

City of Othello
Regular Council Meeting
January 23, 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, Genna Dorow, Charles Garcia, Kenneth Johnson, and Mark Snyder.

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

Absent Was: Councilmember Ken Taylor.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council carried a motion to approve the agenda. M/S Dever/Garcia.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of City Council Minutes of January 9, 2012
- B. Approval of January Accounts Payable Checks for 2011
- C. Approval of January Accounts Payable Checks for 2012

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.

Accounts Payable Checks for 2011, Check No. 40664 to No. 40686 in the amount of \$48,884.71.

Accounts Payable Checks for 2012, Check No. 40687 to No. 40723 in the amount of \$274,371.04.

Council carried a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. M/S Johnson/Dorow.

CONSIDERATION OF AGREEMENT WITH SANDHILL CRANE FESTIVAL

Dixie Fultz, Chair of the Sandhill Crane Festival advised that they are not interested in having the City take over organizing the Sandhill Crane Festival; however, they are struggling with arranging speakers and getting their brochure complete this year. She also submitted an additional request for the new Parks and Recreation Coordinator job description to include helping prepare the curriculum write-ups, contacting potential speakers, and organizing tours next year for the 2013 festival. They currently pay \$1,000 to a person to perform these tasks. They offered to pay the City, if this could be incorporated into the new Park and Recreation Director's job.

City Administrator reported that the City Council had previously agreed to provide city staff time for maintaining and printing the Sandhill Crane Festival mailing list, as noted in option 1. Mrs. Fultz stated that option 2 includes preparing the curriculum write-ups, contacting potential speakers, and organizing tours, with payment of \$1,000.

Councilmember Dever stated that the Council had already agreed to the terms in option 1 in regards to maintaining the mailing list. Councilmember Garcia noted some concern about having a new city employee taking on the extra tasks. Mrs. Fultz clarified that the terms of option 2 will be accomplished by the Sandhill Crane Festival committee this year and they would like the City to agree to have the new Park and Recreation Coordinator to take on the tasks for 2013. Mayor Wilson asked that the request to prepare the curriculum write-ups, contacting potential speakers, and organizing tours, be brought back to Council later this year, after an employee is hired. Mrs. Fultz stated that if they have a Crane Festival in 2013, it will be necessary for them to have someone other than one of the current committee members perform these tasks.

Council carried a motion to approve the Option 1 agreement with the Sandhill Crane Festival Committee. M/S Dever/Snyder.

Councilmember Johnson asked if the City could use the mailing list for future city activities. Mrs. Fultz explained that some of their patrons have asked that their information not be released; however, she

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does not have a problem with the City using it. Mr. Sheldon advised that there is a statement on our public disclosure form that the information will not be used for commercial purposes.

ANNUAL PET RESCUE REPORT

Ken Simmons, representing Pet Rescue reviewed their annual city pound report and statistics for city dogs. He advised that due to the cost of electricity, insurance, vet care, supplies, and pet food, Adams County Pet Rescue is requesting a funding increase from \$6,000 per year to \$10,000 for 2012. This will be the fourth year that Pet Rescue has entered into a contract with the City. He advised that they are a non-profit organization and rely on donations and volunteers. Mr. Simmons advised they receive \$5,000 from Adams County annually.

Code Enforcement Officer Doyle Palmer stated that he supports the efforts of Pet Rescue; they keep the facility clean and provide a good service to the community. Mr. Simmons stated that if the Council appropriates \$10,000, it will increase their operational costs to approximately \$16 per day.

Council carried a motion to continue the contract with Pet Rescue, and grant the increase of an additional \$4,000 annually. M/S Dorow/Garcia.

WELL #6 UPDATE

City Engineer, Larry Julius provided an update on the status of Well #6. When the vibration was observed at the well, they worked with the contractor through the warranty in the contract. The subcontractor has removed the motor, pump, piping and appurtenances in Well #6 in an attempt to discover the cause of the vibration at the well. The engineers verified that the equipment, metal pipes and tubing were installed properly, as they were removed. The subcontractor disassembled the bowl assemblies and found that a number of the impellers were bent and damaged, as if something other than water went through and hit them. There also was gravel and concrete pieces in the screen that attaches to the bowl assemblies. Mr. Julius advised that the most viable way to find out if there are any physical changes in the well hole, to explain the damage to the impellers, is to have the well hole videoed. He noted that in the rehabilitation of the well, the bottom 100' was plugged with concrete to prevent water from coming up from the lower level. They believe that some of the vibration is from damage caused by a hard object getting into the impellers and damaging them.

Mr. Julius reported that the Department of Health (DOH) has revised their designation of Well #6 from an "emergency" water source to a "seasonal" water source. The City was only allowed to use Well #6 at times of high fire flows and peak demand. DOH defines a seasonal source as any water source used on a regular basis that is not a permanent or emergency source. The City will gain more use of Well #6, as long as it's not part of the permanent water source. Public Works will be able to put the well back into the rotation in the telemetry system. It will then operate more constantly and they believe it will help to maintain the fluoride levels. With the pump assembly the way it is, we may be able to pump 2,000 gallons per minute (gpm). Mr. Julius explained that with the well hole evacuated, there is an opportunity to consider adding more bowls, which could increase the gpm. He suggested that when the well is reassembled, that they also consider making the shaft longer. Council requested that an estimated cost for adding more bowls and making the shaft longer be provided.

