the cost share of benefits for the Chief who was not a union member but was covered by the union's insurance.

Motion: Councilmember Boyer moved to adopt Ordinance No. 816 Fixing the 2007 Fiscal Year Budget. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion, motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-11 SETTING SALARY SCHEDULES FOR 2007

City Clerk Treasurer Eckman reported that the Salary Matrix was adjusted to where the union and non-union matrix were the same. Payroll projections were adjusted. City Clerk Treasurer Eckman read Resolution No. 2006-11.

Corrections were made to the resolution to reflect that Union salary negotiations had been finalized and the salaries set, and to correct one of the Police Patrolman's salaries from 41,069.88 to \$41,685.90.

Councilmember Klindworth inquired about longevity pay being included in the salary matrix and expressed that he did not agree with longevity pay for the union members and a cap on years of employment for salary increases.

City Administrator Tackett provided that he was looking into having a job analysis done of all positions.

Motion: Councilmember Pruett moved to adopt Resolution No. 2006-11 with the corrections as noted. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried three in favor with Councilmember Klindworth voting against.

UPDATES ON PROJECTS – ANDERSON PERRY

Alan Schroeder reported on the following projects:

Waterslides: Advertisement for the equipment procurement bid would go out by the end of the week. Bid opening would be held the beginning of January. Looking for delivery of materials in mid March to have the waterslide up by mid or late April.

DOC: The appraisal from the bureau was completed but had not been released to the City. The appraisal would be key in the 200 extra bed impact assessment and to start the design of the major water and sewer facilities. More information would be provided at the next Council meeting.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – November 13, 2006

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-15 BUILDING CODE FEE SCHEDULE

Planning/Building Clerk Crowther reported that construction for the CRCC expansion had been operating without plumbing and mechanical permits because of the double fee for plumbing and mechanical permits currently required per the resolution. Planning/Building Clerk Crowther presented Resolution No. 2006-15 with changes to correct the double fee charge.

Motion: Councilmember Klindworth moved to adopt Resolution No. 2006-15 adopting a standard building, plumbing, and mechanical fee schedule. Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning/Building Clerk Crowther provided that previously staff had discussed that the valuation table be used as a range, in speaking with other cities and counties staff found that they did not charge for plan reviews of residential building. The City of Connell charged a fee of 65%.

Motion: Councilmember Klindworth moved to rescind his previous motion to adopt Resolution No. 2006-15. Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Councilmember Klindworth moved to adopt Resolution No. 2006-15 with a change to Section 1 Plan Review, to read 'Plan Review: 65% of the permit fee for Commercial Construction'. Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CONTRACT APPROVAL – AUTHORIZATION FOR MAYOR TO SIGN

City Administrator Tackett reported that the due date to update the Comprehensive Plan was December 2007. There was state funding to help with the plan update. A grant application was submitted and approved for funding.

Motion: Councilmember Klindworth moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the grant contract with CTED for the Comp Plan update. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MEDICAL BENEFITS FOR STAFF

City Administrator Tackett provided that a memo had gone out to staff with the two options proposed by Council, stay with Plan B and pay 10% of dependent's medical benefits or switch to PPO and pay 3.5% of dependents medical benefits. The majority voted, 11 to 1, to stay with Plan B.

Council discussed having the Chief of Police pay the same rate for dependent medical and dental based on AWC's rates since he was under the Union's medical benefits but was not a union member.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – November 27, 2006

Motion: Councilmember Pruett moved for medical benefits for staff to stay on Plan B with the non represented portion of the city staff group to pay 10% of the medical for spouse and child, with the employees covered at 100%. Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

POLICE DEPARTMENT – Police Chief Rick Rochleau

- 1) Thanksgiving had gone well with no weather related driving issues.
- 2) Had received complaints regarding pocket bikes.
- 3) Had problems at the Community Center Saturday night, had a fight or two.
- 4) Sergeant Brad Quinton would be attending an armor class.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – City Administrator Art Tackett

- 1) Impact meeting November 28 at 7:00 pm.
- 2) Real Estate meeting November 29 at 6:00 pm.
- 3) The Council Retreat had been changed to December 16.
- 4) Big Bend RC & D meeting December 14th at noon.
- 5) Would be holding Finance Committee meeting monthly starting in January.
- 6) Council Workshop set for December 1st at 4:00 pm to meet with Department Heads.

MAYOR’S REPORT – Mayor Garland Walton

- 1) Looking at a potential resignation for the Park Board.
- 2) Still looking for a representative for the mosquito board.
- 3) Health Department was in the process of raising funds to build a new Health Department building to serve Kennewick and Richland.

Councilmember Quinton reminded everyone that the Connell Downtown Development Association would be starting their festivities December 7th.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to be heard before the City Council, Mayor Walton adjourned the meeting at 9:14 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Maria T. ChavezPeña, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Garland D. Walton, Mayor