

Mayor E R Kelley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Everett Cole, Les Clemons, Leonard Lyon, Donald Derifield, Jeannie Ochoa and Kenneth Johnson. Absent without a cause was Eleanor Brodahl. Also present were: Debra Travis, Curt Andrews, Debbie Kudrna and Reuel Klempel, City Department Heads; William Shaw, City Administrator; and James Whitaker, City Attorney.

Council Member Leonard Lyon led the opening invocation and Mayor Kelley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN IN-PUT

Inez Freeman, Librarian of the Othello Branch of the Mid-Columbia Library District, presented an unofficial petition supporting continued operation of the Othello Library as a branch of the Mid-Columbia Library District, which was signed by 297 library users. Copies of this unofficial petition will be given to the Council for review. Miss Freeman noted that this unofficial petition had been presented to the Adams County Commissioners.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes of April 10th, 2000.

Council carried a motion to approve the consent agenda with corrections to the minutes as explained by the City Clerk. M/S Cole/Derifield.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR OTHELLO NAZARENE CHURCH

Building Official, Curt Andrews explained that the Nazarene Church has requested an Expanded Conditional Use Permit. This is to occupy a single-family dwelling located at 905 E Ash to be used for their offices. The Church and the residential dwelling are located in an R-4 zone. Council Member Cole abstained from the discussion and vote of this issue. Mr. Andrews noted that the Planning Commission had held a public hearing to consider the request for the expanded conditional use and received no citizen in-put and the Planning Commission does recommend approval of the request. The Planning Commission's Findings of Facts, Conclusions and Decision were presented to the Council with an addition to Findings of Facts; 2.1.7 Attach conditional use to church, not the property.

Council carried a motion to issue the Expanded Conditional Use Permit to the Nazarene Church for location of their offices at 905 E Ash Street. M/S Clemons/Johnson.

FARMER'S MARKET AGREEMENT

City Clerk, Debbie Kudrna presented the Farmer's Market Agreement between the City and the Senior Citizens Organization for operation of the Farmer's Market each Saturday from May 20th through October 28th, 2000.

Council carried a motion to authorize execution of the Farmer's Market Agreement with the Othello Senior Citizens Organization. M/S Cole/Clemons.

APPROVAL OF COLUMBIA COLSTOR FINAL PLAT

Bill Shaw, City Administrator explained the Council had received a copy of the site plan and Columbia Colstor plat layout. Most of the platting issues have been resolved. The majority of the entities, excluding the City Administrator have signed the plat. Mr. Shaw noted that the signed covenant has not been received for the deferred infrastructure improvements, as was earlier discussed by the Council. The covenant is being reviewed by the landowner, P.J. Taggares Co. and discussed with Columbia Colstor at this time. Mr. Shaw asked that Council approve the Colstor Plat #1 conditioned upon receiving the fully signed covenant. City Attorney, James Whitaker explained that the City has a plat process to bring land up to development status. Colstor has completed that platting process and they can still choose to build, bond or defer the infrastructure development by a covenant for the plat, once it is approved.

Council carried a motion to approve the Columbia Colstor final Plat #1 as presented, subject to delivery of the fully signed covenant for deferred infrastructure. M/S Derifield/Cole.

RESOLUTION AMENDING CITY OF OTHELLO'S SIX-YEAR STREET PLAN – 2000-2005

The Council was presented with an amendment to the previously adopted Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program. This amendment included five additional projects to be attached to the previously adopted program.

Council carried a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CITY OF OTHELLO'S SIX-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE YEARS 2000-2005. M/S Lyon/Clemons.

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE WSDOT GRANT AGREEMENT AND PROJECT PROSPECTUS

Mr. Shaw explained that the local agency agreement and project prospectus submitted by the Washington State Department of Transportation commit the City to the grant funding that was received for the Lee Road and McManamon Road projects. The federal funds received were \$735,780.00 and Columbia Colstor and the city will share the local agency funding. The City had estimated and budgeted approximately \$50,000.00 towards the project. Mr. Shaw explained that a meeting is set for July with WSDOT to discuss the project in full, noting that no money can be reimbursed for the project until late October or November of this year. He expects that the for the project could be let in February 2001 with construction possibly being completed by July 2001.

