

City of Othello
Regular Council Meeting
March 27, 2000

Mayor E R Kelley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Leonard Lyon, Eleanor Brodahl, Les Clemons, Everett Cole, Donald Derifield, Jeannie Ochoa and Kenneth Johnson. Also present were: Curt Andrews, Debra Travis and Debbie Kudrna, City Department Heads; William Shaw, City Administrator and James Whitaker, City Attorney.

Council Member Jeannie Ochoa led the opening invocation and Mayor Kelley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council carried a motion to approve the agenda as presented. M/S Ochoa/Cole.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes of March 13, 2000.

Council carried a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. M/S Johnson/Clemons.

SECOND PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ZONE REQUEST AND ANNEXATION REQUEST FILED BY ROSS & FRAN WEIBLE

The second Public Hearing to receive staff and public in-put about the proposed zone and annexation request filed by Ross & Fran Weible was opened by Mayor Kelley at 7:04 p.m. Mayor Kelley asked that anyone who had an objection to his participation or any other Council Members participation, to state so and to give the reason for the objection. There was none heard. Mayor Kelley asked if any Council Member had an interest in the property or issue. There was none heard. Mayor Kelley asked if the Council Members could hear and consider the matter in a fair and objective manner. The Council Members agreed. Mayor Kelley asked for the Council Members to place on the record the substance of any communication they may have had outside of the Public Hearing with opponents or proponents on the issue to be heard. There was none heard. Mayor Kelley asked the City Staff to present exhibits and report on the proposed zone and annexation request.

Debbie Kudrna, City Clerk entered the following exhibits into the Public Hearing record:

- Exhibit 1: A copy of the notice of tonight's Public Hearing, which was published March 8th, 2000 in the legal section of the Othello Outlook. It was also sent to all property owners within 300 feet of the proposed area and posted in three locations of the proposed annexation property.
- Exhibit 2: A copy of a memorandum from the Adams County Assessor's Office, which determined that within the modified proposed annexation, Ross & Fran Weible still owned at least 60% of the property.
- Exhibit 3: A copy of the property description and map of the proposed area.

Building Official, Curt Andrews reviewed the modified annexation area, which included a non-annexed piece of property east of the Rama Inn, which has not been annexed into the city limits. The Weible's request is for zoning the area as Commercial 1, which is compatible with the surrounding area and the current zoning map.

Mayor Kelley asked for any public testimonies, questions, objections or protests to be heard from citizens. There was none heard. Therefore, Mayor Kelley closed the public

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testimony portion of the Public Hearing. There were no further questions from the Council and no further comments from the City Staff. Mayor Kelley closed the Public Hearing at 7:09 p.m.

ORDINANCE TO ANNEX THE WEIBLE PROPERTY

Council carried a motion to adopt AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE CITY, PURSUANT TO THE PETITION METHOD, ASSIGNING A ZONE CLASSIFICATION AND PROVIDING FOR THE ASSUMPTION OF EXISTING CITY INDEBTEDNESS. This shall be known as Ordinance No. 1053. M/S Derifield/Ochoa.

COUNCIL RECEIVES THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION ON THE REZONE NORTH OF OLYMPIA

Curt Andrews presented the Planning Commission's Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Decision in the matter of the Olympia Street rezone. The Planning Commission recommended that the Othello City Council approve a Residential-2 zone for the area 1,000 feet north of Olympia Street, except for that portion described as Residential-1 zone located in the southeast corner measuring approximately 600 feet by 1,800 feet, and non-residential uses west of 7th Avenue above a diagonal line starting 1,000 feet north of Olympia Street, running southwest to a point 350 feet north of Olympia on 4th Avenue extended. He showed a 750-foot buffer between the Residential and Industrial uses.

SET PUBLIC HEARING ON THE REZONE NORTH OF OLYMPIA FOR APRIL 10, 2000

Council carried a motion to set a Public Hearing on the rezone north of Olympia for April 10th, 2000 during the Regular Council Meeting. M/S Cole/Clemons.

COUNCIL APPROVAL OF CONDITIONAL BUILDING PERMIT FOR COLUMBIA COLSTOR

Curt Andrews explained that in order for the City to issue a Building Permit on unplattd land prior to approval of the final plat, the Council would have to approve the issuance of a conditional Building Permit. Columbia Colstor is asking for the Building Permit for the Warehouse portion of the building only at this time. He noted all preliminary plat issues have been taken care of and requested the Council allow the Building Permit.

Council carried a motion to allow the issuance of a Building Permit for the Warehouse portion of the building only to Columbia Colstor prior to the final plat approval. M/S Clemons/Johnson.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT DONATION FROM YOLANDA AND ANGEL GARZA

Council Member Cole explained that Angel and Yolanda Garza are now the legal owners of a lot located in the United Industrial Park and became the owners of some basalt columns when they purchased the property. The basalt columns were obtained and owned by private property owners for a long time. The Garza's have agreed to donate to the City of Othello the basalt columns to be used in a display on the City Hall site. Mr. Garza has requested a plaque designating his donation. Council Member Cole briefly described ideas for displaying the basalt columns.

