

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON  
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
September 11, 2017

The reconvened meeting of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Blackwell at 6:00 pm in the City Hall and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Bruce Blackwell and Councilmembers: Ray Minor, Kathie Silva, and Rhonda Quinton. Councilmember Joe Escalera arrived at 6:01 pm.

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Monty Huber.

STAFF: City Administrator Maria Peña, City Clerk/Treasurer Rose Courneya, Chief of Police Chris Turner, Public Works Director Larry Turner, Public Works Water Operator Hallie Tuck and Attorney Heidi Ellerd.

VISITORS: Franklin County Graphic; Katherine Bingham Trowbridge.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Bruce Blackwell announced Resolution No. 2017-15 in Memoriam of Garland D. Walton.

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-15. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) Minutes of the Special Council Meeting August 28, 2017
- b) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting September 05, 2017
- c) Accounts payable 9/5/17 for \$97,636.78
- d) Check Register 9/1/17 for \$212.43
- e) Payroll Register 8/31/17-9/05/17 for \$99,555.04

Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Councilmember Minor moved to approve the agenda with the addition of item #13-addendum to real estate purchase and sale agreement-Hospital District. Councilmember Silva seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

WASTE WATER ENERGY WORKSHOP-SAVING ENERGY, SAVING MONEY

Larry Turner and Hallie Tuck from Public Works Department provided a power point presentation on saving energy and money at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Water Operator Hallie Tuck stated that in 2016 Energy Smart Industrial, a program within the Bonneville Power Administration, approached the City of Connell. They invited the Public Works Department to attend a workshop on energy savings and rebates. The workshop explained energy efficiency, pump curves and converting horsepower into power consumption. The overall goal was to reduce energy consumption at the plant by 5%. A few ideas were suggested, the first was to do away with the chlorine generating machine located at the plant. This machine was an inefficient way to deliver chlorine. Another idea which would not affect the budget would be monitoring the dissolved oxygen in the two aeration basins. After testing the basins they were running at 9.0 and 13.0 MgL. This was wasting power bugs, so the aerators were shut off one at a time until an optimum range was reached. Instead of running four to five aerators in each lagoon only two to three were now running. The last low cost item implemented was installing motion detectors on the lights at the plant and installing LED lights on the outside of the building. They are low cost and would pay for themselves in a short period of time. Overall the goal of saving 5% of our power consumption saved the City over 50%. Accumulative kilowatt hours saved for the year was 335,424 kWh. At \$6.5 cents per kWh, \$21,783.12 was saved on the power bill the last 12 months. In addition the City also received a \$2.5 cents per kWh in rebate savings which equaled out to \$8,385.60. The total savings was roughly \$30,168.72.

UPDATE JOB CLASSIFICATIONS

City Clerk/Treasurer Rose Courneya presented Council new job classifications, one for a full-time Police Clerk position and one for an Accounting Clerk II position. The change for the Police Clerk position was the title description from part-time to full-time. The new Accounting Clerk II position classification was set at Range 10 as opposed to the Accounting Clerk I position that was set at Range 8. The following was added to the Accounting Clerk II job description:

1. Must be working towards a Certified Municipal Clerk Certification.
2. Must have worked for the City of Connell full time for 5 consecutive years.

**Motion:** Councilmember Minor moved to approve the new job descriptions for the full-time Police Clerk and the Accounting Clerk II. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-16-SURPLUS PROPERTY AT HERITAGE PARK

City Administrator Maria Peña stated the attached resolution provided was for the surplus of the property located at the Heritage Park. She provided an attached map which showed the area to be surplus. After approval staff could move forward with a Purchase and Sell agreement between the City and the Connell Heritage Museum.

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**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve Resolution No. 2017-16 for the surplus of property at Heritage Park. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RENEWAL OF DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS-CONTRACT K7567

Chief of Police Chris Turner reported to Council that the contract before them was up for renewal between the Department of Corrections and the Connell Police Department for emergency services. These services could include outside the normal events such as floods, riot control, civil disobedience, etc. Both could partner in strategies that support emergency needs requesting assistance of both Coyote Ridge Corrections Center and the Connell Police Department. The Department of Corrections shall reimburse the Connell Police Department for their expenses incurred for providing personnel. Likewise, the Department of Corrections shall be reimbursed for actual work completed by its members during assistance. City Attorney Dan Hultgren had reviewed and approved the contract.

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve DOC Contract No. K7567. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

WA STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AMENDMENT NO. 2

City Administrator Maria Peña reported that in June Council had approved to amend the Agreement between the City of Connell and WA State Department of Transportation for the Rail Interchange Project. With that amendment the City had returned the funds not used for the project back to WSDOT. This allowed WSDOT to allocate the funding for engineering to be completed by BNSF's engineers instead of the city continuing to use HDR engineering. The new amendment would provide for the City to tap into those funds once again to hire a consultant who could assist with applying for INFRA and TIGER grants. These grant programs were viable options for securing federal support for Connell Rail Interchange. Attached was a proposal submitted from Jennie Beckett to help with future grant applications. A Cost Benefit Analysis by Ms. Beckett will be provided to Council for approval at a future date. City Administrator Peña reported that amending this Agreement with WSDOT would provide the city with the funds to hire Ms. Beckett to do the work proposed.

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve Amendment No. 2 between the City of Connell and the State of Washington agreement GCB 2372. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDENDUM TO REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT-HOSPITAL DISTRICT

City Administrator Maria Peña reported that a Purchase and Sale Agreement had been signed and approved between the Franklin Co. Public Hospital District No. 1 and the City of Connell. The closing date was to have been completed by September 1, 2017. An Addendum to this agreement was received to extend the closing date to be completed on or before September 30, 2017. All other terms to the agreement would remain the same.

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve the Addendum to Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement between the Franklin Co. Public Hospital District No.1 and the City of Connell. Councilmember Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY COUNCIL CLOSING REMARKS

Mayor Bruce Blackwell-

Read a Proclamation aloud proclaiming September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to be “Back to the Blue Day” as a show of support for local and regional law enforcement.

Consensus of the Council was for Mayor Blackwell to sign the proclamation.

Councilmember Minor-

Was impressed on how well the Connell Fall Festival turned out. He thanked City staff for representing the City during the parade.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell Mayor Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 7:19 pm.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Marissa Ortiz, Accounting Clerk

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Bruce Blackwell, Mayor