

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

September 17, 2007

The regular semi-monthly meeting, of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Walton at 7:05 pm in the City Hall and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

STAFF: City Administrator Art Tackett, Attorney Dan Hultgrenn Police Chief Rick Rochleau, City Public Works Director Larry Turner, Planning/Building Clerk Jed Crowther, Court Clerk Sheila Cerna, Public Works Maintenance Sterling Joyner, and City Clerk/Treasurer Maria Peña.

VISITORS Jim Riddell, Tullamoor; John Hite, Amerapol; Alan Schroeder, Anderson Perry; and Kathy Bingham, Franklin County Graphic;

CORRESPONDENCE

1. AWC – Regional Meeting September 20th in Richland
2. City of Othello – Invitation to a Sister City signing ceremony between Othello and a city in Africa on September 24th.
3. Mid Columbia Library – Thanked the City Council for the authorizing funds for the requested custom woodworking projects.
4. City of Walla Walla – Adopted a resolution supporting the State of WA Department of Veterans Affairs to fund a long term residential care facility for veterans.
5. City of Pasco – Invitation to the All-Senior-Picnic at the TRAC on Thursday, September 20, 2007.
6. AWC – Provided playing cards that promoted Washington festivals and events.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the September 5, 2007 Regular Council meeting.
- b) Accounts Payable Check Register for September 17, 2007 for \$207,656.88 minus the voucher for James Cole in the amount of \$1077.00.
- c) Payroll Register for August 20, 2007 additional amount for benefits \$14,161.15

Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING RECESSED

Mayor Walton recessed the regular meeting at 7:16 pm to go into Executive session for approximately 30 minutes to discuss litigation. Mayor Walton extended the executive session at 7:47 for approximately another 10 minutes.

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MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Walton called the regular meeting back to order at 7:59 and the following was heard before the City Council;

CITIZEN COMMENT/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

John Hite of Amerapol presented Council with an advertising contract. Mr. Hite was in the process of putting together a book about Washington State. Cost for advertising in the book was \$1750 for two pages or \$2800 for four pages. Mr. Hite noted that if the City were to purchase four pages of advertising the City would receive 50 free copies of the publication.

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to purchase advertisement for four pages in the amount of \$2,800, with 50 free books plus shipping of \$175.00. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Walton made the following changes to the Agenda:

Agenda Item 11 Interagency Agreement with WA State Arts Commission - Tabled

Agenda Item 16 2008 Dispatch Contract & Fee - Tabled

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ANDERSON PERRY

Alan Schroeder of Anderson Perry reported that work was continuing on the wastewater project for the prison expansion. In regards to the water project, the City's logo would be placed on the reservoir, ideas from the contractor would be brought back to the Council. Anderson Perry staff was looking into operations and maintenance cost associated with the prison expansion, they had received a sample contract used by the City of Umatilla. The contract negotiation phase would involve time from Anderson Perry staff and City Attorney time, the cost of which would need to be factored back into the prison expansion contract for reimbursement.

DOC AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

Alan Schroeder reported that there were several things that needed to be added to the original agreement, such as construction cost for the reservoir and contingency cost.

Discussion was had on the amount for construction administration in the project totals.

Motion: Councilmember Klindworth moved to authorize the Mayor sign Amendment 5 to the Department of Corrections Contract, for a project total of \$3,287,255.70, contingent upon resolving differences in the DOC Contract and that the bid for the reservoir be awarded. Councilmember Boyer seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVAL OF WATER SYSTEM PLAN

Alan Schroeder reported that the water system plan for the City of Connell had been underway for a couple of years. He had received verbal indication from Department of Health that they were ready to approve the plan but requested that the City official adopt the plan as well.

A resolution adopting the water system plan would be placed on the consent agenda for October 3.

ANNEXATION

City Administrator Tackett provided that in regards to the proposed annexation by Roger Baile, the City Council had to determine whether it would accept, reject or geographically modify the proposed annexation, whether the Council would require the simultaneous adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, and whether the City would require the assumption of existing City indebtedness by the area to be annexed.

Councilmember Klindworth inquired about the responsibility of the City if it annexed the property.

Council also inquired about requesting Mr. Bailie annex further north up to Cohan Road.

Attorney Hultgrenn advised that most annexation statues did not allow Council to add to the annexation proposal but rather allowed Council to subtract from the proposal. Attorney Hultgrenn recommended that Council either reject the proposal and have Mr. Bailie resubmit the proposal or table the discussion until the next meeting when further discussion could be had with Mr. Bailie.

Motion: Councilmember Klindworth moved to table the item for discussion with Mr. Bailie.

Mayor Walton directed that further discussion would be tabled until the October 3rd meeting.

WATER REQUEST – MR. BENNETT

City Administrator Tackett reported that the Real Estate & Water Committee had reviewed Mr. Bennett's request for the City to provide water to a small development west of the city limits. Precedence had been set by supplying water to Skylark. City Administrator Tackett suggested that if Council desired to provide water to this development that the developer be required to put in place the necessary infrastructure.

Councilmember Klindworth expressed that any further developments being supplied water be required to sign an agreement for annexation within a specified length of time.

This item was tabled until the next meeting for further discussion.

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DOT PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AGREEMENT

City Administrator Tackett reported that a new agreement had not been received.

Further discussion would be tabled.

ORDINANCE NO. 824 – SALARY ORDINANCE

City Administrator Tackett provided that Council had discussed setting up a committee to review salaries for Council and Mayor.

City Attorney Hultgrenn noted that if Council chose to adopt the ordinance there were some items that needed to be determined such as number of members and their terms.

Further discussion was tabled until the October 3rd meeting.

WATER EASEMENTS FOR CITY PROPERTY

City Administrator Tackett reported that Anderson Perry had been requested to find and prepare right-of-way easements for the property at Tullamoor with the help of Attorney Hultgrenn.

Alan Schroeder advised that proposed easements had been prepared, one for the south half of the farm that dealt with Well # 10, the reservoir site, and waterlines. The second easement was for Well #9 and pertained to the north side of the highway. There was a typing error on the second page for the second easement, the easement actually contained 1.47 acres not .147 acres.

Motion: Councilmember Boyer moved to authorize Mayor Walton sign the easements with the correction as noted. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR - City Administrator Art Tackett

Had met with the Railroad on September 12 in regards to the quiet zone. A new computer system for \$300,000 would need to be put in place on each crossing in order to establish a 24 hr quiet zone. Another request would be made to establish a quiet zone possibly between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am to see if that would reduce the cost.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Walton adjourned the meeting at 8:32 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Maria Peña, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Gary Walton, Mayor