

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Tim Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Tim Wilson; Councilmembers: Ken Caylor, Dan Dever, Genna Dorow, Charles Garcia, Kenneth Johnson, Mark Snyder, and Marc Spohr.

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

PET RESCUE ANNUAL REPORT – KEN SIMMONS

Ken Simmons, representative for Pet Rescue provided the annual Pet Rescue report. There were a total of 304 dogs registered into the pound in 2010. Mr. Simmons advised they still need a location to rebuild a facility.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED DOG ORDINANCE

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon reviewed information relevant to the number of licensed dogs and number of cats other communities allow. City Attorney Katherine Kenison provided definitions for hobby kennels and commercial kennels. She also provided ordinance language on how to accommodate the existing households that currently have more than three licensed dogs. Council's consensus was to consider an ordinance to limit licensing to three dogs and agreed with the Attorney's recommendation about allowing the existing licensed dogs. Mr. Sheldon advised that other cities have defined hobby kennels as an allowed use in residential zones. This is for small, noncommercial kennels that adjoin a private residence where dogs and/or cats are kept and bred for hunting, etc. for enjoyment and are operated by a person who breeds no more than three litters per calendar year or who breeds specific breeds for the betterment of the breed. He stated that a commercial kennel is defined where dogs and/or cats are for sale or received for care, training and/or boarding for compensation. This could be allowed as a permitted use in a residential zone, if our code was revised. Mr. Sheldon advised that Council had recently put a moratorium on not allowing licensing more than two dogs, if they were not licensed last year. They allowed citizens to relicense more than two dogs if they were licensed last year. Council's consensus was to change our code to allow licensing three dogs and agreed to the proposed language about grandfathering in the previously licensed dogs over the number of three. Council also agreed to change the code to require licensing puppies from four months of age to twelve weeks old and made suggestions to the proposed definitions for hobby kennels and commercial kennels. Councilmember Spohr suggested the language be changed to allow two litters per calendar year for a hobby kennel. Mayor Wilson asked for citizen input. Comments were received from Arnette Hunter, 1221 E. Juniper. She asked if the City would license or permit hobby kennels. She also asked that Council allow her to breed and sell dogs from her home. Council's consensus was to allow Ms. Hunter to breed and sell puppies from her home, if she met all requirements of a hobby kennel. Mr. Ken Simmons asked if Council would allow citizens to foster dogs for a temporary basis without having to license the dogs they are fostering. It was suggested that the City issue a special short-term fostering permit for up to two per household, linking those situations with the Pet Rescue program. Chuck Koepke, 1245 E. Cedar, spoke to the Council on several issues. The Council considered the issue of someone moving into Othello and having more than three licensed dogs, they should comply with the city's licensing code.

REVIEW SEWER AGREEMENT WITH ADAMS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT #1

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon reported that the City and Adams County Water District #1 (ACWD#1) entered into a sewer agreement in 1984, for a term of 99 years. He stated that they are legally a sewer district. ACWD#1 is still working on the process to expand their boundaries. The water agreement with ACWD#1 has been amended to recognize the boundary expansion. ACWD#1 will hold a public hearing tomorrow night to consider the boundary expansion. He presented the proposals for an amendment to the sewer agreement. Mr. Sheldon advised that if ACWD#1 ever defaults, it will become the responsibility of Adams County. Adams County could then turn it over to the City. With the ACWD#1 holding their public hearing tomorrow night there can then be discussions about when the billing transition will occur.

ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP DAYS PROCLAMATION

Mayor Wilson read into the record the proclamation.

RAPID RESPONDER PROGRAM

Police Chief Steve Dunnagan explained that a national concern arose from the Columbine High School shooting of future shootings at public facilities. The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs contracted for a software mapping program, which depicts every school in the state. This will provide critical information to emergency responders. Chief Dunnagan provided a demonstration of the Rapid Responder software program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Wilson reported that the Department of Transportation is reviewing completion of the intersection of Hwy 26 and 1st Avenue.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Wilson made the following announcements:

- The Young Life banquet has not been scheduled yet.
- ACWD#1 is holding a public hearing on March 8th starting at 5:30 p.m. regarding their boundary line expansion. This will be held in the Council Chambers.
- The Adams County Mayors' luncheon is set for March 9th at noon at the Othello Senior Center.
- ACDC is meeting March 10th in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m.
- The Booker Auction is March 12th.
- A Pool Committee meeting is set for March 15th at noon at City Hall.
- A Beautification Committee meeting is set for March 15th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Wilson adjourned the workshop at 8:11 p.m.

By: _____
TIM WILSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk