

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON  
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
May 7, 2018

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 Councilmembers: Mayor Pro Tem Ray Minor, John White, Patricia Barrera and Joe Escalera.

**EXCUSED:** Councilmember Escalera moved to excuse Councilmember Kathie Silva. Councilmember Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**STAFF:** City Administrator Maria Peña, Deputy City Clerk Marissa Ortiz, Public Works Director Larry Turner, Police Chief Chris Turner, Fire Chief Chris Schulte and City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn.

PRESENTATIONS

The young women from the Miss Connell Scholarship for 2018 presented Councilmember's with handouts of parade schedules along with buttons they passed out at each parade to promote Connell. They stated they had added three more parades than usual and thanked the City for the continued support.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Lee Barrow presented correspondence, he read a proclamation aloud proclaiming May 2018 as Older Americans Month.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**Motion:** Councilmember Barrera moved to approve the consent calendar as amended:

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting April 16, 2018
- b) Application for Payment No.2 Release of Retainage-Franklin St. Water Line Project-Sharpe & Prezler Construction for \$8,384.83. All Certificates of release have been received.
- c) Application for Payment No.1 N. Columbia Ave. Water/Sewer Project-Watt's Construction for \$115,484.57.
- d) Accounts payable 5/7/18 for \$203,043.99 *-(Updated total)*
- e) Check Register 5/01/18 for \$210.56
- f) Payroll Register 4/15/18-4/20/18 for \$57,495.04
- g) Payroll Register 4/30/18-5/04/18 for \$86,478.89

Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to approve the agenda as amended: (added item #9-A & added wording in the motion in item #13) Councilmember Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

HOTEL/MOTEL-CONNELL COMMUNITY FLOAT/MISS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

City Administrator Maria Peña was approached by The Connell Community Float/Miss Scholarship Program committee. They requested the reopening of the Hotel/Motel application process to apply for \$550.00 of funds. Over the course of using the float trailer, they noticed slight bowing of the door and other signs of wear from the support beam used to support the ramp door when loading and unloading the ramps. The funds would be used to resolve the problem and prevent the possibility of further damage. City Administrator Peña explained in order to allocate the remainder of those funds the City would need to reopen the application process to everyone and the Hotel/Motel committee would meet and review the applications received.

**Motion:** Councilmember Escalera moved to approve the reopening of the Hotel/Motel application process for an additional \$800 to the budget. Councilmember Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

WA STATE DEPT. OF CORRECTION-INMATE CREW AGREEMENT

Provided for Council was the current offender Work Project Description agreement that needed to be amended due to the change of the projected number of work crew hours. It changed from 28 hours per week, Monday-Thursday to 28 hours per week per crew, Monday-Friday. It would expire on June 30, 2018. The new annual renewal was also presented. The renewal took into account the 28 hours per week per crew as well.

Councilmember Barrera abstained from voting.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the renewal & to also approve the updated Agreement No. K11103 between Wa. State of Dept.of Corrections and City of Connell. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CHANGE ORDER NO. 1- N. COLUMBIA AVE WATER & SEWER PROJECT-A/P  
UPDATES

Public Works Director Larry Turner introduced Jake Hollopeter from Anderson Perry & Associates. He was present to update the Council on all the current City projects and explain the Change Order #1. He gave brief updates on the current projects that were currently being worked on.

The Chip Seal and the FEMA Nordheim Road projects would begin in mid June 2018. In addition to the projects he was working with staff on Transportation Improvement Board funding for additional projects. The South Columbia Ave sidewalk Project and the East Birch Street South Columbia Project were projected to begin construction in 2019. Mr. Hollopeter continued to explain the attached Change Order #1 for the North Columbia Water & Sewer Project. It was

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needed due to the extra work that was required to complete an additional two feet of asphalt grinding that was necessary for the installation of the sewer line. He concluded in announcing the available scholarship in the amount of \$750.00 through Anderson Perry & Associates.