Council carried a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION FROM ANGEL AND YOLANDA GARZA. M/S Clemons/Johnson. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2000-04.

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MID COLUMBIA LIBRARY DISTRICT – JEANNIE OCHOA

Council Member Ochoa reported that she had met with the County Commissioners and they have reported that they will no longer contribute to the City for the Mid Columbia Library District. The County Commissioners do support the idea of a Library District but due to budget constraints are no longer able to contribute after December, 2000. Council Member Ochoa invited everyone to attend an open meeting at the Library on Wednesday, March 29, 2000 at 12:00 p.m. regarding the Library issue. Council Member Ochoa requested that the Council approve a letter to be written to the Mid Columbia Library District, which would cancel the contract in twelve months. The letter would include the City's intention to continue a similar contract term if the voters approve the Library District concept.

Council Member Ochoa reported that she had researched and found two grants that can be used for Library funding, although the deadline for the grant application is at the end of April. She reported that she has researched investing our funds into books and inventory, cost of computer system purchase and formation of a new separate Library District. Mrs. Ochoa explained to the Council that the Library District formation included \$5.90 Tax Limit Rule. Council Member Ochoa explained the impact of the Tax Limit Rule and how it would effect the Cemetery Funding, with the possibility of the City entering into a contract with the Cemetery Board regarding continuance of their levy collections.

Mr. Shaw, City Administrator voiced some concerns of what the Mid Columbia Library fee would be if the County wasn't included. He also mentioned Carolyn Riddle's letter to the editor last week about why the City had originally joined the Mid Columbia Library District and the need for continued books and journals because not all of our citizens are computer literate.

Council Member Lyon requested that the City look into charging a fee to county users and what that effect would be. Mrs. Ochoa noted that the fee might not be a solution for generating enough funding to cover the cost of what will be needed by not having the County's support.

Council did not take any action on this agenda item and will discuss it at the next Workshop.

FREE DUMP DAY FOR LAWN DEBRIS – APRIL 15, 2000

The City Clerk, Debbie Kudrna announced that the free dump day for lawn debris has been set for April 15, 2000, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Adams County Transfer Station on Lucy Road. Consolidated Disposal will have extra personnel for the day and Regional Rabanco Disposal Services has agreed to provide two trailers with the first 25 tons in each trailer being at no charge.

RE-APPOINT DAN LEARY TO OTHELLO HOUSING AUTHORITY

Mayor Kelley re-appointed Dan Leary to the Othello Housing Authority for an additional five-year term.

RE-APPOINT EVERETT COLE TO ADAMS COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT

Mayor Kelley re-appointed Everett Cole for an additional two-year term on the Adams County Mosquito Control Board.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill Shaw, City Administrator reported that Debbie Sanchez has been appointed as the Pool Manager. A meeting was held last week with Public Works to discuss pool issues. They suggested purchasing an automatic pool cleaner at approximately \$2,600.00.

Council's consensus was to approve the purchase of the automatic pool cleaner and noted that they would have to amend the budget at a later date.

Bill Shaw announced that the City was successful of obtaining a grant in the amount of \$736,000.00 from the Rural Economic Vitalization. He explained that this is almost 80% of the Lee Road Project. The remaining amount of the project will be paid by Columbia Colstor, with only a small portion of the project to be paid by the City. This will include: two lanes from Lee Road to 7th Avenue, turning lanes at Lee Road and Broadway Avenue and Highway 17 and Lee Road, and will include some overlay work.

Curt Andrews requested approval of submitting a grant application for a Grass Roots Economic Evaluation and Planning Grant for professional services in the amount of \$20,000.00. This would be used to assist and help organize an Economic Development Group to help us face planning challenges. He noted that there will be some steps taken in the visioning process, which will include: a "feeling for the City;" quality of life issues; and how to revitalize the Downtown Retail Sales Area. The grant requires a match of \$5,000.00 and a unified citywide support of economic growth.

City Attorney, James Whitaker reviewed the recent changes in the use of the Hotel/Motel Funding. The funding now can be used for promotion and advertising of all tourism events including private events such as, The Pepsi Challenge. He explained that if 20% of the \$20,000.00 project is going to be on promoting Othello, the money from the Hotel/Motel Fund could be used, if approved by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

Council's consensus was to apply for the funding.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Cole presented a logo, which was developed from the Interior Decorating Committee. Some concerns were voiced about needing to incorporate farming cultures and referred the project back to the committee.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Kelley adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

E R KELLEY, Mayor

ATTEST:

DEBBIE L KUDRNA, City Clerk