

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON  
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

March 19, 2007

The regular semi-monthly meeting, of the City Council of the City of Connell was called to order by the Mayor at 7:00 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, Kent Mosbrucker and Monica Pruett.

STAFF: City Administrator Art Tackett, City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn, Police Chief Rick Rochleau, Public Works Director Larry Turner, Planning/Building Clerk Jed Crowther, and Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer Maria ChavezPeña.

VISITORS: Jim Riddell, Riddell Development Co; Dan Deane; Alan Schroeder, Anderson Perry; Katherine Bingham, Franklin County Graphic.

APPOINTMENTS

*Motion:* Councilmember Quinton moved to appoint Dan Deane to the Park Board and to reappoint Helen Tobin. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Klindworth requested that Consent Calendar item a) Minutes of March 7, 2007 Regular Council Meeting be voted on separately.

*Motion:* Councilmember Pruett moved to approve the Consent Calendar as listed:

- a) Minutes of the March 7, 2007 Regular Council Meeting

Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion did not carry, Councilmembers Pruett and Quinton voted for, Councilmembers Mosbrucker, Boyer, and Klindworth voted against.

*Motion:* Councilmember Klindworth moved to approve the Consent Calendar as listed:

- b) Warrant Register for March 8, 2007 for \$27,105.22.
- c) Warrant Register for March 9, 2007 for \$253,000
- d) Warrants for March 20, 2007 for \$106,781.83
- e) Payroll Register for March 16, 2007 for \$10,065.38
- f) Police Dept – Surplus Equipment as provided on the attachment
- g) Public Works – Surplus Equipment as provided on the attachment

Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

In regards to the Minutes of March 7, 2007: Councilmember Klindworth expressed that he took exception to the fact that “They (did not know who was “they”) requested that their disappointment and dissatisfaction with the opinions and actions of those councilmembers go on record...” as everybody’s opinions and actions would be different and that they could not please

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everyone all of the time. Councilmember Klindworth stated that it did not seem right to be reprimanded for having opinions and actions. Councilmember Klindworth also did not agree with "...those councilmembers were not looking out for the best of the community but were more interested in their personal agenda". Councilmember Klindworth declared that if there were some basis behind that statement he would like to know what that was for his own interest as he tried to improve himself as a councilmember and that he thought the Council was looking out for the best interest of the community.

Mayor Walton provided that he had requested that those individuals who had contacted him come before the Council to bring up their concerns during the Comment session. Citizens had expressed a concern to Mayor Walton in regards to councilmembers discussing an item prior to a Council meeting.

Attorney Hultgrenn expressed that there was not a problem with two councilmembers discussing an issue prior to a meeting, the only possible exception would be if it were a matter where the Council was sitting in its quasi judicial capacity. The prohibition did not prohibit two councilmembers talking about an issue although it was not advised due to the fact that if any councilmember was predisposed to the outcome of that hearing prior to that hearing that councilmember would need to disqualify himself from the hearing. Attorney Hultgrenn further explained that if that conversation was conducive to forming an opinion it would be inappropriate for that councilmember to participate. Although, technically it was not a violation of the statute it had the potential to violate the statute through the Fair Hearing Doctrine. Discussing the issue with a citizen who was a proponent or opponent on the issue prior to the council meeting would clearly violate the act. If a councilmember entertained a conversation with someone about the subject matter they should disqualify themselves from the hearing.

Councilmember Mosbrucker commented that he took exception to the word "community" as that it might, or might not, have been used loosely. Community and citizens of the city could mean two different things. Councilmember Mosbrucker expressed that they were elected to serve the tax payers of the city which implied the group that lived inside the city limits and that he was not sure if those described as "community" extended past the city limits. What he thought might have prompted some of those comments was the Oasis development and Skylark development. That it was to the best of his knowledge that Skylark was not part of the City limits, nor part of the city as pertaining to paying taxes. His interest was to provide services to the tax paying citizens of the city of Connell.

Attorney Hultgrenn suggested that since the comments were solely those of Councilmember Quinton that each sentence be clearly stated that it was solely a reiteration of what she had said.

*Motion:* Councilmember Klindworth moved to accept the Minutes of the March 7, 2007 meeting with the following changes under Citizen Comment: To include the words "Councilmember Quinton commented that" be inserted in the second sentence, before "they had requested..." and also be inserted in the fourth sentence, before "many of those citizens..." to read "Councilmember Quinton commented that they had requested..." and Councilmember Quinton commented that many of those citizens..."

Councilmember Mosbrucker seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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CITIZEN COMMENT

Councilmember Klindworth inquired about receiving a report from the Health Department in regards to the travel trailer situated by Sportsman Addition.

Public Works Director Turner advised he would look into it.

City Administrator Tackett provided that the appraisal for the pharmacy had been completed and would go to the Real Estate Committee for their review.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Walton made the following change to the agenda:

Agenda item 15. Executive Session - to Discuss City Employee Contract was moved before Agenda item 14. Committee and Department Reports.

*Motion:* Councilmember Mosbrucker moved to approve the agenda as changed. Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

PROJECT STATUS – ANDERSON PERRY

Alan Schroeder of Anderson Perry reported on the following:

DOC Water System Improvements – Test holes had been drilled to collect information below the reservoir site. The design team had met with Public Works Director Turner to discuss some issues. The reservoir and booster pump station were moving along.

DOC Wastewater Project – The geometry of the new lagoons had been laid out. A report was being submitted to the Office of Dam Safety.

Street Project – There would be a bid opening on March 20 for the 2007 Street Improvements Project.

Pioneer Park Slides – The project was on schedule, slides were being built.

Public Works Director Turner provided that Public Works would be doing \$50,000 in chip sealing.

Alan Schroeder noted that the City had not received any money for major road upgrades.

