

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

Present: Councilmembers Larry Bray, Eleanor Brodahl, Everett Cole, Kenneth Johnson, Shannon McKay, and Tim Wilson.

Also Present: Department Heads: Curt Andrews, Police Chief Ron Axtman, Debbie Kudrna, Dick Lee, Rhonda Miller; City Administrator Ehman Sheldon; and City Attorney James Whitaker.

Absent was: Councilmember Marc Spohr.

Mayor Sanders presented Chief Ron Axtman with a community service pin. She shared a list of his accomplishments from the last four years and stated it has been an honor and pleasure to work with Chief Axtman.

**OATH OF OFFICE GIVEN TO POLICE OFFICER JERRY FERNANDEZ AND RESERVE POLICE OFFICER MARIO MARTINEZ**

Chief Axtman administered the oath of office to new Police Officer Jerry Fernandez and Reserve Officer Mario Martinez and gave a report of their credentials and experience.

Mayor Sanders welcomed Civil Service Commissioner Roy Dodge to the workshop.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT REVIEW**

Presentations were presented by Art O'Neal, Art O'Neal and Associates; and Michael Erp and Kay Kelsey Gray, Western Regional Institute for Community Oriented Public Safety (WRICOPS) relative to a police department organizational review. Mr. O'Neal presented his "Team Effectiveness Model" and explained his process for conducting interviews and assessments within the Department. He will also interview Councilmembers, along with all Police Department employees and will provide a summary, conclusion and recommendation to the Chief and Council. His charges are \$1,000 per day, plus travel and estimates 4-5 days to complete the assessment. He reported he could begin as early as next week.

Kay Kelsey Gray of WRICOPS explained their mission and vision and stated that they are a federally funded program. Mr. Erp explained the difference of community oriented and traditional policing and noted they use the community oriented policing approach, a proactive technique, which involves partnerships within the community. Ms. Gray explained that they will interview employees, local government and community members, members of civic organizations, youth, and others in the community in order to build a mirror image for the department and Council to review how others see their roles in the community. She advised that they will perform their assessment at no charge to the City and could begin in May or June and be able to implement their technical assistance shortly thereafter.

**REVIEW OF TOURISM FUNDING POLICY**

Mayor Sanders explained what the role of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) is and noted that they have been asked to do more than what their statutory function is. The LTAC has been tasked to review the tourism funding requests and forwards recommendations to the Council for appropriations of the funds. She asked if another committee, other than the LTAC, should be selected to review the tourism funding requests. City Administrator Ehman Sheldon and Finance Officer Rhonda Miller provided an overview of the tourism funding process. Mr. Sheldon further explained the statutory uses of the funds and the LTAC committee structure. The Finance Officer provided a review of past requests and allocation of tourism funding.

Councilmember Wilson explained how the LTAC processed the applications and noted that a committee member was not allowed to vote on their organization's requests. He advised that the committee also took into account the Motel manager's reports of what community events impact their businesses positively. Mr. Sheldon provided a draft Hotel/Motel Funding Policy and further discussion was held. City Attorney James Whitaker advised that the LTAC should not be making

City of Othello  
Council Workshop  
April 4, 2005

the recommendations for allocations of the tourism funding. Council consensus was to set a limit of annual available funding as proposed by staff and to create a new committee to review tourism applications.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Jeannie L. Sanders adjourned the workshop at 9:04 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

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