Council carried a motion to authorize execution of the Local Agency Agreement and Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus submitted by the Washington State Department of Transportation for the grant funding. M/S Ochoa/Johnson.

FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE

The Mayor appointed the following Council Members on a committee to review the feasibility of combining the City and County Fire Departments: Donald Derifield, Kenneth Johnson and Eleanor Brodahl. He requested that this committee meet with the Fire Commission to begin these discussions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The City Clerk reported on the free dump day for lawn debris and vegetation. A total of 77,100 pounds of lawn debris and vegetation were taken free at no charge during the one-day event. There were a total of 169 total customers, which 152 of them were allowed free dumping. The attendant reported that they had a customer every 2.8 minutes and the Landfill tipping fee that was waived for the day, totaled \$2,129.47.

Council Member Ochoa reported that a meeting has been set for May 2nd at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall to discuss the legal issues of the formation of a Library District. This Library District would be a county formation including the issue being voted on by county residents only.

Mr. Shaw discussed with the Council the annexation request presented by Dick Wells in December of 1999 of an area south of the Bench Road and Highway 24 intersection. Council had requested information regarding sufficient water to accommodate the recently rezoned residential area north of Olympia Street, the Buck Residential area and this new request from Dick Wells. Mr. Shaw explained that there is a potential of 200 homes from all three areas, although these would be built in a slow, progressive manner. There was discussion regarding the opposition of adjacent property owners south of Bench Road to the annexation request. Since that time, Mr. Wells has changed some of the area to be included in his annexation, which now includes the Trailer Park south of Bench and Highway 24 and there seems to be no strong oppositions to the annexation. A discussion was held regarding the need for additional wells and it was clarified that the general facility charges that are collected for new connections is being accumulated in a fund for future wells and infrastructure. Mr. Shaw announced that the City is continuing discussions with the Irrigation District regarding use of municipal and industrial water for irrigation uses for new developments. They also discussed sealing Well #6 and the need to drill two additional well's to replace the production of Well #6. Mr. Shaw stated that the recently adopted block rate may encourage water rationing; the industrial plants are working on water conservation; and the discussions with the Irrigation District regarding water rights for irrigation purposes for new developments may reduce the production needs of the City as a whole. Mr. Andrews reported that the Department of Ecology is still in the process of reviewing our water-rights issue. He stated that the City will need to find a funding source to seal Well #6 but with the general facility charge, every 200 new homes will fund a new well. Issues concerning continued use of wells in the proposed annexed area will need to be further discussed with the developer.

Mr. Andrew's stated that traffic engineering does not justify a stop signal light at Bench Road and Highway 24 at this time, although residents in the area are pressuring the County to install a light to help with the congestion. If the City annexes that intersection, this discussion and citizen pressure will be placed upon the City.

Council member Lyon was still concerned about having sufficient water for the residential currently within the city limits and residential lots in the proposed annexation and enough water to attract future industries that may be heavy water users.

NEW BUSINESS

City Clerk, Debbie Kudrna announced that the National Day of Prayer is scheduled for May 4th, 2000. The schedule of events was published in the Othello Outlook.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – POSSIBLE LITIGATION

Mayor Kelley adjourned the regular Council Meeting to enter into an Executive Session regarding possible litigation at 8:10 p.m. for approximately 30 minutes. Council reconvened at 8:44 p.m.

AMENDMENTS TO PERSONNEL POLICY

The City Council reviewed two proposed amendments to the City Personnel Policy regarding Chapter 2.2 Hours of Work and Overtime and Chapter 4.7 Compensation Upon Termination.

Council carried a motion to adopt both changes to the City Personnel Policy and added a sentence to the end of 4.7 Compensation Upon Termination: “Nothing in this item is intended to supersede any condition covered by any Bargaining Unit Agreement.” M/S Ochoa/Derifield.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Kelley adjourned the Regular City Council meeting at 8:45 p.m.

E R KELLEY, Mayor

ATTEST:

DEBBIE L KUDRNA, City Clerk