

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
June 5, 2017

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Blackwell at 6:02 pm in the City Hall and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Bruce Blackwell, Councilmembers: Ray Minor, Kathie Silva, Rhonda Quinton, and Joe Escalera.

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

STAFF: City Administrator Maria Peña, City Clerk/Treasurer Rose Courneya, Public Works Director Larry Turner, Chief of Police Chris Turner, Fire Chief Chris Schulte, and City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn.

VISITORS: Miss Connell 2017; Madison Knight, Heather Hawkins, Kara Booker, and Kelly Knight, and Franklin County Graphic; Katherine Bingham Trowbridge.

Mayor Blackwell temporarily appointed Councilmember Kathie Silva to finance committee

PRESENTATION

The Miss Connell 2017 girls presented Councilmembers with information on the Miss Connell 2017 program and gave Councilmembers a copy of the handouts they pass out at each parade to promote Connell. Councilmembers were also given a copy of the parade schedule for 2017. The Miss Connell girls thanked Councilmembers for their support.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting May 15, 2017
- b) Accounts payable 6/5/17 for \$79,825.19
- c) Check Register 6/1/17 for \$203.34
- d) Payroll Register 5/15/17-5/19/17 for \$56,543.52
- e) Payroll Register 5/31/17- 6/05/17 for \$90,623.38

Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilmember Minor moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Silva seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING SIX-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2018-2023

Mayor Blackwell recessed the regular meeting at 6:15 pm and opened a Public Hearing to allow for comment on the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) 2018-2023.

STAFF REPORT: Public Works Director Larry Turner presented a slide show to Councilmembers and explained the changes from the 2017-2022 STIP to the 2018-2023 STIP. Each year the City of Connell was required to prepare and adopt a comprehensive transportation program for six years to qualify for STIP funding for street projects. Mr. Turner had met with the Street Committee on 5/22/2017 to discuss streets and get recommendations on the 2018-2023 STIP plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENT PORTION OF THE HEARING: None

Mayor Blackwell closed the hearing and opened regular meeting at 6:25 pm.

Motion: Councilmember Quinton moved to approve the 2018-2023 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works Director Larry Turner would bring back a resolution with the 2018-2023 STIP to the next council meeting.

BACKHOE-AWARD OF BID

The City of Connell received three sealed bids for the purchase of a new backhoe. The companies entering bids were: Central Machinery Sales, Rowland Machinery and Western States. Central Machinery Sales came in with the low bid of \$112,965.84 (including tax), followed by Rowand Machinery with a bid of \$118,152.00 (including tax) and Western States with a bid of \$129,090.11 (including tax). After examining the bids Central Machinery was eliminated do to not meeting or exceeding the bid specifications. Therefore, Rowand Machinery was the lowest bid with the correct specifications at \$118,152.00.

Motion: Councilmember Minor moved to reject Central Machinery Sales as the lowest bid at \$112,965.84 due to not meeting or exceeding the bid specifications and award Rowand Machinery the lowest bid at \$118,152.00 (including tax) for the purchase of a backhoe. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-07- SALE OF LOTS BY TENNIS COURTS

The City of Connell had listed city owned parcels 106680104 and 106680105 located adjacent to the tennis courts for sell with a cost of \$40,000 each a year ago and had a potential buyer. The purchase fell through. Now the city has received a letter of intent to purchase said lots for a total of \$55,000 for both. City Administrator Maria Peña did a comparison of empty residential lots that sold within Connell and found that the purchase price offered was consistent with fair market value.

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Resolution No. 2017-07 was being presented to councilmember's to authorize the Mayor to sign the purchase and sell agreement between the City of Connell and Jorge Ortiz.

