

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

March 16, 2015

The regular semi-monthly meeting, of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Blackwell at 6:00 pm in the City Hall and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Bruce Blackwell, Mayor Pro Tem Monty Huber, and Councilmember's: Kathie Silva, Joe Escalera, and Ray Minor.

EXCUSED: Councilmember Escalera moved to excuse Councilmember Quinton. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF: City Administrator Jed Crowther, Police Chief Chris Turner, and City Clerk/Treasurer Maria Peña.

VISITORS: Kathy Bingham, Franklin County Graphic and Citizen: Helen Tobin, Tobias Pence, Chris Nielson, and Dawn Henschen.

CORRESPONDENCE/APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Blackwell received a letter from the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau stating the City's Fire Classification improved from a protection class 7 to class 6. Mayor Blackwell thanked Fire Chief Schulte for all his hard work.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to approve the Consent Calendar with the removal of the Northwest MedStar invoice for \$1008.00.

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting March 2, 2015
- b) Check Register 3/1/2015 for \$220.34
- c) Check Register 3/9/2015 for \$921.26
- d) Ordinance No. 951-2015 (Passed previously – Minor wording change from 'Section' to 'Chapter' for consistency, as per Code Publishing request)
- e) Accounts Payable March 16, 2015 for \$174,349.50
- f) Payroll Check Register 2/28 -3/5/2015 for \$86,952.48

Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Helen Tobin- would like the city to allow chickens within city limits

Dawn Henschen-wanted more information on the high nitrate notification she received

Chris Nielson-concerned about nitrate level in the well and the long term impacts

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilmember Minor moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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CONNELL RAIL INTERCHANGE UPDATE

City Administrator Crowther stated the Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) was reviewed at previous council meetings. The CERB staff recommended the full \$50,000 grant awarded for the Connell Rail Interchange. Mr. Crowther gave a presentation on the Connell Rail Interchange. He spoke on the benefits of the Connell Rail Interchange.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senator Mark Schoesler participated in a telephone Town Hall meeting on March 9, 2015. Mayor Blackwell attended a Town Hall meeting with House of Representative Susan Fagan. The City was to present the CERB Planning Grant application in Olympia on March 19, 2015.

CITY SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

The City received four applications for the AWC Center of Quality Communities scholarship. The scholarship committee unanimously recommended selection of the submittal by Courtney Colclasure.

COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

CHIEF OF POLICE-Chris Turner

- 1) Working on code enforcement of junk vehicles
- 2) Franklin County offered Leticia Cervantes a job
- 3) Received new side arms

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell, Mayor Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 6:43 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Rose Courneya, Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer

Bruce Blackwell, Mayor