Mr. Julius explained that if the concrete plug at the bottom of the hole is starting to chip, it would be a warranty item. If there was a blow out within the well; it would be hard to determine whether it's under the warranty. Terry Clements, Public Works Supervisor asked that the Council consider installation of four bowls to be able to pump more water and mix water in an attempt to lower the fluoride level. Dan Quick, the City's certified water operator explained that the impellers are brass and it wouldn't take a great deal to damage them. At this point, they have not discovered what caused the damage and vibration. At the time that they discussed the vibration with the contractor and subcontractor, the city was advised to use the well for high demand periods through September. The vibration never got worse and Mr. Quick noted that it's not uncommon to have wells vibrate; however, what happened at Well #6 was more than normal. He noted that all of the spiders were intact; except there were two spiders that were froze to the bearing shaft. Mr. Quick stated that we're not utilizing the well hole to its capacity and we have plenty of water at

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the well. They have four bowls that could be attached to a longer shaft, which could increase our water production.

CONSIDERATION OF MODIFICATION TO ASHWOOD NOTCH DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

City Planner Darryl Piercy explained that Ashwood Notch is now being purchased by Pete Olsen, dba Olsen Homes. The current development agreement was adopted in conjunction with the Ashwood Notch Plat for a five year period with Mr. Ed Greer, which will expire in September, 2012. Mr. Olsen is requesting a modification to the existing Development Agreement as follows: extend the Development Agreement an additional five (5) years to September, 2017; and revise the first phase of the original phasing plan to provide for additional lots and infrastructure. Mr. Piercy noted that there has been no development upon this site. He reported that the five year extension is within state law requirements and would allow the developer to move forward. He also noted that there other areas within the plat that will be brought forward to the Council for consideration.

Council carried a motion to extend the Development Agreement for Ashwood Notch an additional five (5) years to September, 2017; and revise the first phase of the original phasing plan to provide for additional lots and infrastructure. M/S Dorow/Johnson.

RENEWAL OF ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS CONTRACT WITH BERK'S REFRIGERATION

Public Works Supervisor Terry Clements reported that the City has had an agreement with Berk's Refrigeration to provide maintenance and installation to City-wide electrical systems. The new contract has an increase in the rate from \$70 per hour to \$75 per hour.

Council carried a motion to renew the agreement with Berk's Refrigeration for 2012. M/S Dever/Snyder.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEM

Mayor Wilson called for nominations for Mayor Pro-Tem.

A motion was made by Councilmember Snyder to nominate Ken Johnson as Mayor Pro-Tem for a one-year term. Seconded by Councilmember Dever. No other nominations were received. Motion passed.

2012 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Wilson and Council reviewed the 2012 committees and new appointments were made.

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH COMPLIANCE WITH THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING ACT

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon reported that the City has received federal funding for the Moon Street project, which requires the City to be in compliance with the Federal Fair Housing Act relative to non-discrimination. The process has been completed and if the Council approves the resolution, it will be posted in the newspaper and within the community.

Council carried a motion to approve A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OTHELLO, WASHINGTON TO ESTABLISH COMPLIANCE WITH THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING ACT. M/S Dever/Garcia. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2012-03.

RESOLUTION TO SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon reported that the Othello Chamber of Commerce has a very outdated computer. The City has a computer monitor that is no longer in use and he recommended that the Council surplus the computer to the Othello Chamber of Commerce. The Council will need to declare it as surplus and sell it with fair market value. He recommended \$100.

Council carried a motion to approve A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OTHELLO, WASHINGTON DECLARING SURPLUS. M/S Dorow/Snyder. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2012-04.

Council carried a motion to sell the surplus the computer to the Othello Chamber of Commerce for \$100. M/S Bain/Dever.

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Mr. Shawn Logan, President of the Chamber of Commerce, thanked the Council for the computer. He introduced their new manager, Angela Anderton. Ms. Anderton stated that she moved to Othello about three years ago and she is excited to work as manager of the Chamber. She thanked the Council for allowing the Chamber to purchase the computer.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Wilson noted that at the newly elected official workshop, there was discussion about Council's compensation. He would like to have five community members review the compensation package and forward a recommendation back to the Council. Councilmember Dever noted that if we're not going to raise the monthly pay; maybe they could consider a stipend for the meetings that they attend. The City Attorney noted that any action taken by the Council would not become effective during their current term.

Councilmember Dever advised that he has received several comments on how well the streets were cleared and recommended that a letter signed by all the elected officials be sent to Public Works commending them for their work.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – POTENTIAL LITIGATION

Mayor Wilson announced that the City Council will adjourn into an executive session at 8:17 p.m. pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss with legal counsel potential litigation. The executive session is expected to last approximately 15 minutes. There will be no decisions made during the executive session. At 8:35 p.m., Mayor Wilson announced that the executive session would continue for an additional five minutes. The Council meeting reconvened at 8:38 p.m.

Mayor Wilson made the following announcements:

- The Finance Committee will meet at noon on Thursday, January 26th to review requests for qualifications for banking services.
- The Beautification Committee is meeting at noon on Wednesday, January 25th at the Senior Center.
- The Othello School District is hosting an open house for Scootney School in the gym on Thursday, January 26th at 6:00 p.m.
- ACDC is meeting at Chen's Family Diner at noon on February 2nd to review their last year's progress.

Councilmember Dever noted that the Senior Center monthly dinner was rescheduled to January 26th from 5-7 p.m. He also noted that the School District is having an open house on January 26th at the education center on Ash Street from 5:30-6:30.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Wilson adjourned the Council meeting at 8:44 p.m.

By: _____
TIM WILSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk