

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Shawn Logan called the workshop to order at 7:00 p.m. and Councilmember Johnson led an invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Shawn Logan; Councilmembers: Eugene Bain, Corey Everett, Genna Dorow, Angel Garza, Kenneth Johnson, John Lallas, and Mark Snyder.

Also Present: City Administrator Wade Farris; Department Heads: Public Works Director Terry Clements, Police Chief Phil Schenck, Finance Officer Spencer Williams, Community Development Director Travis Goddard, and City Clerk Debbie Kudrna.

CITIZEN INPUT

There was none.

STEPHEN MCFADDEN – THE BOYD COMPANY UPDATE

Stephen McFadden, Adams County Economic Development Director gave a summary update of the Boyd Company report. The project was a necessary step for industrial growth in Adams County. He reviewed the overall objectives of the project, which the City of Othello provided funding for. The Boyd Company found that Adams County was one of the most affordable sites for industrial businesses from their comparables. Mr. McFadden gave an overview of the process completed by The Boyd Company. He reviewed the key strengths and challenges of Adams County discovered by the analysis. He reviewed the proposed industrial targets discovered by the analysis. Mr. McFadden asked which of the industrial targets the Council would want a cost analysis performed. He reviewed the next steps for the project which includes selecting one of the recommended industry sectors, create a clear vision and labor analysis and to develop, rehearse and implement a proven site selector process for Adams County and/or specific sites of the Port. Mr. McFadden noted that Adams County will fund the next cost comparative studies. He explained how The Boyd Company is outreaching to industries and legislative support to promote Adams County.

Mayor Logan advised the steps and projects the City of Othello is doing for economic development. Mr. McFadden advised that he is developing a list of potential property that could be used for development in Adams County.

Council's consensus was to pursue the food and beverage processing industry.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS

Public Works Director Terry Clements gave an update on the following projects:

Well #6 Repair: the well has been removed and they found some deficiencies. The well shafts and bowls will need to be repaired or replaced and they are looking at options. A video tape of the well is being worked on.

Well #9 Transmission Line: most of the pipe has been installed and they are still working on the line under Hwy 17. Water testing is being conducted and the sewer forced main has been installed. They are still working on the water issue with DOE. They are working on the plans for construction of the well house. Change orders will be presented to Council next week for consideration.

Concrete Drive: is almost complete and the irrigation line has been replaced. A change order will be presented to Council next week for consideration.

Mr. Farris advised that he will contact Gray & Osborne to request to have a representative at the next meeting to discuss the change orders.

CODE COMPLIANCE DISCUSSION

City Administrator Wade Farris explained that the City of Othello has numerous non-compliant structures occupied by renters within the City limits. The Code Compliance committee has met with staff to review

the code compliance issues. The committee and staff believe the majority of these non-compliant structures do not comply with safety and fire codes.

Mr. Farris advised that the current codes do not give the City many options; however we do have a few codes to enforce some of the issues. At the last Code Compliance Committee meeting, the group decided to bring the issues to the full Council. They found the main issue is non-compliant structures and he reviewed the steps for an action plan to move forward.

Councilmember Lallas advised that we need to get prepared to tackle the non-compliant structures. This includes getting property owners to volunteer to get their structures up to code; publicize the issues to our community and noted that there are other agencies who provide for relocating residents when structures are not brought up to code. City Attorney advised that we can review the current codes and give Council options for updating our codes and assure that occupants are treated fairly in the process. He noted there are other city codes that we can utilize to update our codes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There was none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Logan reminded Council to complete their OFM annual reports. Community Development Director Travis Goddard advised that a housing survey has been developed in English and Spanish and will be distributed. He is developing a list of email addresses for surveys to be distributed. He anticipates to receive at least 200 completed surveys. Finance Officer Spencer Williams presented a cost tracker that shows staff and attorney costs reported for time spent on public disclosure requests since November, 2011. Council asked that this information be provided quarterly.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Garza noted that since we're looking at beautifying Othello, the walk path area (between the walk path and Wal*Mart) has many weeds growing and asked who should be taking care of this property. Mayor Logan asked that Code Enforcement look into the issue. It was suggested that Councilmember Garza and Lallas talk to the property owner about maintaining this property.

Executive Session – Potential Litigation

Mayor Logan announced that the Council will now adjourn at 8:43 p.m. to go into an executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to litigation or potential litigation. He stated they expect the executive session to be 20 minutes. He announced that there would be no action taken by the Council after the executive session. Mayor Logan reconvened the Council Workshop at 9:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Logan adjourned the workshop at 9:05 p.m.

By: _____
SHAWN LOGAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk