

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

September 3, 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 Gary Walton, Mayor Pro Tem Rhonda Quinton, and Councilmember's: Monty Huber, Lee Barrow, Kathie Silva, and Ray Minor.

**STAFF:** Attorney Dan Hultgrenn, Police Chief Mike Kessler, Public Works Director Larry Turner, Fire Chief Chris Schulte, and City Clerk/Treasurer Maria Peña.

**VISITORS:** Kathy Bingham, Franklin County Graphic, John Darrington, Colin Baenziger & Associates; Citizens: Claudia Bingham, Mark Scott, Kelle Scott, Mary Geissler, BA Blackwell, Charles Roabe, Kara Booker, and Kylie Booker.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Quinton moved to approve the Consent Calendar as listed.

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council meeting August 19 ,2013
- b) Accounts Payable 9/3/2013 for \$48,464.07
- c) Payroll Check Register \$78,577.58

Councilmember Barrow seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Charles Roabe, 614 N. Columbia –Is having problems with cats in his yard & garden. Also, cats were getting stuck in his shed. He believes that the cats are a serious problem in Connell.

Kylie Booker would like to have a Bike-a-Thon on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 for her Senior Project.

Mark Scott, 644 N. Columbia Ave-would like CMC 8.08.130 to require cats be licensed.

Mayor Walton and staff would work on a plan for the enforcement of the Connell Municipal Code 17.19.020- Animal Keeping.

Councilmember Barrow asked council to consider having a grace period before the enforcement of the Connell Municipal Code 17.19.020 to give citizens time to comply with the code.

Councilmember Huber suggested looking into the City's budget and was concerned about pulling a guy from a more important job to do animal code enforcement.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Councilmember Barrow seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**JOHN DARRINGTON-COLIN BAENZIGER & ASSOCIATES**

John Darrington provided back ground information on himself and the firm of Colin Baenziger & Associates, that he represented. Mr. Darrington reviewed with the Councilmember's the process the firm would go through to hire a city administrator, and provided a timeline. Colin Baenziger & Associates guaranteed the applicant for two years.

Councilmembers held discussion and the following was heard:

- 1) How does your firm get more applicants for the position?
- 2) Does the firm make sure the applicants from out of state understand Washington State laws?
- 3) To what lengths does the firm look into the applications past history?
- 4) Applicant must work well with staff and be self sufficient.

**Unfinished Business:** Bring back to next council meeting.

**IMPLICATIONS OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA**

**Recreational Marijuana**-a map of the 1000 foot limitation overlaid on the City zoning was provided to the Councilmember's. There were areas within the City limits that could be licensed for production, processing, and sale of marijuana under the current zoning code.

City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn provided the Councilmembers with the following options on Recreational Marijuana:

- 1.) The City could prohibit all marijuana businesses from locating within the City limits based on the federal law prohibition against the manufacture or distribution of marijuana. The City could be sued by a holder of a production, processing or distribution license issued by the LCB who is denied the opportunity to conduct such a business in the City. We cannot predict the outcome of such a case, although there is currently pending a case arising out of the medical marijuana law pending before the Supreme Court of the State of Washington that may be relevant to this issue.
- 2.) The City could enact a moratorium to provide additional time to study the issue and to monitor further developments that could occur that might shed light of the issue. This temporary approach is being considered by other cities in our geographical area.
- 3.) The City could adopt some additional rules regarding the siting of establishments for the production, processing and sale of marijuana.
- 4.) The City could do nothing, allowing the establishments with a license issued by the LCB to do business within certain areas of the City, subject to the 1000 foot limitation and other relevant City existing zoning laws.

Councilmember's consensus was to go forward with moratorium for recreational marijuana.

**Medical Marijuana Collective Gardens**-City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn explained the City of Connell approved Resolution 2011-12 establishing a moratorium on any collective gardens on September 9, 2011. Since that time, the Council had extended the moratorium twice, the last time on October 3, 2012.

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Mayor Walton received a letter from the Washington State Liquor Board requesting the city to complete a survey on marijuana within the City of Connell.

Councilmember's held discussion. Councilmember's consensus was to bring back moratorium.

**Unfinished Business:** Bring back moratoriums to next council meeting.

2014 BUDGET TIMELINE DISCUSSION

City Clerk/Treasurer Maria Peña presented the City's 2014 Budget timeline. She reviewed the budget process with Councilmember's, stating the Finance Committee reviewed the proposed budget first, and then the proposed budget was presented to the council for discussion.

The Finance Committee meetings were set for the fourth Monday of each month at 6 pm.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mayor Walton and Councilmember's Silva and Minor attended a budget conference.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business before the City Council of Connell, Mayor Walton adjourned the meeting at 7:24 pm.

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

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Gary Walton, Mayor