**Motion:** Councilmember White moved to approve Change Order #1 for North Columbia Water & Sewer Project. Mayor Pro Tem Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### FEMA STREET REPAIR-NORDHEIM ROAD-BID RESULTS

Jake Hollopeter from Anderson Perry & Associates stated that bids for the FEMA Street repair-Nordheim Road were received and opened at City Hall on April 26, 2018. The City received one bid from Granite Construction Company for \$207,100.00. Although the bid came in higher than the estimate, FEMA would cover the added cost.

**Motion:** Councilmember Barrera moved to approve the bid award to Granite Construction Company with a bid total of \$207,100.00. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### DATE STREET CLOSURE ON 5/14/18

Public Works Director Larry Turner stated the Connell Auto Parts had requested to close half the block of Date Street on May 14, 2018 for the day. The store was scheduled to have their annual tool sale and would bring in a large tool truck to park on Date Street. The closure would be from Columbia Avenue to the alley behind Connell Auto Parts. Lunch would be hosted by the Burger Factory restaurant.

**Motion:** Councilmember Escalera moved to approve the closure of Date Street on May 14, 2018. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### RESOLUTION NO. 2018-04 MASTER FEE SCHEDULE D AMENDMENT: PARK & RECREATION SCHEDULE-D

City Administrator Maria Peña presented Council with a request recommended by the Park Board. They met last month and discussed pool operations for the upcoming season. The Board recommended that the family pass decrease the total number of allowed users per pass from 7 to 5 and requested pool passes be included again for the year. Attached was the Master Fee Schedule D from the previous year along with a proposed Schedule D reflecting the change for the upcoming season. Council held discussion and expressed a concern for larger families and felt that users should be able to add members with an added fee.

Consensus of the Council was to bring back at the next Regular Council Meeting.

### LEASE AGREEMENT-GREENLOTS ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION

Attached was the lease agreement for public property between the City of Connell and Greenlots. Greenlots was the company who was installing the electrical vehicle charging station in front of the Leprekon grocery store. Exhibit A was attached; it provided the description of the project and the scope of the work. Staff was first contacted December of 2016 in regards to partnering with

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PUD in locating an electric vehicle charging station in Connell. Washington State Department of Transportation received funding to expand the electric highway network along highway corridors in Washington State; Connell was the right distance from the Tri-Cities on HW 395 for a charging station. An electrical vehicle charging station would be an economic benefit to the City. It would draw people here who would hopefully do some dining or shopping while they would wait for their vehicle to charge.

**Motion:** Councilmember Barrera moved to approve the lease of public property between the City and Greenlots. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

## LAND PURCHASE-WELCOME CENTER

The City received the appraisal report for two parcels being sold/donated to the City for the Welcome Center. The City attorney's staff was working on the paperwork for the purchase of Parcels #109831361 & #109831362 from the Klindworth's.

**Motion:** Councilmember Escalera moved to approve staff to proceed with the execution of the purchase of parcels 109831361 and 109831362 for the sum of \$20,000.00 plus closing costs, and authorizing the Mayor to sign all documents associated with such purchase. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

## MEETING RECESSED

Mayor Lee Barrow recessed the regular meeting at 7:05 pm to go into Executive session for 10 minutes to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale.

## MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Lee Barrow called the regular meeting back to order at 7:15 pm.

## CITIZEN COMMENT/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Kara Booker-

Pointed out that the Trailer Float had 8 more signs added. One side of the 46ft long trailer was entirely full and the other side had room for 5 more signs. The representation support from the community had been very successful.

Brought up an idea to Council on the Information Board located outside the Post Office building. It was in need of restoration and Mrs. Booker was working with a few committees on this project.

## CITY COUNCIL CLOSING REMARKS

Councilmember Barrera – Appreciated all the great work done by the Community on the Float.

Councilmember Minor – Personally thanked all the people involved with the Float.

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Councilmember White – Mentioned the inmates could help with the information board project.

Councilmember Escalera – Thanked all the people involved in the float team.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 7:23 pm.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Marissa Ortiz, Deputy City Clerk

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Lee Barrow, Mayor