Motion: Councilmember Escalera moved to adopt Resolution No. 2017-07 relating to the sale of parcel 106680104 and 106680105 to Jorge Ortiz for \$55,000.00 and approve the Mayor to sign the purchase and sell agreement. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-08-SURPLUS OF LAND BY FIRE HALL

Council had previously authorized a letter of Intent for the Franklin County Public Hospital District for the purchase of land that was directly to the west of the Fire Hall. The Hospital District was moving along on the land purchase but prior to being able to complete the transaction for the sale of the land the City needed to declare the land as surplus. Resolution No. 2017-08 was being presented to Councilmembers to approve the real property located on West Elm Street as surplus. Legally described as follows: Commencing at the Northeast corner of the Southeast quarter of Section 36, Township 14 North, Range 31 East, W.M. being a brass cap; thence along the North line of said Southeast quarter South 89°03'04" West for 933.61 feet; thence leaving said North line South 00°45'26" East for 80.00 feet to the South right of margin of Elm street per dedication deed 341758 records of said county; and also being on the West right of way margin of Columbia Avenue shown as U.S. 395 on Striker Addition to the Town of Connell; thence along the South right of way margin South 89°03'04" West for 190.19 feet to the True Point of Beginning; thence leaving said right of way margin South 00°45'26" East for 49.81 feet to the center line of vacated Elm Street per Ordinance number 353; thence North 63°34'40" West for 108.35 feet to the South right of way margin of said Elm Street per dedication deed 341758; thence along said South right of way margin North 89°03'04" East for 96.39 feet to the True Point of Beginning.

Motion: Councilmember Minor moved to adopt Resolution No. 2017-08 declaring the above land description as surplus. Councilmember Silva seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 977-2017-AMENDING MEETING DATES FOR THE PARK BOARD

City Administrator Peña recommended amending the Connell Municipal Code that related to the Park & Recreation Advisory Board meetings. The language in 2.20.50 stated the Park Board shall meet at a minimum of once a month April through August. Mrs. Peña requested that the language "except through the months of April through August when the board shall meet at a minimum of once monthly" be stricken from the code. Meetings will only be held on an as-needed basis.

Motion: Councilmember Silva move to adopt Ordinance No. 977-2017 amending the meeting dates for the Park & Recreation Advisory Board. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 978-2017-UPDATING PARKING REGULATION

City Administrator Maria Peña presented an ordinance for amending the current parking regulations to Councilmembers for discussion. The current code was adopted in 1980 and was not updated after Columbia Avenue was redone. The code provided that most of South

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Columbia Avenue be designated as parallel parking. When Columbia Avenue was redone in the late 1990's the parking was made wider to accommodate angle parking but the code was not updated. The Street Committee had met and had provided recommendations on the parking regulations. Staff was now requesting input from the Councilmembers as to any additions or deletions they would like to see in the parking regulations. Councilmembers held discussion. City Administrator Maria Peña would make changes as per Councilmembers request and bring the updated Ordinance to the next council meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 979-2017-CLOSING FUND 416

Clerk/Treasurer Rose Courneya stated the City of Connell had paid off the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) loan in 2016 and in the beginning of 2017 paid off the Farm Bond. The 416 Water/Sewer Bond redemption fund was being used to make the principal payments and interest payments to the USDA and Farm Bond. Ordinance No. 979-2017 was being presented to councilmember to close Fund 416 due to that debt being paid off.

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to adopt Ordinance No. 979-2017 closing fund 416 Water/Sewer Bond Redemption Fund. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously

MEETING RECESSED

Mayor Blackwell recessed the regular meeting at 6:18 pm to go into Executive session for 20 minutes to consider the minimum price at which real estate would be offered for sale and to discuss with legal counsel potential litigation.

MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Blackwell called the regular meeting back to order at 7:40 pm.

Staff Reports were handed out to Councilmembers.

City Administrator Maria Peña thanked Clerk/Treasurer Rose Courneya for completing the Annual Report and getting it submitted to the State Auditors on time.

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 7:49pm

ATTEST: _____
Rose Courneya, Clerk/Treasurer

Bruce Blackwell, Mayor