

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON  
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
October 5, 2020

The Remote Regular meeting of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Barrow at 6:00 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, and City Treasurer Genesis Bernal.  
(Remote) - Public Works Director Hallie Tuck, Police Chief Chris Turner and City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Remote Regular Council Meeting September 21, 2020
- b) Accounts Payable 10/5/2020 for \$43,043.55
- c) Check Register 9/23/20 for \$276.08
- d) Check Register 9/29/20 for \$64.10
- e) Check Register 10/1/20 for \$213.36
- f) Payroll Register 9/30/20-10/5/20 for \$97,266.69

Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Councilmember Kunkel moved to approve the agenda as amended: *(items #8 Tennis Court Lots & #9 Community Trunk or Treat Event discussions were added)*. Councilmember Harper seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

2020 CURRENT REVENUES & PROPOSED 2021 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

City Administrator Maria Peña reviewed the 2020 adopted budget and end of year predictions for each fund, also included were the actual beginning fund balances and budgeted beginning fund balances.

- 001 General Fund – Would see less revenues of about \$103,000 due to projects that did not take place in 2020, the actual beginning fund balance was \$352,000 greater than projected. Overall, in good condition.
- 002 Reserve Fund – Managing well
- 101 Street Operating – Would see less revenues than budgeted, approximately \$43,000, saw less natural gas tax and motor vehicle fuel tax revenues.  
Street Reserve – Would see a slight gain of approximately \$20,000
- Hotel/Motel Fund – Managing well
- 111 General Support Fund – Managing well

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL  
Regular Remote Meeting – October 5, 2020

- 300 Capital Facilities Fund – Could see approximately \$4,000 less than budgeted (REET)
- 401 Water operating – Would see less revenues than budgeted, approximately \$46,000, not counting the \$200,000 interfund loan that was budgeted.
  - \$200k loan was not needed, various expenditures for capital projects that did not take place
  - \$10k water surcharges
  - \$40k Lamb-Weston
  - \$12k late feesWater reserve – Would see a slight gain of approximately \$10,000
- 402 Sewer Operating & Reserve Fund – Would see a slight gain of \$36,000 combined
  - The Country Estates Sewer Project was not included, some expenditures were expected but staff did not foresee to receive a reimbursement.
- 403 Solid Waste Operating & Reserve Fund – Would see a very small gain
- 404 Water Emergency Fund – No revenues budgeted for this fund
- 406 Sewer Emergency Fund – No revenues budgeted for this fund
- 414 DWSRF – A pass through fund for loan payment
- 633 State Remittance Fund – A pass through fund for State Funds

The revenue for the CARES grant of \$247,000 had not been included in any of the funds. Treasurer Bernal was working on a spreadsheet that demonstrated where the funds had been spent which then would determine what funds the reimbursements would be coded to. Additionally, provided to Council was the preliminary budget for 2021 but it was not currently balanced.

#### TENNIS COURT LOTS DISCUSSION

Previously the Park & Recreation Board made a recommendation to City Council to surplus city land formerly known as the tennis court lots. Since then it had been cleaned, cleared up and was no longer an eye soar. City Administrator Maria Peña stated since the clean up there had been public interest to purchase the land. She clarified given that the City purchased that land with utility funds a process would need to be followed before it could be sold. A Public Hearing and a rezone were some of the steps involved before the City could proceed to sell this property. No formal motion was required but staff recommended to bring back the topic at a later meeting, Council was not opposed.

#### COMMUNITY TRUNK OR TREAT EVENT DISCUSSION

Councilmember Kunkel reported that the Community Truck or Treat was a great success last year and was approached about holding it once again for 2020. For the event to happen this year Councilmember Kunkel requested to authorize a street closure of N. Columbia street between Adams and West Borah streets. Due to COVID Councilmember Kunkel encouraged all to respect each other's personal space keeping six-foot distancing. City Council discussed the general guidelines per the Department of Health which gave tips for a safer Halloween. Council was in favor of the event to take place on October 31, 2020.

Councilmember Kunkel abstained from voting.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL  
Regular Remote Meeting – October 5, 2020

**Motion:** Councilmember Barrera moved to authorize the closure of N. Columbia street between Clark and Franklin streets for the Community Trunk or Treat Event. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.


DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Administrator Maria Peña –

1. Reported 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 7:20 pm.

ATTEST:   
Marissa Ortiz, City Clerk

  
Lee Barrow, Mayor