

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
February 19, 2019

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

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Lee Barrow and Councilmember's: John White, Mayor Pro Tem Ray Minor, Kathie Silva, Pat Barrera and Joe Escalera.

STAFF: Deputy City Clerk Marissa Ortiz, Assistant Public Works Director Hallie Tuck, Police Chief Chris Turner, Fire Chief Ken Woffenden, Public Works Supervisor Ed Brown and City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Barrow appointed Molly Kunkel to the Hotel/Motel Advisory Committee.

Motion: Councilmember Barrera moved to approve the appointment of Molly Kunkel to the Hotel/Motel Advisory Committee. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to approve the consent calendar as presented:

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting January 22, 2019
- b) Accounts payable 2/19/19 for \$99,794.62
- c) Check Register 02/01/19 for \$208.60
- d) Check Register 02/04/19 for \$36,446.89
- e) Payroll Register 01/31/19 – 02/05/19 for \$100,444.76
- f) Payroll Register 02/15/19 - 02/20/19 for \$68,620.61

Councilmember Silva seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to approve the agenda with the removal of item #10 - 2018 Year End Financial Report. Councilmember Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

AMENDMENT TO PURCHASE & SALE AGREEMENT

Deputy City Clerk Marissa Ortiz reported that due to issues with easements on S. Burke (between Hawthorne and Ironwood) the purchasers of the commercial lots adjacent to the RV Park requested to amend their original offer. The amended offer was \$164,000 for the four

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lots adjacent to the RV Park. The adjusted offer met the same price per acre that was previously approved. Attached for Council was a map demonstrating the real estate parcels.

Motion: Councilmember White moved to approve and allow the Mayor to sign the Amended Agreement to Purchase and Sell Real Estate and execute all necessary documents. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

AHBL – ON CALL SERVICES CONTRACT

Presented to Council was the renewal of the AHBL Consultant Services Contract, it would expire December of 2020. AHBL had been helping the City with the Comprehensive Plan Update as well as helping land use items as they would come up. The consultant would continue to perform on-call services for various Community Development projects and tasks.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to approve Exhibit “A” Scope of Services On-Call Services Contract with ABHL. Councilmember Silva seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-01 – REESTABLISHING EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM

City Staff provided Council with Resolution No. 2019-01, reaffirming the City’s Wellness Program. The City’s Wellness Program was first adopted in 2004 and staff had been active in providing wellness activities for employees, over the years it dwindled and became almost non-existent. Association of Washington Cities provided a 2% discount on medical premiums for employees covered by the AWC medical insurance whose city achieves Well City recognition. There were numerous benefits to reestablishing the program that could assist the overall well being of employees and their families. By adopting Resolution No. 2019-01, the City Council would take the first step in reaffirming the Wellness Program and the City would receive the first point towards meeting this standard.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to approve Resolution No. 2019-01 reaffirming the Employee Wellness Program. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2018 YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORT

Tabled

HOTEL/MOTEL ALLOCATIONS

Council was presented with the following recommendations from the Hotel/Motel Committee which met on February 11, 2019.

1. Columbia Basin Junior Livestock Show requested \$2,000.00 (recommended \$1,880.00).
2. Connell Community Club requested \$1,000.00 (recommended \$880.00).
3. Connell Community Float/Miss Connell Scholarship Program requested \$4,500.00 (recommended \$4,380.00).
4. Greater Connell Area Chamber of Commerce/Fall Festival requested \$1,000.00 (recommended \$880.00).
5. Greater Corridor Consortium requested \$500.00 (recommended \$0.00).

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6. Connell Downtown Development Association requested \$1,600.00 (recommended \$100.00).

After eliminating some items and making deductions it allowed to keep requests within budget. Their recommendation was to allocate \$12,000 for tourism expenditures out of the Hotel/Motel Fund.

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to approve the requested amounts. Councilmember Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY CENTER ENTRY WAY DISCUSSION

Public Works Assistant Director Hallie Tuck stated that recently the Connell Community Center had some repairs and improvement work done. Last summer the building received fresh paint on the outside and a new flag pole was added. Floor wax was applied to the floors and the wax treatment was expected to last about 10 years if maintained properly. Also installed were new commercial refrigerators but only after adjustments were made on the kitchen cabinets. Public Works Supervisor Ed Brown was present and made a request regarding the Eagle statue in the entryway. He explained his idea on enhancing the entryway; by adding new paint and creating a photo wrap which would be placed on the wall with history photos of Connell. His request was to have the Eagle removed and donated to the Connell High School. During community events it would usually get covered and sometimes asked to be removed. After he spoke to the School District Office, they were honored to display it there. Council held discussion and decided after all the repairs and improvements to the building the Eagle had little or no value and the consensus was to surplus it to the North Franklin School District.

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to approve the surplus of the Eagle at the Connell Community Center and transfer it to the North Franklin School District. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mayor Lee Barrow –

1. Announced all department reports were handed out.

Public Works Assistant Director Hallie Tuck –

1. Reported the vector truck that was purchased had been delivered.

CITIZEN COMMENT/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Kara Booker –

1. Appreciated staff for all the work done to the Community Center.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 6:57 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Marissa Ortiz, Deputy City Clerk

Lee Barrow, Mayor