

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

June 6, 2007

The regular semi-monthly meeting, of the City Council of the City of Connell was called to order by the Mayor at 7:02 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 Rhonda Quinton, Kent Mosbrucker, Jim Klindworth, and Monica Pruett.

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

VISITORS: Cliff Perkins; Karyn Criswell, JD White Berger/ABAM; Sally Mackenzie, Jack Clark, Franklin County Solid Waste; Molly Kunkel, Community First & CDDA; Jack Olson, DOC; Katherine Bingham, Franklin County Graphic.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) Franklin County – SAFETEA – LU Program: \$46,144 allocated to Connell.
- 2) WA State Auditor’s Office – Went through the Exit Conference. Received Final Reports for the 2006 Audit, received no findings.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the May 21, 2007 Regular Council Meeting: Corrections to Page 1. to include “Councilmembers Rhonda Quinton and Kent Mosbrucker” and exclude “Mayor Pro Tem Ron Boyer” under PRESENT – Correction to Page 5. Memorandum of Understanding with Franklin County to correct “\$30,000” to “50,000”.
- b) Accounts Payable Check Register for June 6, 2007 for \$22,666.72
- c) Payroll Check Register for May 30, 2007 for \$ 79,216.83
- d) Motion to approve surplus vehicles as listed on attachment
- e) Accounts Payable Check Register for May 24, 2007 for \$600.00
- f) Accounts Payable Check Register for June 5, 2007 for \$800.00

Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT/NON – AGENDA ITEMS

Molly Kunkel, on behalf of the Connell Downtown Development Association, thanked Council for their support of the brochures. The CDDA was currently working on a new mural and signage.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – June 6, 2007

Molly Kunkel also thanked Council on behalf of Community First Bank for the pavement of the alley.

Jack Olson, DOC, provided Council with an update on the CRCC Expansion Project and provided that construction was going extremely well. There were 16 months left to go for substantial completion and the project would be constructed in one phase rather than 2 or 3 phases as previously planned. The Designer/Builder had paved the access street at no cost to the City or DOC. There had been some theft at the site and the site would start to be secured.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilmember Mosbrucker moved to approve the agenda as presented.
Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING – SIX YEAR TIP

Mayor Walton closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing for the SIX Year Transportation Improvement Plan at 7:20 pm.

City Administrator Tackett went over the projects and funding sources as proposed for the 2008 Six Year TIP.

Priority	Project	Priority	Project
1.	Connell Interchange	10.	Hwy 260 Pedestrian Crossing
2.	West Adams	11.	Old RR Right-of-Way
3.	East Birch	12.	West Franklin Extension
4.	South Burke	13.	Hawthorne
5.	S. Burke, Gum, & Almira	14.	Ford Ave Bike Path Extns.
6.	East Clark, sidewalk	15.	South 6 th Extension
7.	East Davis	16.	Ford Extension
8.	Date	17.	Ironwood
9.	North Second		

Administrator Tackett provided that the State was looking at enhancing the intersection listed on Priority 1. as apposed to constructing an interchange. The City would need to decide if they wanted to settle for the enhancement or push for the interchange. The City submitted Priorities 2 and 3 but missed funding on both by a few points.

Mayor Walton opened the hearing for public comment, there being no public comment, the Mayor then opened the hearing for discussion by Council.

Councilmember Mosbrucker inquired about other funding sources for Priority No. 14.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – June 6, 2007

City Administrator Tackett advised that there were enhancement programs that would cover bike paths.

Councilmember Klindworth inquired about changing Priority No. 1 to enhancement instead of the interchange.

Mayor Walton closed the Open Public Hearing at 7:32 pm.

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-01 – SIX YEAR TIP

This item was tabled to make adjustments to Priority No. 1.

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE

Sally Mackenzie and Jack Clark from Franklin County Solid Waste were present to discuss a comprehensive integrated solid waste management plan. A solid waste management plan was required by law. The plan would be accomplished under the leadership of Franklin County in cooperation with cities of Mesa, Connell, Kahlotus, and Pasco. Franklin County had secured adequate grant funding to hire a consultant to prepare the plan.

Mr. Clark discussed the required goal of 50% for recycling.

Motion: Councilmember Pruett moved to authorize the Mayor sign the Interlocal Agreement for solid waste planning. Councilmember Mosbrucker seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

AVISTA GAS LINE EASEMENT

City Administrator Tackett provided that Avista had requested easements to provide additional gas supply to the prison expansion.

City Attorney Hultgrenn noted that Council would need to decide whether they wanted to provide the easements without compensation. The City had an existing franchise agreement in place.

Mayor Walton expressed a concern with the streets being torn up and patched and that pipes be laid into the ground 36" deep.

Attorney Hultgrenn provided that he could suggest language to Avista for inclusion in the agreement.

Councilmember Boyer suggested more information be gathered and brought back to Council to address those concerns expressed.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – June 6, 2007

NUISANCE VIOLATION NOTICE – PERKINS PROPERTY

Police Chief Rochleau provided that since Mr. Perkins had chosen to appeal the violation notice that Council would need to make a determination as to whether Mr. Perkins was in violation of Connell Municipal Code or not.

Discussion was had in regards as to who was responsible for enforcement of nuisance violations and whether Mr. Perkins was or was not in violation.

Motion: Councilmember Boyer moved that based on the information presented there was a nuisance violation established and that the City should proceed in accordance with current ordinances and enforce the nuisance violation. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried, four to one, with Councilmember Mosbrucker voting against.

