

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
December 4, 2017

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 and Councilmembers: Mayor Pro Tem Monty Huber, Ray Minor, Rhonda Quinton and Joe Escalera.

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

STAFF: City/Clerk Treasurer Rose Courneya, Accounting Clerk Marissa Ortiz, Chief Police Chris Turner, Fire Chief Chris Schulte and City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn.

VISITORS: Franklin County Graphic; Katherine Trowbridge. Citizens; John White and Pat Barrera.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Bruce Blackwell presented correspondence:

Announced a letter was received from the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board. The City of Connell was selected and granted funds totaling \$774,000 for the East Birch Street project.

The Franklin County Planning & Building Department sent notice that the Planning Commission would reopen the extended public hearing for a Conditional Use Permit.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Councilmember Minor moved to approve the consent calendar as amended:

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting November 20, 2017
(added the terms to the appointed members of the Park & Rec Board)
- b) Accounts payable December 04, 2017 for \$82,664.08
- c) Check Register 12/01/17 for \$207.32
- d) Added-(Anderson Perry, Amendment No.2 Task Order)

Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

2017 CAPITAL FUND UPDATE

City Clerk Treasurer Rose Courneya addressed Council with the 2017 Capital Fund budget update. She stated it had not included a \$20,500 expenditure for The Beckett Group for the Cost Benefit Analysis in helping write the TIGER and INFRA applications as approved by Council. As a result, the Capital fund budget was updated to reflect these changes. The City had received a grant from the Washington State Department of Transportation to cover the cost related to writing the TIGER and INFRA applications of \$10,500. The City also received 09 money in the amount of \$10,000 from the Benton Franklin Council of Governments for the Cost Benefit Analysis.

ORDINANCE NO. 983-2017 – ADOPTION OF 2018 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

The City's 2018 Final Budget was presented to Councilmembers for consideration and adoption. The Council held the required number and types of public hearings related to the budget, and adopted an employee salary resolution and property tax levy ordinance for 2018.

The 2018 budget changes from the last time it was presented to the Council for review were the following items:

1. \$1,000 was added to the City Administrator membership fee for the Great Northern Corridor Coalition.
2. \$144,210 was added to the Sewer Improvement Reserve (after review of current numbers).
3. Increased Professional expenditures in the water and sewer funds by \$7,000 for a water/sewer rate study to be done in 2018.
4. Water Fund was decreased in the Water Improvement Reserve beginning fund balance due to extra expenditures in 2017 (backhoe purchase and emergency waterline replacement on Franklin Street).

City Clerk Treasurer Rose Courneya confirmed the annual budget of the City of Connell for the 2018 fiscal year in the total amount of \$14,393,090.00 for the various funds combined.

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to approve Ordinance No. 983-2017 adopting the 2018 Fiscal year budget for the City of Connell. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-22 HANFORD AREA ECONOMIC INVESTMENT FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HAEIFAC) INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT APPLICATION

The attached resolution presented to Council allowed staff to submit a grant application in the amount of \$100,000 to the Hanford Area Economic Investment Fund for the Rail Interchange Project.

Motion: Councilmember Minor moved to approve Resolution No.2017-22 to apply for the HAEIFAC funds. Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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Regular Meeting – December 4, 2017

MEAL ON WHEELS-MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The Mid-Columbia Meals on Wheels program provided Council with a renewal contract for continuing to host a nutrition site 3 days per week at the Connell Community Center for senior citizens. The City of Connell grants exclusive rights of said space to the program each Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the hours of 8am to 1:30pm. This agreement would commence January 1, 2018 and continue through December 31, 2019.

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Connell and Senior Life Resource, Mid-Columbia Meals on Wheels program regarding use of space. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City/Clerk Treasurer-Rose Courneya

1. Announced a Holiday Party for Council and City Staff was planned for December 20th.
2. Thanked Mayor Blackwell, Councilmember Quinton and Mayor Pro Tem Huber for their service to the City of Connell.
3. Detailed the City Hall Holiday schedule.

Police Chief-Chris Turner

1. Reminded that the Connell Winter Fest weekend would take place on the weekend of December 9, 2017.

CITY COUNCIL CLOSING REMARKS

Councilmember Escalera – Thanked staff for the work done on the 2018 budget.

Councilmember Quinton – Appreciated City staff for all that they do and stated it was a pleasure serving the community.

Councilmember Minor –Looked forward to serve on the Council with the new Councilmembers.

Mayor Pro Tem Huber – Valued the opportunity to have served the community that continues to do great things.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 6:23 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Marissa Ortiz, Accounting Clerk

Bruce Blackwell, Mayor