

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON  
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

November 21, 2016

The regular semi-monthly, meeting of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Blackwell at 6:00 pm in the City Hall and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bruce Blackwell, Councilmember's: Mayor Pro Tem Monty Huber, Ray Minor, Katherine Silva, Rhonda Quinton, and Joe Escalera.

**STAFF:** City Administrator Maria Peña, Public Works Director Larry Turner, Clerk/Treasurer Rose Courneya, Fire Chief Chris Schulte, Police Chief Chris Turner, Accounting Clerk Marissa Canales, and Attorney Dan Hultgrenn.

**VISITORS:** Franklin County Graphic; Kathy Bingham Trowbridge, Red Waggin Rescue; Carrie Adams, Tamra Ochoa and Donalli Cardenas, Connell Museum; Shelly Hervey, Citizens; Erik Mundall and Jon R. Mundall.

CORRESPONDENCE/PRESENTATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Blackwell stated correspondence was sent from the Franklin County Planning and Building Department for two pending short plat applications. He also announced AWC Center for Quality Communities once again was recruiting students from the community for the 2017 Scholarship Program. Deadline for nominations would be March 10, 2017.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve the Consent Calendar as listed:

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting November 7, 2016
- b) Accounts Payable November 21, 2016 for \$80,437.20
- b) Payroll Check Register 11/15/16-11/20/16 for \$54,221.18

Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Councilmember Minor moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

**MUSEUM PURCHASE & SELL AGREEMENT**

Attached for council was the Agreement to Purchase and Sell Real Estate which allowed the City of Connell to sell the museum property to the Connell Heritage Museum. The purchase price for the property was \$15,000. City Administrator Maria Peña mentioned that Attorney Dan Hultgrenn had drafted the agreement and was then presented to the Connell Heritage Museum which they accepted. Staff now needed approval from the Council to authorize the Mayor to sign the Museum Purchase and Sell Agreement.

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**Motion:** Councilmember Quinton moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Agreement to Purchase and Sell Real Estate for sell of the museum property. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RED WAGGIN' RESCUE AGREEMENT RENEWAL

City Administrator Maria Peña reported that the City had been working with Carrie Adams on the updated renewal for the Red Waggin' Rescue Agreement and it was reviewed by Attorney Dan Hultgrenn. There had been a few modifications from the previous two-year agreement. City Administrator Peña noted the conditions of the proposed agreement:

- The City would pay the Contractor \$100.00 instead of \$75.00 for every dog that remained on the Premises for more than seventy -two hours.
- The City would provide a 50lb bag of food per month.
- The City would pay up to a \$2,000 per calendar year for emergency veterinary medical services for injured dogs brought to the premises that were still within the City's 72-hour impoundment period as authorized by the Chief of Police as deemed necessary by Contractor with confirmation by a veterinarian.
- The deletion of "Neither City nor its agents shall be liable for any injury to Contractor, its members, guests, or employees or any other person entering the Premises or building of which the Premises are a part."

Representatives of Red Waggin' Rescue gave a brief presentation on the positive services they provided over the past year.

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Agreement with Red Waggin' Rescue. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

FRANKLIN CO INTERLOCAL SHB 2060 AFFORDABLE HOUSING AGREEMENT RENEWAL

City Administrator Maria Peña briefed the Council and presented the renewal of The Franklin County 2060 Interlocal Agreement. This agreement would renew for an additional five years. She continued to explain the agreement would authorize a committee, consisting of representatives from the participating jurisdictions, to make recommendations on the distribution of funds to various eligible affordable housing projects that would benefit residents of Franklin County. Funds were received from a ten dollar surcharge on certain documents recorded with the County Auditor's office. Benton Franklin Human Services served as the administrative agency. The City of Connell had one seat on the committee, currently being served by Mayor Blackwell.

**Motion:** Councilmember Minor moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Administering Franklin County SHB 2060 Affordable Housing funds. Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 971-2016- ESTABLISHING FUND 404-EMERGENCY WATER FUND

City Administrator Maria Peña recommended approval to adopt Ordinance No. 971 establishing Fund 404. She reported that the ordinance would be a fund for emergency reserves for the water fund. The intent would be to set aside \$200,000 in the water fund and be used solely for an

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emergency. Having these funds designated for only emergency use would help strengthen the City's applications when applying for grant funds. If approved, the 2017 budget would include the new fund and an appropriation of \$200,000.

**Motion:** Councilmember Quinton moved to approve Ordinance No. 971-2016 authorizing the establishment of Fund 404. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR- Maria Peña

1. Reported the Audit had been completed and was a success, she thanked City staff for all their hard work.
2. Announced the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday schedule.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR- Larry Turner

1. Early Friday morning the alarm went off at the Pioneer Sewer Lift Station, the probe was out of service.
2. Public Works worked all weekend-24/7 to manually operate the lift station, while the new probe was making its way for delivery.
3. On Sunday the whole City of Connell was without power for few hours.

POLICE CHIEF- Chris Turner

1. SWAT Team made its way to Connell to investigate a resident who was connected to a kidnapping in Kennewick, WA.
2. Extra coverage was provided during the power outage.

FIRE CHIEF- Chris Schulte

1. Computer hard drive took a crash; he had Defuzion Company fixing the problem.
2. Was invited to attend an ammonias spill drill at Lamb Weston to critique, they did a good job.

CITY CLERK/TREASURER- Rose Courneya

1. Worked on financial monthly reports and handed out to staff and Council for their review.

### CITIZEN COMMENT/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Citizen Erik Mundall spoke to the Council and requested that the City allow raising chickens within the City of Connell limits. He was under the understanding that the City did allow it and up to three hens and no roosters. He was unaware that it had changed and did not keep up with the update. Mr. Mundall provided Council and staff with ordinances from other cities for comparison. He would be willing to pay a license fee to own chickens.

City Administrator Maria Peña addressed Council and stated that it would be a good time to provide feedback since the code pertaining to fowl and livestock was being revised and a Public Hearing would be held on December 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss it.

Councilmembers Escalera and Silva thought it would not be a problem to allow chickens. Mayor Pro Tem Huber mentioned the issue of the residents who would not obey the code on "Animal Control".

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The majority of the Council decided to proceed with no chickens and fowl allowed within city limits.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 7:27 pm.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Marissa Canales, Accounting Clerk

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Bruce Blackwell, Mayor