

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
April 03, 2024

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: Pat Barrera, Shelly Harper, Preston Hart, and John White.

EXCUSED:

Councilmember Barrera moved to excuse Councilmember Joe Escalera. Councilmember Hart seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF PRESENT:

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Harper moved to approve the consent calendar as presented:

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting March 20, 2024
- b) Accounts Payable 4/03/24 for \$147,216.85
- c) Payroll Register 3/20/24-3/20/24 for \$81,982.08

Councilmember Barrera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Harper moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember White seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

LAMB WESTON STREET FRONTAGE WAIVER

Lamb Weston had applied for a frontage waiver to waive the code requirements for the construction of curb, gutter, and sidewalk improvements on the frontage of four streets. The four streets were West Juniper Street, South Fifth Avenue, West Hawthorn Street, and West Gum Street. The request was linked to a pending site plan review at 811 West Gum Street under City file No.2024.13.BP1. The Connell Municipal Code 12.20.020 required frontage improvements unless a waiver was approved by the Planning Commission and confirmed by the City Council. The Planning Commission agreed to the necessity of the waiver and forwarded their approval to the City Council. The City Council was not opposed and was in favor of the applicant's request.

Councilmember Hart abstained from the vote.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Council Meeting – April 03, 2024

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Harper moved to approve the waiver to provide street improvements along the street frontages stated and direct the Mayor to sign Resolution No. 2024-03. Councilmember Barrera seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2024 HOTEL MOTEL EXPENDITURE ALLOCATIONS

The Hotel/Motel Committee met on March 28, 2024, to review all applications and made recommendations on funding. They proposed to provide each applicant with the following expenses in Hotel/Motel funding for a total of \$20,500.

The following applications recommended for funding were received from:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1. Columbia Basin Junior Livestock Show | \$3,500 |
| 2. Connell Community Club | \$4,500 |
| 3. Connell Community Float/Miss Connell Scholarship Program | \$5,000 |
| 4. Greater Connell Area Chamber of Commerce/Fall Festival | \$5,000 |
| 5. Connell Heritage Museum | \$2,500 |

Mayor Pro Tem Harper abstained from the vote.

Motion: Councilmember White moved to approve the allocation of Hotel/Motel tax funds recommended by the Hotel/Motel Tax Advisory Committee in the amount of \$20,500. Councilmember Barrera seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Director, Hallie Tuck – Requested to purchase equipment for the Public Works Department needed for City parks. Items included Echo Trimmers (SRM-3020T), Echo backpack blowers (PB-755ST), and Exmark push mowers (CX180GKA30000).

Motion: Councilmember Hart moved to authorize staff to use up to \$15,000 for Park equipment. Councilmember White seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

City Administrator, Cathleen Koch – Reported that the City of Connell had applied for a grant for funding to support commercial and retail growth.

COMMENTS/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Lauren Smith – Spoke on behalf of the Miss Connell Scholarship Program, asked for the need of more support to continue the community float.

Maria Chiprez – Voiced her concerns about finding a location to store the community float and asked for more support from the City.

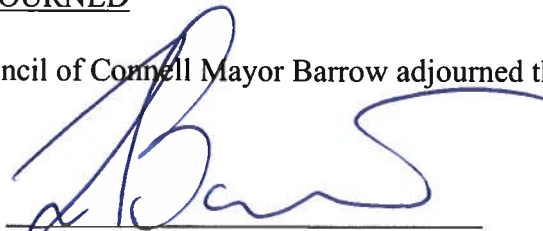
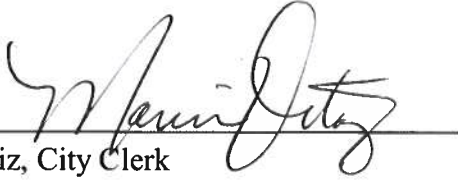
Jim Colclasure – Expressed thanks for being able to join the City Council Meeting by Zoom.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Council Meeting – April 03, 2024

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 6:41pm.

ATTEST: _____
Marissa Ortiz, City Clerk



Lee Barrow, Mayor