

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

November 7, 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: Ray Minor, Katherine Silva, Rhonda Quinton and Joe Escalera.

EXCUSED: Councilmember Quinton moved to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Monty Huber. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF: City Administrator Maria Peña, Clerk/Treasurer Rose Courneya, Fire Chief Chris Schulte, Police Chief Chris Turner and Attorney Heidi Ellerd.

VISITORS: Franklin County Graphic; Kathy Bingham Trowbridge, Citizens; John Linder, Marcelline Hueter and Regina Grassl.

CORRESPONDENCE/PRESENTATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Blackwell stated correspondence was sent from the Franklin County Planning and Building Department for a Public Hearing on a proposed short plat application.

Mayor Blackwell temporarily appointed Councilmember Silva to sign the Finance reports due to Mayor Pro Tem Huber's absence.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting October 17, 2016
(Correction-Park & Pool budget listed together at \$84,700, added \$55,300 for just the Pool Portion of budget)
 - b) Check Register November 1, 2016 for \$215.36
 - c) Accounts Payable November 7, 2016 for \$31,314.99
 - d) Payroll Check Register 10/15/16-10/20/16 for \$67,789.91
 - e) Payroll Check Register 10/31/16-11/05/16 for \$81,330.47
- Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to approve the agenda with the rearrangement of agenda items #12 and #13 and the addition of agenda item #14 Grant Application for WA Dept of Ecology. Councilmember Silva seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2017 FISCAL YEAR FINAL BUDGET

Mayor Blackwell recessed the regular meeting at 6:06 pm and opened a Public Hearing to allow for comment from the public in regards to consider 2017 Fiscal Year Final Budget.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL

Regular Meeting – November 7, 2016

STAFF REPORT: City Clerk/Treasurer Rose Courneya provided council for their review and discussion with the 2017 Preliminary Fiscal Year Budget. The 2017 budget presented was a balanced budget but subject to change.

Totals for each fund without beginning fund balances:

- General Fund a net of \$-227,600.00 Pay off the Water Rights
- General Reserve Fund a net of \$-385,300.00 Pay off in 2017 of the Hardung Water Rights and for projected projects
- Street Fund a net of \$-232,110.00 Street projects
- Hotel/Motel Tax Fund a net of \$350.00
- General Support Fund a net of \$126,740.00
- Capital Facilities Fund a net of \$18,900.00
- Water Fund a net of \$-248,840.00 Farm Bonds pay off and Water projects
- Sewer Fund a net of \$77,450.00
- Solid Waste Fund a net of \$-3,500.00 expense for the replacement of garbage cans on Columbia Ave.
- Water Bond Reserve/Redemption Fund a net of \$-239,130.00 Farm Bond final pay off
- State Remittance Fund a net of \$10.00

City Clerk/Treasurer gave council a brief explanation of totals broken down by fund. She also added that the payoffs of the Farm Bonds were included to the 2017 Water Fund budget and it would save the City a tremendous amount of interest fees.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Regina Grassl- Inquired about the payoff amounts, she wanted more explanation.

COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENT PORTION OF THE HEARING:

Councilmember Quinton- asked if the replacement of garbage cans expense was a necessity.

Councilmember Minor- personally felt it was a good expenditure to have the garbage cans replaced.

Councilmember Silva- questioned the inter fund transfer for special council projects.

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

HARDUNG WATER RIGHTS PAYOFF

City Clerk/Treasurer Rose Courneya explained to council that the 2017 budget included paying off the Hardung Water Rights in the amount of approximately \$627,000.00 from the General and General Reserve fund. The water fund eventually would end up paying back the General Fund & the General Reserve Fund. She continued to explain in order for the City to pay off the water rights, they needed to send a letter to Adept Escrow informing them of the pay off in advance. Since the 2017 budget had not been approved council's authorization would be needed to submit the letter of intent.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL

