

City of Othello
Regular Council Meeting
January 9, 2012

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Tim Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Tim Wilson; Councilmembers: Eugene Bain, Dan Dever, Charles Garcia, and Mark Snyder.

Also Present: City Administrator Ehman Sheldon; Department Heads: Finance Officer Mike Bailey, Police Chief Steven Dunnagan, City Clerk Debbie Kudrna; and City Attorney Katherine Kenison.

Absent Was: Councilmembers Ken Caylor, Kenneth Johnson and Genna Dorow.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Wilson requested that we take off the following agenda items, due to the fact that we have three Councilmembers absent: 4.1: Election of Mayor Pro Tem; 4.2: 2012 Committee Appointments and 7.1: Executive Session. Councilmember Dever asked that we also remove 4.3 Consideration of Agreement with Sandhill Crane Festival. Council carried a motion to approve the agenda, as amended. M/S Dever/Snyder.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of City Council Minutes of December 12, 2011
- B. Approval of December 2011 Accounts Payable Checks
- C. Approval of January Accounts Payable Checks for 2011
- D. Approval of January Accounts Payable Checks for 2012
- E. Approval of Payroll and Related Expenses
- F. Resolution to Accept a Donation
- G. Resolution to Release Retainage for City Hall ADA Door Retrofit Project

Accounts Payable was audited and certified by the Auditing Officer, as required by RCW 42.24.080; and those expense reimbursement claims certified and as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing that has been reviewed by the Council audit committee and is available to the Council.

December 27, 2011 Accounts Payable Check No. 40576 to No. 40617 in the amount of \$137,175.86.
December 30, 2011 Accounts Payable Check No. 40618 to No. 40651 in the amount of \$60,741.28.
January 2012 Accounts Payable Check No. 40652 to No. 40663 in the amount of \$79,691.27.
Payroll Check No. 27572 to No. 27615 in the amount of \$269,788.69.

Council carried a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. M/S Garcia/Snyder.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW - MISSION STATEMENT, LAND USE, HOUSING

City Planner Darryl Piercy explained that the Council was provided the draft Comprehensive Plan and they were to review the vision statement; goals and policies – land use, and goals and policies for housing. Mr. Piercy advised that the City of Othello community vision statement has been reviewed and recommended by the Planning Commission. It sets the foundation for all of the other elements within the comprehensive plan. The City Council agreed with the proposed community vision statement. Mr. Piercy reviewed the goals and policies for land use. This section deals with residential, commercial and industrial uses and includes critical areas and other land use considerations. These policies set forth the theme of each of the land use categories and identify the need to set aside sufficient land area for the uses found in the development code. It generally reflects the direction the City has taken and expands and moves forward.

Councilmember Dever asked if policy 1.7 regarding surveying housing and housing problems in the future is similar to establishing a committee to survey rental property to assure that it's safe. Mr. Piercy stated that this section would support implementation of an ordinance to allow that; however, this is intended to determine whether we have sufficient quantities of housing. City Administrator Ehman Sheldon stated that the Police Chief had recommended rental agreements.

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Mr. Piercy noted that the WSU housing study has been very useful. The proposed policy supports additional efforts and provides the policy to allow the City to do additional surveys.

Mayor Wilson asked that Council review the handouts that were provided and those will be briefly reviewed at an upcoming meeting. Mr. Piercy stated that the next sections to review will be the utility and capital facility elements. Councilmember Dever asked what the intent of Goal LU 1.2 is. Mr. Piercy stated that this policy sets the basis to adopt and implement a park and recreation plan that will set for the Council policies and sets the policy in the comprehensive plan that allows residential development to help pay for park improvements. He noted that we currently have a park mitigation fee set by ordinance.

CONTRACT APPROVAL FOR HOSPITAL DISPATCH SERVICES

Police Chief Dunnagan stated that the police dispatch center is responsible for providing dispatch services for the Othello Community Hospital ambulance service. There has been a long standing relationship between the City and the Hospital District and the current agreement expired December 31, 2011. He reviewed the changes to the new Interlocal Agreement, including a 2.1% increase in the fee. The proposed contract is for a term of two years.

Council carried a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement to provide emergency dispatch services to the Othello Hospital. M/S Dever/Garcia.

CONTRACT APPROVAL FOR FIRE DISPATCH SERVICES

Police Chief Dunnagan stated that the police dispatch center is also responsible for providing dispatch services for the Adams County Fire District #5. The current agreement expired December 31, 2011. He reviewed the changes to the new Interlocal Agreement, including a 2.1% increase in the fee. The proposed contract is for a term of two years.

Council carried a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement to provide emergency dispatch services to the Adams County Fire District #5. M/S Garcia/Snyder.

FINANCE OFFICER'S CONTRACT EXTENSION

Finance Officer Mike Bailey left the Council Chambers. City Administrator Ehman Sheldon explained that last spring, the City Council approved a one-year contract with Finance Officer Mike Bailey, which expires March 31, 2012. He asked for an extension to the employment contract to December 31, 2012. This will allow the City to hire a new Finance Officer in July/August and that new employee will then work through the budget process with Mr. Bailey.

Council carried a motion to approve to extend the Finance Officer's contract to December 31, 2012. M/S Snyder/Dever. Mr. Sheldon advised that the City Attorney will prepare an addendum to the current contract for the Mayor to sign. Finance Officer Mike Bailey re-entered the meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR CDBG PROJECT

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon explained that the City received a grant in the amount of \$950,000 for the Moon Street sewer extension. Due to the fact that it is federal grant funding, we had to go through a request for proposals for selection of engineering services. The City advertised and received two proposals for engineering services. A Council committee was formed and both applicants were interviewed. The Council committee recommends approval of the appointment of Gray & Osborne for the Moon Street sewer project because of their experience with City and their in-depth engineering services that they provide. Councilmember Snyder stated that he feels Gray & Osborne is more qualified than the other applicants.

Council carried a motion to appoint Gray & Osborne as the engineering firm for the Moon street project. M/S Snyder/Garcia.

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ORDINANCE TO CHANGE SPEED LIMIT ON 14TH AVENUE FROM OLYMPIA TO LEE ROAD

Police Chief Dunnagan explained that in order to accommodate new construction on South 14th Avenue and in the interest of public safety, the speed limit was recently reduced to 25 miles per hour for the entire length of 14th Avenue. He explained that the portion of 14th Avenue between Olympia and Lee Streets should not have been reduced to 25 miles per hour. This portion of N 14th Avenue is bordered by open farm fields and an irrigation canal. He presented an ordinance to change the speed limit on 14th Avenue between Olympia and Lee Streets to 35 miles per hour.

Council carried a motion to adopt AN ORDINANCE AMENDING OTHELLO MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 9.32.020 TITLED "SPEED LIMITS". M/S Dever/Bain. This shall be known as Ordinance No. 1354.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Wilson made the following announcements:

- He congratulated Eugene Bain for his new appointment to the Council.
- A joint meeting with the Council parks and recreation committee and the Chamber to review the job description of the Park and Recreation Coordinator is scheduled for Friday, January 13th at noon.
- The Mayor's luncheon is Wednesday at the Othello Senior Center at noon.
- Adams County Development Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at Chen's Restaurant in Othello.
- Mr. Richard Johnson passed away and the funeral is Saturday, January 14th at the Nazarene Gathering Place.
- Mayor Wilson asked for volunteers to meet with Mr. George Juarez and the Othello School Board to discuss. Councilmembers Dever, Snyder and Garcia will attend the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Wilson adjourned the Council meeting at 7:37 p.m.

By: _____
TIM WILSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE KUDRNA, City Clerk