

MEETING OF THE CITY OF CONNELL, WASHINGTON  
CONNELL, FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

February 6, 2013

The regular semi-monthly meeting, of the Connell City Council was called to order by Mayor Walton at 6:00 pm in the City Hall and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Walton, and Councilmembers: Mayor Pro Tem Quinton, Lee Barrow, Monty Huber, and Ray Minor.

EXCUSED:

*Motion:* Mayor Pro Tem Quinton moved to excuse Councilmember Silva. Councilmember Huber seconded. Motion carried out unanimously.

STAFF: Attorney Dan Hultgrenn, Police Chief Mike Kessler, Fire Chief Chris Schulte, and City Clerk/Treasurer Maria Peña.

VISITORS: Kathy Bingham, Franklin County Graphic; Citizens: Bob Widows, Jody Barker, Cristi Barker, Kathy Valdez, AE Smith, Dani Pena, Cindy Welch, Pam Welch Moon, Kelton Syrie, Robert McCurry, Marcial Heider, Bergen Eskildsen, Gabriel Flores, Joel Crowther, Travis Baker, Carol Lindner, and Tami Barker.

CORRESPONDENCE/APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Walton reviewed Committees and Boards for 2013:  
Benton-Franklin Community Action Committee-Mayor Gary Walton  
Benton-Franklin Council of Governments-Councilmember Lee Barrow  
Finance Committee-Councilmembers-Ray Minor & Kathy Silva  
Disability Board-Mayor Gary Walton  
Emergency Management Board-Police Chief Mike Kessler  
Good Roads-  
Street & Alleyways Committee-Mayor Pro Tem Quinton and Councilmember Lee Barrow  
Civil Service- Vacant Position  
Park Board- Helen Tobin, Gene Stocking, Jaeniffer Kaiser, Jessica Flores, Rhonda Quinton.  
Planning Commission: Bruce Bowen, Roger Bailie, Darrell Ferguson, Casey Hart, and Molly Kunkel.  
Salary Commission-David Hart, Manuel Silva, Vacant  
Hotel/Motel Advisory- Mayor Walton, Burl Booker, Casey Hart, Deborah Martinez, Regina Janosky  
Real Estate Committee-Mayor Gary Walton, Councilmembers Lee Barrow, Monty Huber- Vacant City Administrator, and City Attorney, Dan Hultgrenn

*Motion:* Councilmember Barrow moved to approve committee appointments as stated above for 2013. Mayor Pro Tem Quinton seconded. Motion carried out unanimously.

Mayor Walton temporarily appointed Councilmember Huber to the Finance Committee.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**Motion:** Councilmember Barrow moved to approve the Consent Calendar as listed.

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council meeting January 22, 2013
- b) Check Register 1/28/2013 for \$35.10
- c) Accounts Payable 2/6/2013 for \$79,007.39
- d) Payroll Register 1/31/2013 to 2/5/2013 for \$68,073.90

Mayor Pro Tem Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Bob Widows 640 N. Dayton-the noon whistle too loud, submitted a petition for not turning the noon whistle back on. Against spending money on the noon whistle.

Cindy Welch-was against turning on the noon whistle.

Bob McCurry 758 S. 2<sup>nd</sup>-against turning the noon whistle. There are other things the City can do to promote the City. Mr. McCurry stated siren does hurt people's ears.

Pam Welch Moon-spoke on behalf of keeping the siren for historical reasons

Bob Widows stated snowflakes are coming down on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and City flags are going up.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Quinton moved to approve the Agenda with the addition of

10A) Police Chief Kessler Discussion-Radio System

Councilmember Barrow seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

NOON WHISTLE/SIREN

Mayor Walton spoke on history of the City's siren, its purposes, and options.

Councilmember's held discussion and the following was heard:

- Majority of citizens want the siren back on
- Siren doesn't affect people with long term hearing loss
- Turn on only the library siren
- Some citizens want it on, some don't want the siren on, and not sure what the majority wants.
- Siren at fire station has no historical value-propose to turn the siren back on at the library not the fire station
- Cost to repair the library siren was reasonable

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Quinton moved to approve Total Energy to fix the library siren with the total cost of repairs being \$850 plus tax and turn the library siren on. Councilmember Barrow seconded. Motion carried out unanimously.

PARK & RECREATIONAL DIRECTOR 2013-JOB DESCRIPTION

Mayor Walton stated Park Board members wanted a job description for the position of Park & Recreational Director. Staff created a job description for Councilmembers to approve.

**Motion:** Councilmember Barrow moved to approve the Park & Recreational Director job description with the addition of CPR & First Aid Certification required. Mayor Pro Tem Quinton seconded. Motion carried out unanimously.

#### STAFF SECURITY OPTIONS

Mayor Walton would like to install an ADA upgrade to the City Hall front door and replace the current front windows with bullet proof windows. A quote from Perfection Glass showed the cost to upgrade would be around \$15,000.

Clerk/Treasurer Maria Peña stated funds to pay for the project could come out of the Civic Facility 002 fund.

**Unfinished Business:** Get additional quotes and bring back to next council meeting.

#### POLICE CHIEF DISCUSSION-RADIO SYSTEM

At a previous council meeting, Police Chief Kessler asked Councilmembers to approve purchasing a modular building for radio communications. The building was to be placed at the City's reservoir. Since then, Chief Kessler has been informed that to get power to the building located at the reservoir; would cost the city about \$30,000. The building has now been moved to the City's Well 10 site. To get power to the modular building now located at the City's Well 10, it would be an additional \$14,000. Concerns were addressed about losing communications for emergency calls.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Quinton moved to approve expenditure of \$14,000 to get power to modular building for communications. Councilmember Barrow seconded. Motion carried out unanimously.

#### MEETING RECESSED

At 7:08 pm Mayor Walton announced an Executive session for 30 minutes to discuss with legal counsel representing the City litigation or potential litigation to which the City, or a city council member or employee is, or may be, a party and to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment.

Mayor Walton came out at 7:38 pm and extended Executive Session for an additional 30 minutes.

#### MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Walton reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:02 pm and the following was heard:

**Motion:** Councilmember Barrow moved to approve settlement of Skylstad lawsuit in the amount of \$13,000 and authorized the City Attorney to approve the form of the

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settlement documents. Mayor Pro Tem Quinton seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS**

The City received 13 applications for the open city administrator position. Of those only 7 applications were complete. The list was narrowed down the following four candidates: Zachariah Collom, Gianpaolo Mammone, Rodney Otterness, and Donald MacDonald.

***Motion:*** Mayor Pro Tem Quinton moved to go forward with interviews of the four candidates listed above and work with John Whitehead. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell, Mayor Walton adjourned the meeting at 8:06 pm.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rose Courneya, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Walton, Mayor