CONTRACT APPROVAL – J.D. WHITE & ASSOCIATES

City Administrator Tackett presented a contract from JD White & Associates for preparing the City's 2007 Comprehensive Plan as required by the State through Growth Management. Funding for the project was \$12,500 from the State through a grant with a match of \$3,000 of in-kind from the City. There would be an opportunity for additional funding after July 1<sup>st</sup> to continue the project and finish some of the other elements. There

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were two critical pieces to the JD White contract: One – Getting solid citizen participation and input, two – getting a strong analysis of land use in the community. Staff had contacted individuals to assist the City in distributing and gathering questionnaires as well as tallying. The County would provide Assistance with GIS.

Attorney Hultgren advised that the contract was acceptable.

*Motion:* Councilmember Mosbrucker moved to approve, and authorize the Mayor to sign, the contract with JD White & Associates in the amount of \$12,500. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CONTRACT APPROVAL – J.M. MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

City Administrator Tackett advised that staff had received two proposals, one from JM Management Consulting and one from Prothman, the one proposal from Prothman was not complete. The proposals were reviewed by City Administrator Tackett and Councilmember Boyer, who recommended staff hire JM Management. JM Management had received glowing recommendation from those that they had worked with. The initial proposal was for \$18,500, Councilmember Boyer requested that “benefit cost sharing comparison, annual and semi annual performance appraisals” be added to the proposal. This would increase the price to \$20,000.

City Administrator Tackett provided that staff would be attending training on how to do staff performance evaluations put on by Canfield and Associates.

Councilmember Boyer suggested that in light of the training being done by Canfield that “annual and semi annual performance appraisals” be deleted from the contract.

*Council gave its consensus to have Councilmember Boyer participate with JM Management.*

Mayor Walton inquired about item C. under VI Ownership of Project Material, Supplies and Equipment.

Council agreed to delete item C. Supplies and equipment (such as computer equipment, office supplies, etc.) provided by CONNELL for us during the course of this Agreement are the property of CONNELL and must be returned at the termination of this Agreement.

*Motion:* Councilmember Boyer moved to authorize Mayor Walton sign the contract with JM Management Consulting in the amount of \$19,250 with the deletions of “annual and semi annual performance appraisals” and item C under VI. Councilmember Mosbrucker seconded motion. Motion carried with four for and Councilmember Quinton voting against.

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CREW CHIEF

Public Works Director Turner provided that Crew Chief was an essential and vital position. 1300 work orders had been generated for 2006. Public Works Director Turner expressed that as the city grew the position was important to keep up with the new growth and the everyday needs of the city.

*Motion:* Councilmember Klindworth moved to proceed with the advertisement of a crew leader. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion.

Councilmember Boyer commented that it seemed to be counter productive to authorize the expenditure for position evaluations and then turn around and fill a position.

Public Works Director Turner expressed that he was requesting Council fill the Crew Leader position as it had already been budgeted and felt that even if the position evaluation determined that there was a need for more positions to be filled, those were not budgeted and would not be able to be filled immediately.

The position evaluation would not be completed for fourteen weeks.

Councilmember Boyer suggested moving the maintenance person to help the work crew and hiring someone to do the janitorial duties.

Councilmember Klindworth requested to withdraw his motion.

Mayor Walton restated the original motion and asked for the vote:

*Motion:* Councilmember Klindworth moved to proceed with the advertisement of a crew leader. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion did not carry, Councilmember Pruett voted for, Councilmember Quinton voted for, Councilmember Boyer voted against, Councilmember Klindworth voted against, and Councilmember Mosbrucker abstained.

OASIS - SIDEWALKS

City Administrator Tackett commented that the City did have construction standards that required sidewalks to be built. Staff would be meeting with Oasis to discuss the sidewalk issue.

WATER ISSUES

Mayor Walton advised that there would be a meeting with the Real Estate committee to discuss the water issues. A recommendation would be brought to the April 4, Council meeting.

MEETING RECESSED

Mayor Walton recessed the regular meeting at 8:01 pm to go into Executive Session to discuss performance of personnel for approximately 30 minutes. At 8:28 pm Attorney Hultgrenn announced the Mayor had extended the Executive Session for approximately 10 more minutes. At 8:40 pm Attorney Hultgrenn announced the Mayor had extended the Executive Session for approximately another 10 minutes.

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MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Walton called the meeting back to order at 8:49 pm.

COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Administrator Tackett – Committee Reports

- 1) Street Committee – Meeting on March 22 at 4:30
- 2) Real Estate - Meeting on March 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:30
- 3) Impact Committee – Meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00.
- 4) Planning Commission – Joint meeting with Council on May 7<sup>th</sup>

BUILDING/PLANNING DEPARTMENT – Building/Planning Clerk Jed Crowther

- 1) Received a development proposal that would go before a Planning Commission Hearing on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – Police Chief Rick Rochleau

- 1) Being kept busy with the schools
- 2) Received several motorcycle complaints
- 3) Dealt with three domestic violence cases
- 4) Would be training on the LINKS computer system.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – Public Works Director Larry Turner

- 1) Working on Pioneer Park
- 2) Meters had been uninsulated

ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT – Deputy Clerk Treasurer Maria Pena

- 1) Attended WMCA conference, received training on records retention and management
- 2) Working with the Auditors
- 3) Would be working with BIAS to switch over the computer software

CITY ADMINISTRATOR - City Administrator Art Tackett

- 1) Working on the Quiet Zone, hoped to have it completed by June.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Garland Walton

Looking into a grant for a community radio system which could be used as a community warning system. Also looking into changing the circuits for the alarm at the fire hall to provide for additional access to the alarm.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to be heard before the City Council, Mayor Walton adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Maria T. ChavezPeña, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

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Garland D. Walton, Mayor