Regular Meeting – November 7, 2016

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to approve the Mayor to sign the letter of Intent to pay off the Hardung Water Rights purchase and any paperwork that would be associated with the payoff. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

FARM BONDS

City Clerk/Treasurer Rose Courneya reminded Council the 2017 budget included paying off the Farm Bond in the amount of \$335,000.00. City Clerk/Treasurer Courneya contacted US Bank and notified them of the City's intention. US Bank requested a notice of redemption to be sent to their bondholders 45 days prior to the pay off. The payment due date for the Farm Bonds is on February 1st, 2017, but payoff payment would be sent in January 2017. She requested authorization from Council to approve Mayor Blackwell to sign a notice of redemption to pay off the Farm Bonds.

Motion: Councilmember Minor moved to approve the Mayor to sign the US Bank Notice of Redemption for Parity Lien Water Revenue Refunding Bonds Series 2005B. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

AMENDING ORDINANCE 967-2016

Chief of Police Chris Turner worked together with City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn and rewrote some language on the definition of dangerous dogs and potentially dangerous dogs on Ordinance 967-2016. The definitions of both types of dogs have been updated to coincide with the definitions in the Revised Code of WA. Chief Turner mentioned in the definition of an "Animal Control Officer" the old definition specifically designated the Chief of Police as one who could bear the title. The Chief of Police was removed because he also was the person a citizen could appeal the declaration too thus creating a conflict.

Motion: Councilmember Minor moved to approve Ordinance 967-2016. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-12 SURPLUS OF CITY LAND

Attached for Council to review was Resolution No. 2016-12 that provided for the surplus of the museum property as well as the property located on West Clark that was adjacent to the Bethany Baptist Church. As City Administrator Maria Peña had previously reported the city was approached in regards to the sale of the lot directly behind Bethany Baptist Church. Meanwhile, she would obtain someone to provide an appraisal. Once an appraisal was received Council would need to set a price for this parcel.

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to adopt Resolution No. 2016-12 for the surplus of city parcels 109801010 and 109811205. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

SALE OF MUSEUM PROPERTY

City Administrator Maria Peña addressed the Council that upon their direction for staff to work with Attorney Dan Hultgrenn and representatives from the Connell Heritage Museum, staff had received a broker's opinion on the value of the Museum. City Administrator Maria Peña recommended entering into a 10 minute executive session to consider the minimum price at which real estate would be offered for sale.

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – November 7, 2016

MEETING RECESSED

Mayor Blackwell recessed the regular meeting at 6:31pm to go into Executive session for 10 minutes to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for lease or sale.

MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Blackwell called the regular meeting back to order at 6:41 pm.

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to sell the property located at 305 W Adams for \$15,000 to the Connell Heritage Museum and negotiate a purchase and sale agreement in a form mutually acceptable to both parties. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously

GRANT APPLICATION FOR WA DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Fire Chief Schulte had been currently working on completing a grant request for the 2017 Oil Spill and Hazardous Materials Response and Firefighting Grant Application Program. The Primary emphasis of this grant would be to provide support to local responders who were dealing with high risk spill areas and hazmat situations.

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to approve the Fire Chief to fill out an application for a Grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR- Maria Peña

1. Provided councilmembers her Budget Message Report.
2. Reminded everyone that Fire Chief Schulte would put on one scorching presentation for Connell University at the Town Hall Meeting.

CITY CLERK/TREASURER- Rose Courneya

1. Reported City Hall's upcoming Holiday Schedule.

POLICE CHIEF- Chris Turner

1. Crime is low.
2. Halloween night-no incidents, handed out glow in the dark bracelets to children.

FIRE CHIEF- Chris Schulte

1. Held an in house after action review with the Fire Department.
2. Held an after action review with the Gas Co. Representative joined by City Administrator Maria Peña.
3. Visited Lamb Weston and toured with new staff members.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 7:12 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Marissa Canales, Accounting Clerk

Bruce Blackwell, Mayor

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL
Regular Meeting – November 7, 2016