

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
September 04, 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 Councilmember's: Mayor Pro Tem Ray Minor, 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, Police Chief Chris Turner, Fire Chief Chris Schulte and City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Lee Barrow -

Read a Proclamation aloud, proclaiming September 15th, 2018 to be "Back the Blue Day" as a show of support for local and regional law enforcement.

Read the invite from the Connell Community Club who would be hosting an Appreciation BBQ for the Franklin County First Responders on Tuesday, September 18th at 5:00 pm at the Connell Community Center.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting August 20, 2018
- b) Accounts payable 9/4/18 for \$50,153.07
- c) Check Register 8/21/18 for \$445,084.78
- d) Payroll Register 8/15/18 – 8/20/18 for \$71,224.56

Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Minor moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember White seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING – VACATE FUTURE SOUTH ALMIRA AVENUE PER SHORT PLAT
90-04

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Mayor Barrow opened a Public Hearing at 6:04 pm for the purpose of considering the vacation of future South Almira Avenue per Short Plat 90-04. Due to further required research Mayor Barrow stated the Public Hearing would need to continue until September 17th, 2018.

Motion: Councilmember Escalera moved to continue the Public Hearing to September 17th, 2018 for further research. Councilmember Barrera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2019 CITY BUDGET PROCESS - TIMELINE

City Administrator Maria Peña provided Council with a memo that established the timeline for the 2019 Budget Process for the City of Connell. The dates proposed met or exceeded the state requirements per the RCW's. The budget was created with a 0% cost increase. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) showed an average of 3.2% increase from July 2017. City Administrator Peña asked Council for direction in regards to COLA's for the non-union employees. Union employees would receive a 2% increase in accordance with the union contract. Initial projections for non-union employee medical benefits would increase between 3 – 4.5%. Increases to medical rates for union employees were not known until late October. Councilmember's requested to have preliminary numbers before reviewing COLA's. City Administrator Peña expected to have preliminary numbers for Council's review on October 1st, 2018.

Public Hearings were scheduled for:

- October 15th – 2019 Revenue Sources and Property Taxes
- November 5th – 2019 Preliminary Budget
- November 19th – 2019 Final Budget

PRESENTATION – FIRE CHIEF CHRIS SCHULTE

Fire Chief Chris Schulte gave reports on The Substation Fire, The Taylor Creek Fire, and The Miles Fire. He thanked Council and Staff for being able to participate with the Incident Management Team. He stated he was honored to be the Incident Commander for the Pacific Northwest Team #2 which was one of sixteen national teams in the country that dealt with the most complex of emergencies and crisis.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Barrow adjourned the meeting at 6:37 pm.

ATTEST: _____
Marissa Ortiz, Deputy City Clerk

Lee Barrow, Mayor