

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

December 17, 2007

The regular semi-monthly meeting, of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Walton 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 Kent Mosbrucker, Rhonda Quinton, and Monica Pruett.

EXCUSED: Councilmember Jim Klindworth, by consensus of the Council

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

VISITORS: Alan Schroeder, Anderson Perry; Jim Riddell, Tullamoor; Toni Meacham, Neil Smick; Kathy Bingham, Franklin County Graphic.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting for November 19, 2007
- b) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting for December 5, 2007
- c) ~~Minutes of the Special Council Meeting for December 10, 2007~~
- d) Accounts Payable Check Register for December 4, 2007 for \$156.78
- e) Accounts Payable Check Register for December 11, 2007 for \$53.00
- f) Accounts Payable Check Register for December 13, 2007 for \$100.00
- g) Accounts Payable Check Register for December 17, 2007 for \$106,560.54
- h) Payroll Register for pay period of 11/16/07 through 11/30/07 for \$59,521.21

Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Toni Meacham, on behalf of Neil Smick, read correspondence from Mr. Smick to the Council in opposition of the Planning Commission's recommendation of the proposed zone change to his land, consisting of approximately 80 acres, from Residential to Agriculture as this proposed change was made without his knowledge or consent. Mr. Smick felt that the amount of land available for residential was skewed and provided several maps. Mr. Smick also addressed the cost of providing services to his land and expressed that he would not expect the City to provide services at this present time, but would be content to wait until the commercial land and residential ground were developed on the East side of 395 South of Lind Road. In closing Mr. Smick requested a fair and impartial decision to keep his land zoned as Residential.

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Toni Meacham also read correspondence from Mr. Smick’s attorney, Corey Brock, addressing concerns of the down zoning of Mr. Smick’s property.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Walton made the following changes to the Agenda:

Tabled - Item No. 9) CLOSED RECORD HEARING – 2007 DRAFT COMP PLAN
Addition - Item No. 15 a) Ordinance No. 828 Authorizing Disbursements from Fund 111

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

MEETING RECESSED

Mayor Walton recessed the meeting at 7:20 pm to go into Executive Session to discuss a proposed land purchase for approximately 10 minutes.

At 7:30 the Mayor extended the Executive Session for approximately another 10 minutes.

At 7:40 the Mayor extended the Executive Session for approximately another 10 minutes.

MEETING RECONVENED

At 7:50 Mayor Walton reconvened the regular meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

REAL ESTATE PURCHASE - MAUSETH

Mayor Walton provided that the Real Estate Committee had been in discussion with Eric Mauseth in regards to this land purchase for over five months. Asking price was \$14,000 with the removal of trees. The piece of property was located on Date Street adjacent to the Pioneer Park. The property would provide additional parking for the park.

Motion: Councilmember Boyer moved to authorize the Mayor to accept the boundary line adjustments and sign the purchase agreement for the Mauseth property in the amount of \$14,000. Councilmember Mosbrucker seconded motion, motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED RECORD HEARING – 2007 DRAFT COMP PLAN UPDATE

Tabled until the January 22nd meeting. An extension for submittal had been granted until January 22.

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PUBLIC HEARING – 2007 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Mayor Walton closed the regular meeting at 7:55 pm and opened the Public Hearing on the 2007 Budget Amendment.

City Clerk Treasurer Peña advised that she had received some information from the Auditor in regards to making budget amendments. Not only did the City need to not go over the budgeted amount for each fund but it also had to maintain its 508 amounts as budgeted and could not go under without a budget amendment.

The 111 General Support fund had received less revenue than projected. The projected revenues were \$1,169,000 with a projected ending balance of the same. The actual to date revenue amounts were \$962,609. There would still be revenue coming in for December but those numbers would not be received until closer to the end of the month and would probably not bring the fund up to the projected amount, therefore a budget amendment would be needed for the 111 Fund.

Another fund that did not meet its ending fund balance was the 206 Water/Sewer Bond Redemption fund. This fund received its revenues from transfers from the 401 Water fund. Possibly the reason for the shortage in funds was a missing transfer. A closer look would be taken into this fund which should not need a budget amendment.

