

City of Othello
Council Workshop
May 3, 2004

CALL TO ORDER:

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

Present: Mayor Jeannie Sanders, Councilmembers Eleanor Brodahl, Everett Cole, Kenneth Johnson, Shannon McKay, Marc Spohr, and Tim Wilson.

Absent: Councilmember Larry Bray.

Also Present: Department Heads: Curt Andrews, Police Chief Ron Axtman, Debbie Kudrna, Dick Lee, Rhonda Miller; and Adams County Fire District #5 Chief Clyde Fought.

RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEERS - JACOB AND RAUN JENSEN

Mayor Sanders presented certificates and ball caps to citizens Raun and Jacob Jensen and thanked them for their assistance in locking the restrooms in Kiwanis Park last summer. They were instrumental in deterring vandalism at the restrooms and very helpful to the Othello Police Department. She mentioned that Shawna and Raul Flores also unlocked the restrooms in Lions Park last year for the City and thanked them for their assistance (they did not want to be officially recognized for this service).

CLAIR WEEKS' SAFETY/CLEAN UP PROJECT

Clair Weeks was not present at the meeting. Mayor Sanders explained that Mr. Weeks has decided to help clean up the Modern Trailer Court property. He would like a fence built along the 1st Avenue side of the trailer court and has offered to organize a clean up of the property. He has obtained \$500 and labor and equipment from Richard Mollotte and hopes that other volunteers will pitch in. The Mayor stated that the Planning Department has sent a letter to the property owner regarding erecting a chain link fence. The letter indicated that the property owner is willing to complete this project.

Councilmember Cole cautioned the Mayor of appropriating City funding or labor on private property and advised that permission should be obtained from the property owner prior to volunteers entering upon private property.

“NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER” PROCLAMATION

Mayor Sanders read into the record the “National Day of Prayer” Proclamation, set for May 6, 2004.

2004 SIDEWALK PROJECT

Public Works Director, Dick Lee discussed with the City Council whether to replace the damaged sidewalk in front of City Hall. Mr. Lee estimated replacement of the damaged sidewalk section, the embossed red ramp area and the handicap ramps to be approximately \$12,500. He gave an explanation of the condition of the sidewalk, as how it has been explained to him. His recommendation was to replace at least the embossed platform and handicap ramps. Mr. Lee stated that a concrete contractor has explained to him that it may be more costly to resurface the damaged sidewalk area than to remove and replace it.

It was the consensus of a majority of the Council to power wash and seal the damaged sidewalk and replace the embossed red ramp area and handicap ramps.

TOWING CONTRACT WITH OSCAR’S TOWING

Chief Axtman presented a draft contract for towing service with Oscar’s Towing. He explained that he had advertised for RFQ’s for towing service for the City, and had received only one (Oscar’s Towing). He noted that the contract sets the procedure in which the city removes vehicles from right-of-ways and establishes a fee schedule for certain tows. The contract provided a charge of \$40 for towing city vehicles and other vehicles as requested by the Othello Police Department. Councilmember Johnson noted an error in the contract, which will be changed and reviewed by Mr. Oscar Garza.

City of Othello
Council Workshop
May 3, 2004

DANCE PERMIT PROCESS

Chief Axtman explained the problems at recent events held in the Akins rental building. Namely, having alcohol at events that many underage people attend. He has discussed the issue with Steve Baxter, manager of Akins, the security officers, and the State of Washington Liquor Control Board. Mr. Baxter has decided to restrict the presence of alcohol at the Akins Building during Quinceñeras and make it mandatory to have two off-duty officers to assist security personnel during wedding celebrations and restrict alcohol in the building after 9:30 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilmember Spohr asked to have a tour of the firing range during a time that the Police Department is having an exercise or practice.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Cole suggested that the City declare the caboose as surplus and advertise it for sale. Mayor Sanders stated that she wants to keep it in the community, or donate it to a civic organization, or place it out at the fairgrounds.

ADAMS COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA DEMONSTRATION

Adams County Fire Chief Fought gave a demonstration of the two thermal imaging cameras.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Jeannie L. Sanders adjourned the workshop at 8:00 p.m.

By: _____
JEANNIE L. SANDERS, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk