

August 7, 2017

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The following City Administrator's Report, while respectfully submitted to the Mayor and City Council, is provided and available to the general public to inform them of the status of City projects and activities. This report, as well as the monthly department reports, is placed on the City's website.

Here is what I have been working on since our last meeting:

- Worked on the Staff Report for the PocketiNet Franchise Application. Although PocketiNet notified me that they were withdrawing their franchise application Franklin PUD is still moving along with their project to bring additional WiFi to Connell.
- Completed the Social Media policy for the City. This Policy provides guidelines for anyone who posts on the City's social media site on behalf of the City and by the public. The Police Department has a "Connell Police Department" Facebook page that provides citizens with up to date information about the City's Police Department. Please take time to visit the Connell Police Department's Facebook page.
- Proposition No 1. Sales and Use Tax for Transportation Improvements has been submitted to the County to be placed on the November ballot. This proposition proposes a .2% increase to the sales and use tax for the City of Connell for a period of 10 years, estimated to generate an additional \$50,000 per year. A .2% increase would equal an additional 20 cents for every \$100 spent. The revenue generated from the tax is restricted and could only be used to fund transportation improvements such as: preventative and routine pavement maintenance and reconstruction, street and traffic maintenance and operations, and other capital projects identified in the City's Transportation Improvement Program.
- Staff from Anderson Perry has completed the initial work for the Water and Sewer GIS mapping and are now working on the land use maps. Recently we have had a lot of interest in zoning, annexations, and Urban Grown Area. Having these maps available in GIS format will allow staff to be able to provide information to potential land developers in a timelier manner.
- There has finally been some movement with the Railroad Interchange Project. Mayor Blackwell attended a meeting with BNSF and potential consultants to discuss the project and the City recently received a draft design agreement for review. A notice of funding opportunity has been released by the US Dept. of Transportation for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant Program formerly known as FASTLANE. Jeannie Beckett has been working on putting the finishing touches on the Cost Benefit Analysis since the new FY17 guidelines came out.
- Due to the State not passing the capital budget Department of Health does not have the authority to proceed with loan documents for constructions loans at this time. This means that the new well construction project is on hold.
- Along with Mayor Blackwell, attended a meeting with Congressman Newhouse to discuss the Esquatzel flooding issue. Representatives Joe Schmik and Mary Dye were also there to hear about and discuss water issues and legislation.