

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
August 7, 2024

The Regular meeting of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Lee Barrow at 6:01 pm in the City Hall and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lee Barrow and Councilmember's: Joe Escalera, Pat Barrera (joined by zoom), Shelly Harper, Preston Hart and John White.

STAFF PRESENT:

Fire Chief Ken Woffenden, City Administrator Cathleen Koch, City Clerk Marissa Ortiz, Police Chief Chris Lee, City Treasurer Teresa Steele, Public Works Director Hallie Tuck, Building Services Clerk Sterling Joyner 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 June 19, 2024
- b) Accounts Payable 8/7/24 for \$172,497.00
- c) Check Register 6/21/24 for \$15,586.29
- d) Check Register 7/1/24 for \$319.52
- e) Check Register 7/03/24 for \$139,562.77
- f) Check Register 7/17/24 for \$161,696.91
- g) Check Register 7/18/24 for \$3,447.79
- h) Check Register 7/29/24 for \$3,319.42
- i) Payroll Register 6/20/24 – 6/20/24 for \$79,062.31
- j) Payroll Register 7/05/24 - 7/05/24 for \$129,551.00

Councilmember Escalera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

DISCUSS CMC 17.19.100 ENCLOSURE TRASH CONTAINERS & PLANNING
COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The City Council held a discussion on the development regulations for screening trash containers in commercial, industrial, and public facility zoning districts. The City of Connell adopted such regulations in 1997, and since then, staff had worked with applicants during site plan review processes to ensure they had a suitable location for trash containers or bins. On February 21, 2024, the City Council held the initial debate on CMC 17.19.100 the enclosure of trash containers and instructed staff to prepare an ordinance to repeal it. Staff prepared the draft ordinance and routed it to the Department of Commerce as required. Commerce agreed to expedite the review on March 18, 2024, and the 60-day notice period elapsed on May 3, 2024. A SEPA checklist was conducted, and that comment period concluded on May 16, 2024, no

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comments or appeals were received. On May 28, 2024, the Planning Commission held an open record public hearing and recommended that the trash enclosure section be retained. The Commission proposed sending a compliance letter to all businesses that provided simple compliance solutions, such as installing a fence, instead of a brick wall.

After the discussion, the city Councilmembers engaged in a question-and-answer session with staff members. Councilmembers Harper and Escalera recommended repealing the section in the code. Councilmember Hart stated that repealing the section would not resolve the issue, and Councilmember Barrera agreed. Councilmember White was in favor of retaining as well. City Administrator Cathleen Koch said the city would work with business owners, particularly those with buildings constructed before 1997, unless a change of use was made to the existing business.

Motion: Councilmember Hart moved to approve the recommendation from Planning Commission and not repeal Connell Municipal Code Section 17.19.100 regarding trash container enclosures. Councilmember White seconded the motion. (4-1 vote) Motion carried.

BASIN DISPOSAL FUEL SURCHARGE

Basin Disposal, Inc. proposed a 1.03% fuel surcharge for the billing invoices for the months of September and October 2024 as fuel prices remained high. For the Council's review the new proposed fuel surcharge and rate sheet was provided. Staff recommended that the fuel surcharge be approved at the 1.03% rate and any future increases would be considered separately.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Harper moved to approve a fuel surcharge of 1.03% be added to garbage bills for the months of September and October 2024. Councilmember Escalera seconded the motion. (4-1 vote) Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Director, Hallie Tuck – Provided an update on the Clark Street chip seal project and gave a timeline for the completion of the striping and the crosswalk replacement along the school district street.

Police Chief, Chris Lee – Spoke about a dog bite incident that occurred in Connell, clarified how the Police Department handled it versus what was being said.

Fire Chief, Ken Woffenden – Reported that Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau (WSRB) completed an evaluation of the fire protection capabilities of the community. The Protection Classification (PC) for the City of Connell was rated a Protection Class 6.

COMMENTS/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Katherine Trowbridge – Wished Mary Hall would be honored and remembered for her community involvement as a member of the Connell Community Club.

Lauren Smith – Clarified the Public Works Department report regarding the replacement of certain crosswalks along Clark Street in connection with the School District buildings.

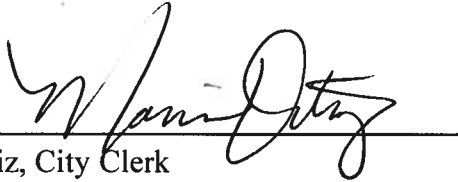
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Kara Booker - Expressed her concerns regarding the City Council's decision on the enclosure of trash containers section of the code.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 6:57 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Marissa Ortiz, City Clerk



Lee Barrow, Mayor