The 403 Solid Waste Fund's ending balance was budget at \$16,033. The revenues to date were \$16,696 but bills still had to be paid. The BDI bill was usually about \$16,000.

City Administrator Tackett discussed that the 403 Solid Waste Fund was suppose to support itself and that a long term analysis needed to be done.

Mayor Walton asked for comments from the public, there being none the Public Hearing was opened for discussion by the Council.

Council inquired more about BDI charges and requested a print out of amounts billed from BDI and amounts being collected from the users.

Councilmember Mosbrucker noted that the Finance Committee had determined to keep only the \$15,000 as budgeted for drug investigations. The Court Clerk Assistant was budgeted as a 40 hour full time position with benefits, with 16 hours going to assist in other departments. A \$3,000 stipend amount was budgeted for an intern for Park & Rec Director.

Mayor Walton closed the Public Hearing at 8:22 pm to be continued on December 27th at 6:00 pm.

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PUBLIC HEARING – FIXING THE 2008 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

Mayor Walton provided that the Public Hearing for fixing the 2008 Budget would be continued until December 27th.

ANDERSON PERRY PROJECT REPORTS

Alan Schroeder of Anderson Perry reported that the Water Project was going well. The tank had been completed and the seals were curing. Work was continuing on the booster station by the big reservoir. Things were continuing with the service line connections.

There had been a request for Partial Pay Estimate No. 2 in the amount of \$167,722.45.

Motion: Councilmember Pruett moved to authorize Partial Pay Estimate No. 2 in the amount of \$167,722.45 to Aquastore NW, Inc. Councilmember Mosbrucker seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schroeder noted that he had received Attorney Hultgrenn's comments on the Master Engineer Contract and would finish it up to bring back to Council.

Work had begun on the City standards process.

Mr. Schroeder also clarified that with all the activity taking place, they would not have any role in reviewing plans for developers other than reviewing plans for the City.

The sewer design continued.

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-05 – SETTING SALARY SCHEDULES FOR 2008

Motion: Councilmember Pruett moved to approve Resolution No. 2007-05 setting salary schedules for 2008. Councilmember Mosbrucker seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR - UPDATE

City Administrator Tackett reported that the City had received quotes from agencies ranging from \$16,000, to \$20,000 to help with the placement of a new City Administrator. Ads had been pulled from the newspapers but the free ads had continued on the websites of AWC and City Managers Association. Currently the City had received four applications. Applications closed on December 28.

LEASE AGREEMENT

Public Works Director Turner reported that he was ready to move forward with the leasing of equipment. The total amount to be financed over 7 years was \$324,006.46. The lease would include a street sweeper, water truck, and a mower. The old sweeper would be kept because it had a vacuum which the new sweeper did not.

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Motion: Councilmember Mosbrucker moved to approve Public Works Director Turner move forward with the lease agreement and for the Mayor to sign. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 828 – Authorizing the Disbursements from Fund 111.

Motion: Councilmember Mosbrucker moved to approve Ordinance No. 828. Councilmember Pruett seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – City Administrator Art Tackett
Administrator Tackett commented that he had been very pleased with the last meeting held by the Finance Committee.

BUILDING/PLANNING DEPARTMENT – Building/Planning Clerk Jed Crowther
Alice Taylor with the Public Art’s Committee would be here on Jan 25th at 3:00. The list had been narrowed down to 6 artist.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – CHIEF RICK ROCHLEAU

- 1) Officer Gutierrez was graduating from the Police Academy
- 2) Arrested a man on a rape investigation
- 3) Had received a proposal for negotiations from Teamsters

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – Public Works Director Larry Turner

- 1) Had a good winter so far
- 2) IAC had done a final walk through on the Pioneer Park project
- 3) Doing some cleaning up around the shop
- 4) Provided a schedule of public works projects

MAYOR’S REPORT – Mayor Gary Walton

- 1) Special Council meeting for continuation of Public Hearings December 27th at 6:00 pm.
- 2) Pleased with the piece done on the news about the prison expansion.
- 3) Staff Appreciation December 18th at 6:00 pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell, Mayor Walton adjourned the meeting at 9:01 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Maria Peña, Clerk Treasurer

Garland D. Walton, Mayor