

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
August 5, 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, Kathie Silva, and Pat Barrera.

ABSENT: Councilmember Barrera moved to excuse Councilmember Escalera and Mayor Pro Tem Minor. Councilmember Silva seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF: City Administrator Maria Peña, Deputy City Clerk Marissa Ortiz, Public Works Director Hallie Tuck, Police Chief Chris Turner, Fire Chief Ken Woffenden and City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn.

PRESENTATIONS

Officer Michelle Goenen was in attendance and informed Council she had made efforts to bring veterinary services to the community. She had been in contact with Dr. Wisse from Eltopia, Wa. and worked out an arrangement to have him hold a clinic in the City of Connell to provide vaccination services. These services were scheduled to be held on August 19 and 20 at the Connell Community Center from 5:00 -8:00 p.m. To assist with the demand the Police Department asked for those interested to come into City Hall Police Station to sign up for a time slot.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting July 15, 2019
- b) Application for Payment No.2 –2019 Street Improvements for \$221,645.00
- c) Accounts payable 8/05/19 for \$285,144.03
- d) Check Register 7/15/19 for \$212.24
- e) Payroll Register 7/15/19 – 7/19/19 for \$79,394.07

Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

FIRE DEPARTMENT– SURPLUS RADIO EQUIPMENT

Fire Chief Ken Woffenden requested from Council permission to declare 5 portable BK radios as surplus radio equipment. He stated out of 22 total radios the department was able to revive 17. There was nothing left to salvage out of the remaining 5 radios.

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to approve five portable BK radios of the Fire Department as surplus city equipment. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

AMENDED STREET SWEEPER MACHINE LEASE CONTRACT

Public Works Director Hallie Tuck stated City Council had previously approved the lease agreement for a Johnston VT652 street sweeper. The original equipment cost agreement did not include the sales tax total and the trade in price (\$25,000) of our current street sweeper. Provided was the amended lease agreement with the following amendments. The total equipment cost was (\$283,058.77) from (\$280,046.00) with a term of (8) years rather than (10) years. The contract payment per year would be (\$41,133.44) in contrast to (\$34,125.55). A 5-year warranty on the equipment would remain the same.

Motion: Councilmember White moved to approve and allow the Mayor to sign the amended lease agreement for a Johnston VT652 sweeper. Councilmember Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

AHBL AGREEMENT – ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR COMP PLAN UPDATE

City Administrator Maria Peña provided Council with an Authorization for Additional Services from AHBL for help with the Comprehensive Plan Update. She stated as the update continued the City had come across items that needed to be incorporated and changed. This authorization for additional services would allow AHBL to continue to help with those updates.

Motion: Councilmember Silva moved to approve the Authorization for Additional Services with AHBL not to exceed \$6,500. Councilmember Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUNDING – PUBLIC WORKS & FIRE DEPARTMENT

Public Works Director Hallie Tuck stated a funding opportunity from Emergency Management was presented. Along with Fire Chief Ken Woffenden they both attended an emergency management meeting with their requests. Fire Chief Woffenden requested and was granted \$25,000 for the installation of an existing generator backup for the Fire Hall Building. Public Works Director Tuck was granted \$5,000 for camera security systems for parks and city facilities.

VISITOR’S CENTER – UPDATE

City Administrator Maria Peña gave an update on the Visitor’s Center Project. This project had been placed on hold due to the cost estimate coming in considerably higher than expected at \$500,000. A request was made to Meier to revise the cost estimate by reducing the size of the building and changing out some of the materials. Meier provided a new cost estimate at

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\$300,000. The recommendation was that the City budget \$20,000 to go towards the cost of construction. The Port of Pasco was adding \$50,000 to their budget, leaving \$30,000 needed for construction. With a reasonable estimate City Administrator Peña would be looking into grants from other sources to help with furnishings, landscaping, and other items for this project.

Motion: Councilmember Barrera moved to allocate \$20,000 in expenditures for the construction of the Visitor’s Center. Councilmember Silva seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

TENNIS COURTS DISCUSSION

City Administrator Maria Peña reported that the City tennis courts had been shut down due to safety concerns, the fencing and surface were in very poor shape. Public Works staff investigated the cost for fixing the existing courts along with the cost of placing new courts at a different location. After discussion was held concerning the proposal estimates, City Administrator Peña stated spending that amount of money would not be good use of public funds.

Back in 2010 a survey was completed, 7% of those that completed the survey indicated that they used the city tennis courts at least once a month. Only 2% indicated that they would likely participate in a tennis program. The top three improvement priorities were; pool improvements at 21%, walk/bike trails at 17%, and spray fountain/water park at 14%. At the July 23, 2019 Park and Recreation Board meeting Chairman Choi moved to make a recommendation to the City Council to surplus, decommission (well), appraise and sell the tennis court lot located on the corner of S. Dayton & E. Franklin Street. The motion was seconded by Co-Chair McBride and passed unanimously. Before the City could proceed with the sale of the lot, the correct process would need to occur to rezone the property from Public Facility to Residential.

TABLED – For further research, a new bid and a updated survey.

CITY APPRECIATION BBQ AT PIONEER PARK PAVILION

Deputy City Clerk Marissa Ortiz announced a City Staff Appreciation Picnic was planned to follow the Regular Council Meeting on Monday, August 19. It was set to be held at the Pioneer Park Pavilion; all City Staff was invited.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Lauren Smith – gave an overview of 2019 Fall Festival plans.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 6:55 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Marissa Ortiz, Deputy City Clerk

Lee Barrow, Mayor