

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
August 6, 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: John White, Mayor Pro Tem Ray Minor and Joe Escalera.

EXCUSED: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to excuse Councilmembers Kathie Silva and Patricia Barrera. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Lee Barrow presented correspondence;

Announced the resignation of Jay Patel who had resigned from the Planning Commission Committee.

A thank you letter received from the Connell Float Committee, grateful to the City of Connell for keeping the float tradition alive.

Received a notice from the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board for the Connell Fall Festival.

Chamber of Commerce gave appreciation for the City's role in making the 2018 Fire Works Display a success.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting July 2, 2018
- b) Accounts payable 8/6/18 for \$94,794.78
- c) Check Register 8/1/18 for \$209.44
- d) Check Register 7/16/18 for \$107,702.97
- e) Payroll Register 6/30/18-7/05/18 for \$94,684.02
- f) Payroll Register 7/15/18 - 7/20/18 for \$79,059.53
- g) Payroll Register 7/31/18- 08/03/18 for \$102,233.89

Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to approve the agenda with the removal of agenda #14. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

COMMUNITY CENTER FACILITY USE AGREEMENT

Provided for Council was the current Connell Community Center Facility Use Agreement with recommended changes. In addition, City Administrator Maria Peña received a request from the CHS All Class Reunion to be allowed to host their annual reunion free of charge at the Community Center as well as no charge for the Pavilion. Aside from the Annual Fall Festival, there are no other events that use the Pavilion free of charge. Discussion was held and if Council approved then other parties would expect the same. City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn stated the lack of consistency could be a danger zone. There needed to be a rational basis for each classification and each classification needed to be definitive enough to know what falls in and what falls without it.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to allow the CHS all class reunion to host their annual reunion at the reduced rate - Group 1 Classification sponsored under the organization *Connell Community Club* with their 501 (c)(3). Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to approve the revised Community Center Facility Use Agreement as presented with the addition of item #12 on page 11, *First Responders Appreciation Dinner*. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COLUMBIA AVE. CHIP SEAL PROJECT CHANGE ORDER

Public Works Hallie Tuck reported that the chip seal project on Columbia Avenue had to have the crack seal increased from 6,000 linear feet (LF) to 11,000 LF at a cost of \$1.00/LF totaling \$5,000 extra. It was needed after inspecting the cracks more thoroughly. Mr. Tuck stated it would help ensure a longer life of the project.

Motion: Councilmember White moved to approve Change Order No. 2 with Granite Construction Company in the amount of \$5,000. Mayor Pro Tem Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CONTRACTED EMERGENCY DISPATCH SERVICES AGREEMENT

Police Chief Chris Turner discussed the consolidation of the Franklin County Dispatch with its counterpart, SECOMM, in Benton County. It created a single 911 center for the two counties. It became a reality and every law, fire and EMS in Franklin County would be dispatched through SECOMM as of August 6, 2018. The prior agreement with Franklin County was many years ago and the cost to have that service was about \$60,000 a year. The new agreement was provided for Council and the yearly amount would stay about the same. City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn had reviewed the agreement.

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Motion: Councilmember Escalera moved to approve the Mayor signing the contract with Benton County Emergency Services for emergency dispatch services. Mayor Pro Tem Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

LEASE AGREEMENT – GREENLOTS ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION
City Administrator Maria Peña reported that previously mentioned the site for the electric vehicle charging station had been relocated to the future Welcome Center site. The attached agreement provided for the changes: (*date, street location and the parcel number*) to the lease agreement.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to approve the updated lease of public property between the City of Connell and Greenlots. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

JOB CLASSIFICATION – ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

The job description presented to Council would allow for an Assistant Public Works Director, the classification range for this job would be 17, one range above the Public Works Supervisor. The monthly salary range for the Assistant Public Works Director was \$4,583.93-\$5,473.46. Public Works Director Larry Turner requested the Mayor, with Council's consensus to temporarily appoint Hallie Tuck as the Assistant Public Works Director in his absence. The effective date would be August 7, 2018. Mr. Tuck would return to his regular salary upon Mr. Turner's arrival.

Motion: Councilmember Escalera moved to authorize the Mayor to appoint Hallie Tuck as temporary Assistant Public Works Director at Range 17/Step 1, during the absence of the Public Works Director. Mayor Pro Tem Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE GRANT AGREEMENT – POOL HOUSE

Provided to Council for review was the grant agreement from the Department of Commerce for the work done at the pool house. At a previous Council meeting, it was mentioned that the pool house had been painted and the roof had been replaced. Bathroom stalls had been delivered and would be installed after the pool closed for the season.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to approve the grant agreement from the Department of Commerce for the Pioneer Park Pool House in the amount of \$24,250. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2018-06 – VACATE FUTURE S. ALMIRA AVE SHORT PLAT 90-04

The City of Connell was approached to have an easement cleared up due to an interested buyer for the parcel owned by the Development Association. A Short Plat No. 90-04 map was provided for Council and it illustrated a street dedication for South Almira Avenue which was done in 1990. The future street went through three parcels, two of which were owned by the City of Connell and one owned by the Connell N. Franklin Development Association. The first step of the vacation process was to set a hearing date for September 6, 2018.

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Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to approve Resolution No. 2018-06 setting a hearing date to vacate future South Almira Avenue. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously

RAIL INTERCHANGE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

Tabled

MEETING RECESSED

Mayor Barrow recessed the regular meeting at 7:09 pm to go into Executive session for 30 minutes to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation and to consider the minimum price at which real estate would be offered for sale.

City Administrator Maria Peña invited Police Chief Chris Turner to join the session.

MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Barrow called the regular meeting back to order at 7:39 pm.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to authorize staff to make an offer on the real estate to the interested individual at the appraised value. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously

CITIZEN COMMENT/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Burl Booker –

1. Inquired about the piece of property that was considered for sale.
2. Asked for Council’s permission to donate the American Flag to the Connell Community Center per the Connell Community Club.

Pam Moon –

1. Expressed how pleasant her interaction was during the Council Meeting and thanked City Staff.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Administrator Maria Peña –

1. Reported that the Treasurer’s Report for June was distributed.
2. Invited everyone to a City Staff Appreciation BBQ which was held at the Pioneer Park Pavilion.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Marissa Ortiz, Deputy City Clerk

Lee Barrow, Mayor