

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

October 15, 2012

The regular semi-monthly meeting, of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Walton at 7:01 pm in the City Hall and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Gary Walton, and Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Quinton, Councilmembers: Jared Broberg, Jim Klindworth, and Lee Barrow.

STAFF: Attorney Heidi Ellerd, Police Chief Mike Kessler, Public Works Director Larry Turner, Fire Chief Chris Schulte and City Clerk/Treasurer Maria Peña.

VISITORS: Kathy Bingham, Franklin County Graphic.

CORRESPONDENCE/APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Walton received Liquor License Renewals from the Washington State Liquor Control Board for El Jazmin, and Tapia's Bakery & Market. Mayor Walton also received a new liquor application for Circle K who purchased the SunMart.

Mayor Walton thanked Eric Mauseh and Kevin Besel for their time and hard work on the committee to hire a new City Administrator.

Mayor Pro Tem Quinton and Councilmember Barrow were disappointed with the outcome of not hiring Mr. Strahl for the City Administrator position.

MEETING RECESSED

At 7:06 pm Mayor Walton announced an Executive Session for 20 minutes to evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office.

MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Walton reconvened the Regular Meeting at 7:25 pm and the following was heard:

Councilmember Barrow stated there were several good candidates for the vacant council position.

**Motion:** Councilmember Barrow moved to appoint Kathy Silva to the vacant Councilmember Position No. 6. Mayor Pro Tem Quinton seconded motion. Councilmember Klindworth abstained. Motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Quinton moved to approve the Consent Calendar with corrections.

a) Minutes of the Regular Council meeting October 3, 2012

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(Correction to Page 1- Consent Calendar motion should be  
Councilmember Quinton not Mayor Quinton and correction to  
Page 4- meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.)

- b) Check Register 10/2/2012 for \$208.32
  - c) Accounts Payable 10/15/2012 for \$167,093.50
  - d) Payroll Register 9/30 to 10/9/2012 for \$84,275.69
- Councilmember Barrow seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Walton reminded Councilmembers of a Special Council meeting set for  
October 22, 2012 at 6:00 pm in council chambers to discuss the 2013 budget.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Quinton moved to approve the Agenda as listed.  
Councilmember Barrow seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

REPEALING OF A SECTION OF THE CONNELL MUNICIPAL CODE-  
CHAPTER 9.28

The City had received a letter from the Second Amendment Foundation  
requesting the City repeal a section of Chapter 9.28 of the Connell Municipal  
Code. City Attorney Dan Hultgren had looked into and agreed with request.

**Motion:** Councilmember Barrow moved to approve Ordinance No. 936.  
Mayor Pro Tem Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CAMPBELL & COMPANY SERVICE CONTRACT

Campbell & Bruce's service agreement for maintenance on the heating and cooling  
units was due to expire. Public Works Director Larry Turner would like to renew  
the service agreement with Campbell & Bruce as they provided good service.

**Motion:** Councilmember Klindworth moved to approve service contract with  
Campbell & Company for a 2 year period at \$4,497.53. Councilmember  
Broberg seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

LAMB WESTON WATER RATE AGREEMENT ADDENDUM

Mayor Walton asked Councilmembers to extend the ConAgra Lamb Weston Water  
Agreement for another year. A water and sewer rate study was proposed in 2013 to  
update the water & sewer rates for 2014.

Councilmember Klindworth asked if the water right expense could be moved out of the  
General Fund and put in the Water Fund.

**Motion:** Councilmember Klindworth moved to approve the addendum to the Water  
Rate Agreement with ConAgra Lamb Weston with the understanding that  
the City would do a water study in 2013. Councilmember Broberg  
seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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2013 WATER AND SEWER RATES DISCUSSION

Mayor Walton informed Councilmembers that water and sewer rates had not been increased in 2012 but both funds encountered extra expenditures. The FCS Group recommended from its 2010 water and sewer rate study an increase to the water rate of 7.5% for the years 2012 & 2013. The FCS Group also recommended an increase to the sewer rate of 8.5% for 2012 and no increase for 2013. Councilmembers held discussion. Council consensus was to bring back water rate with a 6% increase. The sewer rate would be discussed at the 2013 budget meeting.

**Unfinished business:** Bring back resolution with increase to water rates of 6%.

DEBT OBLIGATION DISCUSSION

Mayor Walton discussed the City's current debt obligations.

City Clerk/Treasurer Maria Peña recommendations were:

- 1) General Support Fund Loan to the Water Fund- start paying \$64, 800 in principal a year until the loan was paid off in 2022. Otherwise, a lump sum payment of \$648,000 would have to be paid by 2022.
- 2) Farm Bonds-the city should retire an additional \$100,000 each year to help reduce interest costs.
- 3) The General Support Fund- could pay the water rights balloon payment if the water fund started paying the \$64,800 in principal each year back to the General Support Fund.

2013 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Budget Discussion would be held at the Special Council meeting on October 22, 2012.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Director Larry Turner stated all projects would be done by the end of the month.

A planning meeting was scheduled for October 25, 2012.

A Business Expo was scheduled at the Trac Center in Pasco, Wednesday 24, 2012.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell, Mayor Walton adjourned the meeting at 8:13 pm.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rose Courneya, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

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Mayor, Gary Walton