

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
February 21, 2023

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

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

EXCUSED:

Councilmember Escalera moved to excuse Pro Tem Barrera. Councilmember Kunkel seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF PRESENT:

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting February 6, 2023
- b) Accounts Payable 2/21/23 for \$383,352.07
- c) Check Register 2/08/23 for \$6,596.89
- d) Payroll Register 2/09/23 for \$30,584.21
- e) Payroll Register 2/03/23 – 2/03/23 for \$50,662.65

Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02 – SUPLUS FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT

Resolution 2023-02 was prepared to allow the City of Connell Mayor and Councilmembers to consider allowing the Fire Department to surplus equipment that was unused, expired, out of service, or otherwise inoperable and was no longer needed at the Fire Department. Items included were as follows:

- 1 Bauer air compressor 2450 psi; compressor was not in service since prior to the addition of the fire station (approx. 2010).
- 10 MSA SCBA packs and 25 MSA facepiece's; replaced by new MSA packs, due to AFG Grant.
- 23 low pressure fiber cylinder's and 6 low pressure steel cylinders; replaced by new MSA high pressure cylinders due to AFG Grant.

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- miscellaneous parts for said surplus items.

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-02 to allow items listed above to be disposed of and surplus in accordance with state law for the best attainable value. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

SOUTHSIDE WATERLINE PROJECT PHASE II – CHANGE ORDER #1

Provided for Council’s review was Change Order #1 for the Southside Waterline project phase 2. The amount of the contract was decreased by the sum of \$20,927.03 plus sales tax. The difference was required due to changes in casing size and length in the project area. There was an additional increase amount in the contract price by the sum of \$4,762.59 in parts due to changes requested by the Washington State Department of Transportation for the boring under SR 260. The total reduction of the Change Order totaled \$16,164.44.

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve the change order #1 with HD Fowler. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH
TEAMSTERS’ LOCAL UNION #839

The City began negotiating a new agreement with Teamsters local Union No. 839 on October 14, 2022. The parties agreed to new language that was within the parameters set by City Council on January 31, 2023. The proposed new agreement was provided and contained new terms that were merged with the existing contract that expired on December 31, 2022. Highlights of the new terms were as follows:

- A three-year agreement beginning January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2025
- Wages would increase six percent (6%) for 2023, five percent (5%) for 2024, and five percent (5%) for 2025
- Administrative language cleaned-up which clarified who was subject to the agreement
- New hires would serve a 12-month probationary period after receiving their Peace Officer certification
- Lateral hires would serve a 12-month probationary period from the date of hire
- Lateral hires would be credited annual leave based on their previous years of full-time commissioned officer experience
- Officers on probation would not be able to use annual leave until they had worked for the City for 6 months
- Officers would be allowed to cash out up to 40 hours of compensatory and/or vacation time, as long as they had taken at least 24 hours of leave in the preceding 12 months
- Up to 2 Holidays per year could be worked and banked as compensatory time
- Juneteenth was added as an observed holiday
- Officers could accumulate an additional 20 hours of compensatory time (previously 40) at any time (allowed for a total of 60 hours)
- Bilingual pay (English/Spanish) increased to \$75.00 dollars per month from \$50.00
- Disciplinary records would be handled in accordance with RCW 40.14.070
- Grievances related to disciplinary action would result in arbitrator selection as required by RCW 41.58.070
- Take-home cars continued to be administered per the current contract and practice

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- Each party would pay its portion of the Washington PFML and CARES premiums as specified by RCW

Motion: Councilmember White moved to approve the collective bargaining agreement between the City and Teamsters Local Union No. 839 beginning January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2025. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 6:22 pm.

ATTEST: 
Marissa Ortiz, City Clerk


Lee Barrow, Mayor