

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
July 19, 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: John White, Katrina Kunkel, Shelly Harper, and Pat Barrera.

EXCUSED:

Councilmember Kunkel moved to excuse the absence of Councilmember Joe Escalera. Councilmember Harper seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Escalera joined the meeting at 6:06 pm.

STAFF PRESENT:

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

PRESENTATION / APPOINTMENTS

Officer Sean Finkbeiner was sworn in by Police Chief Chris Lee as the City's newest Police Officer.

Public Works Director Hallie Tuck welcomed Jason Schmid as the New Public Works Supervisor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting June 19, 2023
- b) Accounts Payable 7/19/23 for \$116,219.15
- c) Accounts Payable 7/05/23 for \$795,513.70
- d) Check Register 6/23/23 for \$19,660.41
- e) Check Register 7/03/23 for \$427.67
- f) Payroll Register 7/05/23-7/05/23 for \$116,708.82

Councilmember Kunkel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CLOSED RECORD HEARING – GOOD BUY LLC REZONE

Mayor Barrow recessed the regular meeting at 6:06 pm and opened the Closed Record Hearing for the purpose for consideration of: A proposed rezone for Good Buy, LLC, Connell Lots 1 & 2 Blk 6, from Public Facilities (PF) to Residential, Medium Density (RM). Parcel number #109-811-116.

DECLARATION OF COUNCILMEMBERS:

None Heard

STAFF REPORT:

At this closed record hearing for a quasi-judicial action for this rezone, the Council could hear testimony only from parties of record who presented a comment or testimony at or prior to the Planning Commission’s hearing. No new information could be presented, but information previously put on the record could be restarted or clarified if needed.

The city received an application for a zone change (rezone) for a parcel of land from Public Facilities (PF) to Residential, Medium Density (RM). The site was bounded by W. Clark St. on its north boundary and N. Second Ave. a gravel road on its east boundary. The parcel number was 109811116 and approximately 0.28 acres in size, no address was assigned because the parcel was undeveloped. The parcel was designated as Residential in the City’s Comprehensive Plan and as a result, the requested rezone was in alignment with the City’s Comprehensive Plan. The existing zone of Public Facilities was not in alignment with the City’s Comprehensive Plan. There were no existing structures or formalized uses on the site. Staff provided a detailed analysis, and recommended approval of the rezone to the Planning Commission and provided suggested findings of fact to form the basis for the recommended rezone.

COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENT PORTION OF THE HEARING:

None Heard

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None Heard

Mayor Barrow closed the hearing and opened the regular meeting at 6:21 pm.

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve Ordinance No. 1032-2023 approving the request of known as the Good Buy Rezone to change one parcel described as “Connell Lots 1 & 2, Block 6” from the Public Facilities zoning district to the Residential Medium Density zoning district. Councilmember Escalera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

BUILDING AND PLANNING QUARTERLY UPDATE

Building Services Clerk Sterling Joyner shared updates on current projects for both residential and commercial structures.

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DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS WORK CREW SERVICES AGREEMENT
AMENDMENT NO. 1

The Washington State Department of Corrections presented staff with Amendment #1 to Contract No. K12618, extending the term of the agreement to June 30, 2025, unless terminated sooner. All other terms and conditions remained in full force and effect.

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve amendment #1 between the Washington State Department of Corrections and the City of Connell and authorize the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City. Councilmember Escalera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

BASIN DISPOSAL INC. FUEL SURCHARGE

Basin Disposal proposed a 1.07% fuel surcharge for the billing invoices for the months of September and October as fuel prices remained high. The previous fuel surcharge was 2.01%. Staff recommended approval of the fuel surcharge at the 1.07% rate in the months of September and October. Any future increase would be discussed separately.

Motion: Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve a fuel surcharge of 1.07% to be added to garbage bills for the months of September and October 2023. Pro Tem Barrera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

WATER & SEWER RATES – CPI – W 2024

As a follow up to the City Council meeting held on June 19, 2023, City Treasurer Teresa Steele presented a history of rate changes and delivered information on water and sewer rates based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as a baseline to begin on January 1, 2024. City staff hoped to establish a uniform way of formulating annual water and sewer rate changes, that would stay consistent.

The City Council held discussion and agreed that a Resolution be brought back to include an annual CPI-W increase for consideration.

AMINAL CONTROL RECOMMENDATIONS PRESENTATION

Concerning animal control, Police Chief Chris Lee presented the following list of items for discussion:

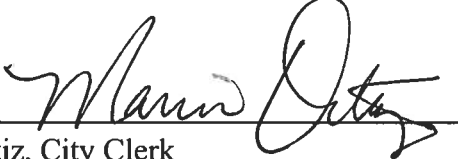
- Dog leash requirements
- Animals disturbing the peace
- Ordinance that dealt with outdoor feeding of feral animals
- Ordinance that addressed animals while in heat
- Approval of chickens in city limits

Chief Lee would work on revisions to the Connell Municipal Code based on the City Council's considerations and bring forward for approval at a future meeting.

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MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell, Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 7:56 pm.

ATTEST: 
Marissa Ortiz, City Clerk


Lee Barrow, Mayor