

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

July 6, 2015

The regular semi-monthly 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, Mayor Pro Tem Monty Huber, and Councilmembers: Kathie Silva, Joe Escalera, and Ray Minor.

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

**STAFF:** Attorney Dan Hultgrenn, City Administrator Jed Crowther, Fire Chief Chris Schulte, Building Service Clerk Sterling Joyner, and City Clerk/Treasurer Maria Peña.

**VISITORS:** Kathy Bingham, Franklin County Graphic and Troy Woody Hot Solar Solutions.

CORRESPONDENCE/APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Blackwell received correspondence from Jaeniffer Kaiser in regards to the safety of the 4th of July fireworks show.

Fire Chief Schulte made recommendations to make next year's firework show safer for everyone. Mr. Schulte was looking at alternative locations.

Councilmember Escalera felt it was a good idea to relocate firework show next year.

Galen Harper-Fireworks were terrific. Thanked the city for fireworks and would like to see firework show continue.

Mayor Blackwell-solution would also be no more 4" shells fireworks.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve the Consent Calendar.

- a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting June 15, 2015
- b) Minutes of the Special Meeting June 29, 2015
- c) Check Register 6/9/2015 for \$896.66
- d) Check Register 7/1/2015 for \$222.73
- e) Accounts Payable 7/6/2015 for \$175,580.40
- f) Payroll Register 6/15 to 6/20/2015 for \$60,051.94

Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve the agenda with the change of doing the even agenda items first then the odd number items. Order would be 8,10,12,14,9,11 and then 13. Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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PUBLIC HEARING-UNOPENED STREET VACATION

Mayor Blackwell recessed the regular meeting at 6:14 pm and opened a Public Hearing for the purpose of an Unopened Street Vacation.

*STAFF REPORT:* City Administrator Jed Crowther provided Councilmembers with the details on the city's intent to vacate an unopened right-of-way in Section 36, Township 14 North, and Range 31 East. Findings and street vacation process were presented to Councilmembers. Council had passed Resolution No. 2015-09 on June 1, 2015 setting the Public Hearing date for the intended street vacation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS None

COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENT PORTION OF THE HEARING: None

Mayor Blackwell closed the hearing and opened regular meeting at 6:20 pm.

**Motion:** Mayor Pro Tem Huber moved to adopt Ordinance No. 954-2015 upon acceptable legal review. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS-CONTRACT AMENDMENT REGARDING  
CONNELL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Schulte amended Agreement K8563 between the State of Washington/Department of Corrections and the City of Connell. The amendment was to accurately state what the Connell fire department was currently doing for the Department of Corrections. Department of Corrections and City Attorney Dan Hultgrenn had reviewed proposed amendment.

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve Contract No. K8563 Amendment No. 2 between the State of Washington/Department of Corrections and the City of Connell. Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

OUTDOOR BURNING-CMC 7.20 CODE REVISION

Fire Chief Schulte updated the Connell Municipal Code Chapter 7.20- Outdoor Burning. The current version of Chapter 7.20 that applies to outdoor burning was out of date. The revision would align the City of Connell's outdoor burning rules, regulations and procedures with those mandated by the State of Washington and Franklin County. Two corrections were noted: 1) Remove the word "to" on page 3 C (1) and C (3) and replace Section 3 with Section 4 on page 4.

**Motion:** Councilmember Minor moved to approve Ordinance No. 955-2015 with corrections. Councilmember Silva seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY SOLAR SPONSOR AGREEMENT

Troy Woody from Inovus had provided Councilmembers a power point presentation on putting solar panels on the light poles in Connell to generate solar energy. Since that

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presentation, staff and City Attorney Hultgrenn reviewed the contract and looked at similar projects.

City Administrator Crowther was still working through particulars of these type projects. Mr. Woody stated he worked with the Department of Revenue. Discussion was held.

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to further review Sponsor Agreement.  
Councilmember Escalera seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY BUDGET AMENDMENT-CONNELL RAIL STUDY

City Clerk/Treasurer Peña stated the CERB Rail project came around after the 2015 Budget was adopted. In order to spend funds given to the City of Connell for the Rail project, the 2015 Budget had to be amended. Ordinance No. 953-2015 amending the 2015 Fiscal Year Budget for the 300 Capital Fund was presented at the last council meeting. Now the Ordinance was being presented for Councilmembers to adopt.

**Motion:** Councilmember Minor moved to adopt Ordinance No. 953-2015 amending the Fiscal Year 2015 City of Connell Budget. Mayor Pro Tem Huber seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONTRACT-WELL #6 STUDY

The City of Connell received a \$25,000 grant in February from the Department of Health to conduct a study on Well #6. The formal contract was now being presented to Councilmembers for approval. City Attorney Hultgrenn provided a clear legal review to staff to correctly administer the grant and to be able to comply with specific requirements.

**Motion:** Councilmember Silva moved to approve Grant Agreement N21234 between the State of Washington Department of Health and the City of Connell.  
Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MODIFICATION OF THE INVESTMENT POLICY

In April of 2012 Council approved an Investment Policy that established guidelines for the investment of City funds. The policy allowed the City to invest funds in different types of investment funds. City Clerk/Treasurer Maria Peña proposed changing the City Portfolio Maximum for both Federal Agency Securities and U.S. Treasuries from 90% to 100%. She also proposed the City change the wording in No. 17. Currently it stated the goal was to have 75% of the City's entire cash and cash equivalent assets invested. By changing the wording to "75% or more" and adding "while maintaining a cash balance of \$1,000,000" it allows the City to maximize our investments while still maintaining an adequate cash flow.

**Motion:** Councilmember Escalera moved to adopt Resolution No. 2015-12 amending the Investment Policy for the City of Connell. Councilmember Minor seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR –Jed Crowther

- A) Press Release –Connell obtained \$10 million dollars for Connell Rail Interchange
- B) A Code Enforcement Report was provided to Councilmembers
- C) Park Board minutes were provided to Councilmembers

CLERK/TREASURER- Maria Peña

- A) Monthly Finance reports handed out

MEETING ADJOURNED

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

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

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Bruce Blackwell, Mayor