

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
December 18, 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 Escalera moved to excuse Councilmember Kathy Silva. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF: City Administrator Maria Peña, City/Clerk Treasurer Rose Courneya, Chief Police Chris Turner and City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn.

VISITORS: Franklin County Graphic; Katherine Trowbridge. Newly Elected City Officials; John White, Pat Barrera and Lee Barrow.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Bruce Blackwell presented correspondence:

The Franklin County Planning & Building Department sent notices of short plat approvals.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting December 04, 2017
- b) Accounts payable December 18, 2017 for \$296,726.68
- c) Application No.1 Franklin Street Water line replacement for \$172,727.39
- d) Payroll Register 11/30/17-12/05/2017 for \$95,957.57

Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Huber moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN TIB CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

The City of Connell had received the contract documents for the Transportation Improvement Board for the East Birch Street project and the South Columbia Avenue sidewalk project. Both projects were scheduled to begin in 2019. The City would need approval from Council to authorize the Mayor to sign the contracts.

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Motion: Councilmember Minor moved to approve the Mayor to sign the Transportation Improvement Board contracts. East Birch Street, S Columbia Ave. total TIB funds \$774,000 and S. Columbia Ave., SR 260 sidewalk total TIB funds \$137,800. Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 984-2017 – AMENDING THE AD VALOREM GENERAL PROPERTY TAXES

City Clerk Treasurer Rose Courneya presented Council with Ordinance 984-2017 amending the AD Valorem general property taxes. She stated Council had previously passed Ordinance No. 982-2017 providing for a 1% increase to the regular property tax levy for 2018. But, she was made aware that the totals listed were from the previous year. Adopting Ordinance No. 984-2017 would correct this error.

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to approve Ordinance No. 984-2017 amending the 2018 Levied AD Valorem general property taxes in the amount of \$460,116.00. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

LAMB WESTON WATER AGREEMENT

City Administrator Maria Peña stated that previously the Council authorized an extension of one month on the Lamb Weston water agreement. It had allowed staff to meet with Lamb Weston and discuss water rates. The new agreement was attached which provided for a 1.5% increase to Lamb Weston's current rates for a year. It would allow the City time to complete a water and sewer study in 2018. With the study the City would know where they would be in regards to participated rates for all users. Then the City would then be able to adjust rates as needed.

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to approve the water agreement with Lamb Weston. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

City Administrator Maria Peña gave an update on the Comprehensive Plan. She had advertised for proposals to help with the Comprehensive Plan update. One proposal came in at \$55,000. Although money was allocated to the City to help with the Comp Plan, the City budgeted for \$10,000. City Administrator Peña suggested declining the proposal and continuing to look at options. City Attorney Dan Hultgren added that it was mandatory to update the comprehensive plan by the end of June 2018.

AMENDMENT FOR DISTRICT COURT SERVICES

Attached for Council's approval was an amendment to the interlocal agreement with Franklin County to provide the City with district court services. This amendment provided for the County to continue to provide these services to the City for an additional three years. This agreement was a duplicate of the agreement signed in 2014 with the only changes made being to the dates.

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to approve the amendment to the interlocal agreement between Franklin County and the City of Connell for District Court Services. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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AMENDMENT FOR PROSECUTION SERVICES

City Administrator Maria Peña presented an amendment to the interlocal agreement with Franklin County to provide the City with prosecution services. This amendment provided for the County to continue to provide these services to the City for an additional three years with no other changes.

Motion: Councilmember Minor moved to approve the amendment to the interlocal agreement between Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney and the City of Connell for Prosecution Services. Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Administrator –Maria Peña

1. Invited everyone to a City Staff potluck on December 20th at 3pm.
2. Thanked all Councilmembers for everything they've done for the City.

Police Chief-Chris Turner

1. Voiced appreciation to Council and the outgoing elected officials.

CITY COUNCIL CLOSING REMARKS

Councilmember Quinton – Stated it was a pleasure working with City Staff.

Councilmember Minor – Expressed it was a good year and was pleased.

Mayor Pro Tem Huber – Appreciated all the experiences and the help along the way.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 6:20 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Marissa Ortiz, Accounting Clerk

Bruce Blackwell, Mayor