Motion: Councilmember Klindworth moved to allow Mr. Perkins six months to get a fence in place or have the nuisance abated. Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

OASIS – TITLE

This item was tabled.

PROJECT STATUS – ANDERSON PERRY

No report to be heard by Anderson Perry.

LAND OFFER FROM GREG MAUSETH

This item was tabled in order to be brought before the Real Estate Committee.

WILD LAND TRUCK USE AGREEMENT WITH FRANKLIN COUNTY

This item was tabled.

SALARY COMMISSION – MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

City Attorney Hultgrenn provided that the current Council could raise the salary commission for Mayor and Councilmembers. The two council spots that were up for reelection could receive an increase at the first of the year but the other councilmembers could not. The other option would be to designate a Salary Commission who could set salaries and salaries would be effective immediately. The Salary Commissioners would hold a two year term.

Councilmember Klindworth provided that it was also possible for the current council to increase the salary commission to go into effect in two years, this would allow for all councilmembers to get an increase at the same time.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – June 6, 2007

Motion: Councilmember Klindworth moved to table this item until the June 18 Council meeting after the filing period was over. Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

POTENTIAL WATER RIGHTS PURCHASE

This item was tabled.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE

City Administrator Tackett recommended that the City obtain the services of a temporary employee to help staff get caught up on the financial information that was rather critical. Staff had been putting in overtime to try to accomplish getting caught up on the new system but was not able to get technical support for the new software after work hours. The temporary employee would handle the front window to allow staff time to enter the information into the software system to bring the financial data up to date. The position would be for a maximum of 90 days.

Councilmember Boyer suggested the City use a temporary agency such as Manpower.

Councilmember Mosbrucker expressed his concern regarding hiring for this position when there was another department that had been requesting personnel for some time.

Motion: Councilmember Pruett moved to recommend that the City hire a temporary person for a maximum of 90 days through Manpower. Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT

City Clerk Treasurer Pena reported that after attending training in records management and records retention it was apparent that the City was behind in its management and retention practices for records. Staff contacted an individual who provided services in records management and received a quote and recommendations for immediate ways to improve space and efficiency. Staff also attended a grant workshop for the preservation and management of records. The overall goal would be that, through a grant and help from the State Archivist department and help from the records management specialist, a plan would be developed (to be carried out in phases) to organize the records for the front office as prescribed by the State Archivist and to properly set up the records storage area and retention.

Councilmember Quinton expressed a concern with the workload that it would take to implement the program as staff was already behind and trying to catch up.

City Clerk Treasurer Pena provided that the grant could also provide for the expense of bringing someone in to help.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – June 6, 2007

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to authorize staff to proceed with the grant application for the Local Records Grant Program. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE

City Administrator Tackett provided that the consultant hired to provide a staff and salary comparison had recommended the City hire a Public Works Supervisor.

Motion: Councilmember Mosbrucker moved to authorize staff to advertise to fill the position of Public Works Supervisor. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

HIGHWAY 260 - PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

City Administrator Tackett reported that Jim Mahugh from the Department of Transportation had provided information in regards to a light for the pedestrian crossing at Highway 260 and Columbia Ave at a cost of approximately \$11,000. The City could wait and apply for funding after the first of July.

Councilmember Boyer suggested the City wait to apply for funding.

BDI RATE INCREASE

City Administrator Tackett provided that the City had received the annual sanitation rate increase from BDI.

The rate increase would go into effect for residents August 20th. An ordinance would be brought before the Council at the next meeting.

MEETING RECESSED

Mayor Walton recessed the meeting at 9:04 until 9:15 to take a break.

MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Walton called the meeting back to order and the following was heard before the Council:

KAREN CRISWELL FROM JD WHITE

Karen Criswell from JD White provided an update on the status of the Comprehensive Plan update.

Ms. Criswell went over the Land Use Capacity Analysis. A total of 10,020 jobs were projected when considering existing employment plus forecasted employment. The City had an available residential capacity to accommodate 19,351 new residents. The current land use capacity within existing City limits was sufficient to serve the projected population growth up to and beyond 2025. The ratio for new jobs to new population was 1 job to every 2.8 residences. 80% of jobs would be in the industrial sector and 20% of

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – June 6, 2007

jobs would be in the commercial sector. There was plenty of land to serve new growth. One question for Council to consider would be could the City afford the infrastructure that it would take to serve those land uses.

The Boy Scouts had distributed 800 land use surveys to residents of Connell and 55 had been returned. Karen Criswell went over those opinions expressed on the survey. Most felt that the City had about the amount right of residential and commercial land and felt that there were certain services they would like to see provided.

There would be a workshop on June 20th for community input.

City Administrator Tackett advised that by doing the land use analysis it provided a guide for the Planning Commission and Council to use when determining land use or being requested to change existing land use.

MEETING RECESSED

Mayor Walton recessed the regular meeting at 9:50 pm to go into Executive Session until 10:05 to discuss with legal counsel representing the City litigation or potential litigation and to review the performance of a public employee.

MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Walton called the meeting back to order at 10:05 pm and the following was heard:

DAIRY

Council discussed setting up a trip to visit an existing dairy and inquired about the authority available to Council in regards to the proposed dairy.

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT

Mayor Walton provided that he had received a letter from the City Administrator requesting that his contract be extended until December 31, 2007.

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to advertise for a minimum of 60 days for a City Administrator and to extend the contract with City Administrator Tackett until December 31, 2007 with an additional \$1,000 per month. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to be heard before the City Council, Mayor Walton adjourned the meeting at 10:15 pm.

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

Garland D. Walton, Mayor