

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON  
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
October 19, 2020

The Remote Regular meeting of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Barrow at 6:01 pm in the City Hall.

ROLL CALL

ROLL CALL: (Remote) - Councilmember's: Mayor Pro Tem Joe Escalera, John White, Pat Barrera, Shelly Harper, and Katrina Kunkel.

PRESENT: Mayor Lee Barrow, City Administrator Maria Peña, City Clerk Marissa Ortiz, City Treasurer Genesis Bernal, and Police Chief Chris Turner.  
(Remote) - Public Works Director Hallie Tuck, Fire Chief Ken Woffenden and City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**Motion:** Councilmember White moved to approve the consent calendar as presented:

- a) Minutes of the Remote Regular Council Meeting October 05, 2020
- b) Accounts Payable 10/19/2020 for \$155,285.41
- c) Check Register 10/13/20 for \$3,157.65

Councilmember Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve the agenda as amended: *(items #8 Tennis Court Lots & #12 Resolution No.2020-09 Small Business & Community Support Grant Program were added)*. Councilmember Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING – 2021 REVENUE SOURCES AND AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES

Mayor Barrow recessed the regular meeting at 6:05 pm and opened a Public Hearing to allow for the purpose of considering Revenue Sources and AD Valorem Property Taxes for the 2021 fiscal year budget.

STAFF REPORT:

Provided for Council's review were the detailed revenue projections for the 2021 proposed preliminary budget. The City was allowed to increase the total levy amount by 1% annually. City Treasurer Genesis Bernal read through the proposed preliminary budget revenue totals.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Revenues</u>
• 001 General Fund	\$4,611,400.00
• 002 General Reserve Fund	\$1,946,550.00
• 101 Street	\$648,500.00
• 104 Hotel/Motel Tax	\$65,200.00

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL  
Regular Remote Meeting – October 19, 2020

- 111 General Support Fund \$1,647,425.00
- 300 Capital Facilities Fund \$499,100.00
- 401 Water Fund \$2,661,800.00
- 402 Sewer Fund \$3,582,000.00
- 403 Solid Waste Fund \$106,500.00
- 404 Water Emergency Fund \$200,000.00
- 406 Sewer Emergency Fund \$200,000.00
- 414 DWSRF Loan (CTED) \$0.00
- 633 State Remittance Fund \$57,550.00

Total \$16,226,025.00

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None heard

COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENT PORTION OF THE HEARING:

None heard

Mayor Barrow closed the hearing and opened the regular meeting at 6:19 pm.

ORDINANCE NO. 1010-2020 AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES

Ordinance No. 1010-2020 was provided for Council’s review. It set the dollar amount of the increase over the actual levy amount from the previous year at \$5,175.00 which was a percentage increase of 1%. This did not include additional revenue resulting from new construction or property improvements.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Escalera moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1010-2020 setting the 2021 AD Valorem General Property Taxes. Councilmember Kunkel seconded motion. (3-1 vote)  
Motion carried.

RENEWAL OF WA STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS CONTRACT NO. K7568

Chief of Police Chris Turner presented Council with the renewal of the Department of Corrections Contract No. K7568. This contract was between the Department of Corrections and the Connell Police Department for scheduling, payment and use of the Connell Police Department gun range.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Escalera moved to approve the Chief of Police to sign contract #K7568. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CBHA 5K 2020 COLOR RUN DONATION

The City of Connell was selected to receive an additional \$5,000 from Columbia Basin Health Association. Earlier in the year the city received \$5,000 from CBHA for the 2019 5K Color Run. The CBHA 5K Color Run / Run for a Cause had been held since 2018 to raise awareness childhood conditions. Recently CBHA held their 2020 Color Run and selected the City of Connell as a recipient for some of the funds that were raised. In the beginning, staff was hoping that the funds would be utilized to organize activities for the children in the community. Unfortunately, COVID lasted longer than anyone expected, and no youth activities were held. City Administrator Maria Peña suggested that the funds go toward the purchase of ADA

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL  
Regular Remote Meeting – October 19, 2020

equipment for our parks. Since there was no ADA accessible playground equipment in any of our parks this would be an important addition to promote outdoor activities for all the children in our community. Councilmember Kunkel also recommended to include sensory toys.

**Motion:** Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve the \$5,000 donation from Columbia Basin Health Association to be applied in promoting outdoor activities for the children in our community. Mayor Pro Tem Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY CENTER PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT BID RESULTS  
Provided to Council was a detailed memo from Anderson Perry & Associates regarding the bid results for the Community Center Parking Lot Improvements project. The Engineer's estimate was at \$350,027.00. The lowest bidder was Granite Construction Company at \$362,096.71.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Escalera moved to award the winning bid to Granite Construction Company. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO.2020-09 - SMALL BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM

City Administrator Maria Peña presented a resolution establishing a Small Business and Community Support Grant Program. She stated the intent was to provide up to \$150,000 in grants to help small businesses, nonprofits, and residents who have been impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak. A committee would be formed to include the Mayor, herself, City Treasurer, the two Finance Councilmembers, and a member from the Chamber to review the applications. Currently, \$100,000 of COVID funds had not been spent which could go towards helping with rent, utilities, and other expenses. The extra \$50,000 would come from the City's Economic Reserve fund in the 002 General Reserve Fund. The Mayor and City Treasurer had been communicating with the North Franklin School District looking into allocating funds to help them purchase items to help maintain a safe environment for the students and teachers. City Administrator Peña was in communication with Community Action Connections regarding help in rent and utilities for residents in Connell who had been impacted by COVID and could be evicted once moratoriums were lifted.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Escalera moved to approve Resolution No. 2020-09 establishing a Small Business and Community Support Grant Program. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Administrator Maria Peña –

1. Reminded all that Congressman Newhouse would be visiting Connell on October 20<sup>th</sup> to tour main street and talk to local business owners.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 7:06 pm.

ATTEST:   
Marissa Ortiz, City Clerk

  
Lee Barrow, Mayor