

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Sanders called the workshop to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Jeannie L. Sanders; Councilmembers Everett Cole, Eleanor Brodahl, Larry Bray, Kenneth Johnson, Leonard Lyon, Don Derifield, and Tim Wilson.

Also Present: Planning Commission members Lolo Garza, Alan Hanks, and Steve Muzik; City Administrator Ehman Sheldon, Department Heads: Curt Andrews, Debbie Kudrna, Rhonda Miller, Dick Lee, and Police Chief Ron Axtman; and City Administrator James Whitaker.

**LEGAL ASPECTS OF ZONING – CITY ATTORNEY JAMES WHITAKER**

City Attorney, James Whitaker provided information regarding the legal basis of planning. Mr. Whitaker reviewed the public hearing process and the basic principle of fair hearings. He discussed zoning and platting, down zoning, plat-vesting rules, and compatible zoning. He explained the City's current land use public hearing process, in which one public hearing is now being held before the Planning Commission and another before the City Council. Mr. Whitaker explained that the current requirement is that only one public hearing be heard on land use issues, and recommended that it be held before the Planning Commission. Their recommendations and facts would be forwarded to the City Council for consideration. This is known as the 1724 Process and is provided by RCW 36.70B. He stated that the city is compelled to adopt Regulatory Reform (RCW 36.70B), and his office is currently working on details regarding the 1724 Process. He briefly described the LUPA proceeding, which is fast-track public process in Superior Court.

Mr. Whitaker provided information regarding Conflict of Interest on land use issues and the necessity of the Council or Commissioners to announce any conflict of interests during the public hearing proceedings. He also explained the necessity of the Appearance of Fairness, to hear land use issues and the need for the Council or Commissioners to announce any communications or discussions they may have had on land use matters outside of the public hearing. He stressed the importance of the officials to disclose any matters to demonstrate that they can hear and decide the land use issues fairly.

Mr. Whitaker explained the difference of a short and major plat process.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Discussion of Street Parking/Storage of Vehicles - City Administrator, Mr. Sheldon explained that the citizen committee had met several times and they now have a recommendation for the Council regarding parking and storage of recreational vehicles (RVs). This includes regulating storage of wheeled vehicles, yet allowing an exception for RV parking on city streets if occupied by visitors; regulating storage of RVs on private property and public right-of-ways; prohibiting sewer hook-ups of RVs; requiring a 32-foot clearance of all vehicles at all street intersections; requiring reflectors on parked wheeled vehicles; and only allowing one unoccupied RV on private property.

Investment Policy Update - Finance Officer, Rhonda Miller reported that she is submitting the Finance Investment Policy to Washington Municipal Treasurers' Association's (WMTA) Investment Policy Certification Program. After WMTA considers it, she will bring it to Council for adoption.

City Logo – Mr. Sheldon explained that the Public Works Department would like to use the new City emblem as the identification logo on their vehicles. He stated that the present city logo was adopted in the 80's by the City Council, and is currently depicted on City stationary. The City emblem is on the plaque that is hung in the Council Chambers, which was created by John Pierre, d.b.a. Paladin Signs, and Council had accepted it approximately three years ago. Mr. Sheldon asked the Council to consider adopting the emblem as the new City logo.

City of Othello  
Council Workshop  
February 3, 2003

It was Council's consensus to ask Mr. Pierre for a release of the copyright and allow it to be used as the official City logo.

Fire Hydrant Coverage - City Planner, Curt Andrews provided a map that showed the fire hydrant coverage within the City. This information was a result of the fire hydrant testing performed in the last two years. He acknowledged past Fire Chief Duane Van Beek's commitment to enforce fire hydrant coverage throughout the city and noted it has helped the City to maintain a Class-5 fire rating on the Washington State Survey and Rating Bureau insurance classification. Mayor Sanders noted concerns of some of the schools not having sufficient fire hydrant coverage. Mr. Sheldon stated that he would continue discussing this issue with the school district.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Sanders adjourned the workshop at 8:30 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
JEANNIE L. SANDERS, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk