

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

February 6, 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, Councilmember's: Mayor Pro Tem Huber, Ray Minor, Katherine Silva, Rhonda Quinton, and City Attorney Dan Hutlgrenn.

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

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

**VISITORS:** Franklin County Graphic; Katherine Bingham Trowbridge, Citizen; Pat Barrera.

CORRESPONDENCE/PRESENTATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Blackwell announced correspondence was received from Franklin County Planning and Building Department. A hearing would take place at the County Courthouse on February 7, 2017 at 6:30pm.

Chief of Police Chris Turner introduced the newest Police Officer to the Councilmembers. Officer Kohl St. Peter joined the Connell Police Department on February 1, 2017 and was sworn in by Chief Turner.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting January 17, 2017
- b) Accounts Payable February 6, 2017 for \$113,735.18
- c) Check Register December 28, 2016 for \$19,589.75
- d) Check Register January 27, 2017 for \$625,583.57
- e) Check Register February 1, 2017 for \$212.15
- f) Payroll Register 1/15/17-1/20/17 for \$55,603.30
- g) Payroll Register 1/31/17-02/05/17 for \$85,312.78

Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

2016 FISCAL YEAR END REVIEW

City Clerk Treasurer Rose Courneya reviewed the following 2016-year end funds with Councilmembers.

**001 General Fund:** Had a net gain of \$396,726.92. Additional revenues generated were from land sales. State generated licenses, permits, and tax revenues all came in higher than projected.

**002 General Reserve Fund:** Had a net gain of \$85,127.54. This fund was a holding account for PS Criminal Justice as well as for capital improvements for all departments of the general fund. The Public Safety expenditure was much lower than projected due to not having a 7<sup>th</sup> officer for 11 months in 2016.

**101 Street Fund:** Had a net gain of \$13,663.92. Street Operating revenues came in higher than projected. The motor vehicle tax and other miscellaneous revenues also came in higher. Operating cost came in slightly lower and many street projects were not funded in 2016.

**104 Hotel/Motel Fund:** Showed a fund loss of \$-6,105.25, due to the capital purchase of the float and trailer.

**111 General Support Fund:** Had a net gain of \$127,737.05. This fund received revenue for interfund loans from the water fund and interest.

**300 Capital Facilities Fund:** A net gain of \$30,779.63. REET revenues came in much higher than projected.

**401 Water Fund:** There was a net loss of \$-293,943.02. The USDA loan was paid off in 2016.

**402 Sewer Fund:** Had a net gain of \$270,645.79. Revenues were up and expenditures were down in 2016.

**403 Solid Waste Fund:** Had a net gain of \$31,508.19. Solid waste began being billed by Basin Disposal as of January 2016. Revenues were created from utility bills that were still being paid from the year 2015 into the first of the year in 2016.

**414-416:** Pass through accounts

**633 Remittance Clearing:** Pass through accounts

City Clerk Treasurer Courneya ended her review and expressed that the end fund balances looked very good for 2016. It allowed the City to pay off approximately \$968,643.00 in debt. As of today, the City had officially paid off the Hardung Water Rights and the Farm Bonds.

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**ORDINANCE NO. 975-2017 AMENDING CMC TITLE 2.30 PUBLIC RECORDS**

City Administrator Maria Peña reported that the proposed ordinance would be a necessary revision with the recent changes in personnel. The previous City Clerk Treasurer, which at the time was City Administrator Peña had been named as the Public Records Officer. The responsibility and authority over public records would now be delegated to the new City Clerk Treasurer. Attached for Council to review were the current Connell Municipal Code and an updated copy of the Public Records Policy with the proposed changes. City Administrator Peña recommended the approval of Ordinance No. 975-2017.

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to adopt Ordinance No. 975-2017 amending Title 2.30.010 of the Connell Municipal Code. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**TIB RELIGHT WASHINGTON GRANT AGREEMENT**

Public Works Director Larry Turner presented the Council with the awarded Relight Washington Grant Agreement. Mr. Turner reminded Council that a while back City staff had requested and applied for the LED light grant through the Transportation Improvement Board. The City of Connell had received notice in mid-January 2017 that it had been eligible and was awarded the grant. This grant Relight program was developed to provide for the conversion of standard streetlights to LED lighting to reduce electrical costs. TIB agreed to grant funds in the amount of \$111,100 to change out street lights within city limits.

**Motion:** Councilmember Minor moved to approve the Mayor to sign the Transportation Improvement Board Relight WA Grant Agreement. Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**SURPLUS POLICE VEHICLES**

Police Chief Chris Turner notified the Councilmembers that the Police Department had received three new 2017 Ford Interceptor SUV's, which arrived a few weeks prior. The 2009 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor and the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor have been replaced by the 2017 Ford Interceptor SUV's. Chief Turner requested to declare these two city vehicles as surplus city property.

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve the two city vehicles as surplus city property. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**CES 2017 LAND TREATMENT SYSTEM CONSULTING SERVICE**

Public Works Director Larry Turner briefed the Council with a proposed contract from Cascade Earth Sciences. The proposal was for soil sampling and preparing the City of Connell's 2017 Irrigation and Crop Management Plan as required in the City's State Waste Discharge Permit. Cascade Earth Sciences had been doing the City of Connell's annual crop management plan for the past several years. Total estimated cost was \$9,800.00.

**Motion:** Councilmember Minor moved to approve the contract with Cascade Earth Sciences. Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR- Maria Peña

1. Provided council with her City Administrator report.
2. Announced Sterling Joyner would be presenting for the upcoming Connell University.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR- Larry Turner

1. Reported that City streets were in bad shape, they were deteriorating due to the weather.
2. Would give a presentation on the Well#6 project at the next Regular Council meeting.

CITY CLERK TREASURER-Rose Courneya

1. Gave an update on duty reassignments within the City Hall Office.
2. Handed out monthly financial statements to all Councilmembers.

POLICE CHIEF- Chris Turner

1. Reminded Council he provided a January monthly report.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 6:29 pm.

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

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Bruce Blackwell, Mayor