

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
September 6, 2022

The Regular meeting of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Lee Barrow at 6:00 pm in the City Hall and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Lee Barrow and Councilmember's: Joe Escalera, Pat Barrera, Shelly Harper, Katrina Kunkel and John White.

STAFF PRESENT:

City Administrator Cathleen Koch, City Clerk Marissa Ortiz, Treasurer Teresa Steele, Public Works Director Hallie Tuck, Fire Chief Ken Woffenden, Police Chief Chris Lee, and City Attorney Heidi Ellerd.

MEETING RECESSED

Mayor Barrow recessed the regular meeting at 6:01 pm to go into Closed Session:

Per RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) – To discuss bargaining – (15 minutes)

Mayor Barrow extended the session 10 minutes at 6:16 pm.

MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Barrow called the regular meeting back to order at 6:26 pm.
No action taken.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve the consent calendar as presented:

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting August 15, 2022
- b) Accounts Payable 9/6/22 for \$70,643.69
- c) Check Register 9/1/22 for \$293.51
- d) Payroll Register 8/19/22 – 8/19/22 for \$84,469.63

Pro Tem Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve the agenda as amended:

Revised memo/item #12 – City Pool Project closeout

Tabled Item#11 – AFG Grant Award Management Services

Added item#13 –Amendment to Purchase & Sale agreement/Montemayor Properties

Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

RECYCLING PROGRAM

City staff sought direction from Council in regard to the recycling program. Survey results were completed and 27.7% responses from residential customers were received. Of those responses 22.2% total residential customers indicated they'd pay \$1.76 to keep the recycling program. In addition ten businesses responded and all indicated they'd pay \$1.76 to keep it. Public Works Director Hallie Tuck reminded Council that a fuel surcharge of 4.43% was approved and would be added to the September and October garbage bills. Also approaching was the proposal for the annual rate adjustment scheduled for January 1, 2023.

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to authorize BDI to charge all customers an additional \$1.76/month to garbage bills to continue the recycling program. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. (4-1 vote) Motion carried unanimously.

CITY BANNER REPLACEMENTS

Public Works Director Tuck stated the City intended to purchase replacement banners from Flying Colors for lost and deteriorated banners as needed. New banners were purchased the previous year from Council miscellaneous funds. City staff requested to order 12 banners. The cost was \$43 each for a total cost of \$600 including tax and freight.

Motion: Pro Tem Barrera moved to authorize the use of Council miscellaneous funds to purchase replacement Banners from Flying Colors. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 – WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Provided to Council was Change Order #1 for the East Ford Avenue and West Date Street water main replacement project. The Connell Fire Chief recommended that a Fire Hydrant should be installed on West Date Street for ample fire protection. The Change Order totaled \$11,967.15 and included sales tax of 8.3%.

Motion: Councilmember Harper moved to approve Change Order #1 with Premier Excavation for \$11,967.15. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY VEHICLE USE POLICY

On April 18, 2022, Councilmember Harper questioned whether employees were using City vehicles outside of City limits. After discussion was held, City Attorney Heidi Ellerd explained that the City Administrator's contract could be modified to add language allowing such use. An amended contract for the City Administrator was brought back on June 6, 2022, with language that would allow the use of a City vehicle. The amended contract was not approved by City Council. On June 20, 2022, Council held another discussion about City vehicles. It was agreed that the policy would be modified by the City Attorney for all departments. Provided for Council's consideration was a modified draft policy prepared by City Attorney Heidi Ellerd.

Motion: Pro Tem Barrera moved to approve the City vehicle policy as presented. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. (3-2 vote) Motion carried.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – September 6, 2022

AFG GRANT AWARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES
TABLED

CITY POOL PROJECT CLOSE OUT

The Pioneer pool project was completed August 31, 2022. The original project bid was for \$151,599.06 and included one Change Order for \$53,121.15 for drain channel repairs. The final cost of the project totaled \$204,720.21. Approval for the final closeout was requested by staff and contingent upon receipt of the National Plasterer’s Technical warranty information and a copy of NPT manual. The final payment would be released upon receiving the approvals from the three State of Washington entities.

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve the final acceptance of the Pioneer Pool Project upon receipt of the 2 listed documents and release payment upon receipt of all State of Washington entity approvals. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried.

AMENDMENT TO PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT – MONTEMAYOR
PROPERTIES

For Council’s review was an amendment to the existing purchase and sell agreement between the City of Connell and Montemayor Properties, LLC dated May 16, 2022. It was agreed that Section 5 and 6A be amended. Extending the close of escrow from August 31, 2022, to on or before October 31, 2022, contingent upon the approval of a boundary line adjustment. All other terms and conditions of the said agreement remained in full force and effect.

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve the Amendment to Purchase and Sell Agreement between the City of Connell and Montemayor Properties, LLC and authorize the Mayor’s execution of the agreement. Pro Tem Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Councilmember White moved to waive the rental fees for use of the Connell Community Center for a Memorial Service held for Ron Lalka. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously. Councilmember Kunkel abstained from voting.

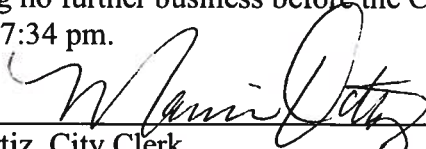
CITY COUNCIL CLOSING REMARKS

Pat Barrera –appreciated the weed issue cleanup along the walking path and recognized the Public Works Crew was doing the best they could.

Shelly Harper –requested a weed clearance along West Adams Street before the Fall Festival events.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 7:34 pm.

ATTEST: 
Marissa Ortiz, City Clerk


Lee Barrow, Mayor