

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Tim Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Tim Wilson; Councilmembers: Ken Caylor, Dan Dever, Genna Dorow, Kenneth Johnson, Mark Snyder, and Marc Spohr.
Also Present: City Administrator Ehman Sheldon; Department Heads: Finance Officer Mike Bailey, Public Works Supervisor Terry Clements, Police Chief Steven Dunnagan; Deputy City Clerk Rebecca Dover, and City Planner Darryl Piercy.
Absent: Councilmember Charles Garcia.

DOT PRESENTATION REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS AT 1ST AVENUE AND SR 26

Mr. Bob Romine presented the Council with options in regards to stage 2 of the improvements at 1st Avenue and SR 26. He noted that there have been many accidents at the intersection and explained how the changes will minimize risks. A major change will be to the cross traffic, which will include raised islands and no straight-a-way crossing on SR 26. Other improvements within the project include sidewalks at Wahluke Street, no parking along 1st Avenue, and widening for truck turning along several streets to prevent truck encroachment into other lanes. There was discussion regarding the impact to businesses at Wahluke, and Mr. Romine addressed them accordingly. He stated that Scooteny Street is not a good option due to the apartments. Councilmembers Spohr and Caylor stated concerns of truck traffic on 1st Avenue, minimizing it to Wahluke Street; not Scooteny Street. Mr. Lee Lashaw representing Binger's and The 76 Station, asked for clarification on 1st Avenue regarding the change to one lane in regards to customers exiting the businesses heading north onto 1st Avenue. Mr. Romine addressed his questions and noted that the plan can be modified. There were questions regarding a round-a-bout at SR 26 & 1st Avenue. Mr. Romine stated that it is not feasible due to site and reaction time of motorists. He anticipates it will take about a month to modify the current plan with the requested changes and comments.

RESIDENTIAL PARKING CODE MODIFICATIONS

City Planner Darryl Piercy presented pictures of existing front yards that depict code compliance problems. He identified four neighborhoods that are outside the current code's ability for enforcement. Mr. Piercy explained that each of the photos would be followed by a potential solution of code language that can be used for adoption. He began with a photo of cars being parked on front lawns, noting this is a frequent occurrence. He asked if the Council's intentions are to address the issue of cars parking on lawns. There was discussion regarding concerns of implementing restrictions upon personal property, and that the City should continue to work with citizens rather than restricting them via codes. Mr. Piercy then confirmed the Council's decision to bring this issue back for further deliberation.

Mr. Piercy next brought about the concern of recreational vehicle (RV) parking. He stated that there are several neighborhoods where RVs are being parked in the driveway. This in turn creates the problem of no room being left to park vehicles, therefore having to park them on the city street. There was no support from Council to further pursue this issue.

Another issue brought forth by Mr. Piercy was multiple vehicles parking upon driveways. The new communities and new developments are restricted to no more than 3 vehicles parking in a driveway and sidewalks cannot be blocked. The question before the Council is how many vehicles should be allowed to park in a driveway. Council discussed the options presented, and Council agreed that there is no need to pursue this issue.

Mr. Piercy provided examples of unsightly large commercial vehicles parking upon private property, such as buses or work vehicles. He asked Council if this is another concern that needs to be addressed. The Council's consensus is to not impose any codes to this issue. He then moved on to nonconforming lots. Mr. Piercy recommended that owners of lots which become nonconforming as a result of new code requirements shall have 90 days from the effective date of this ordinance to bring their property onto compliance. Discussion was held. It was decided that Mr. Piercy return with a proposal, to include modifications to the code, at the June 27th meeting.

ORDINANCE TO ALLOW FOR ELECTRICAL VEHICLE CHARGING IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES

City Planner Darryl Piercy advised that in 2009 Washington State passed a law that requires local government to develop regulations allowing electric vehicle charging stations in all zones with exceptions. He stated that Othello will be required to allow battery charging stations by July 1, 2011, to be in compliance.

CONSOLIDATED DISPOSAL SERVICE INC. BIENNIAL CPI RATE ADJUSTMENT

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon reported that the City and Consolidated Disposal Services, Inc. has requested a biennial CPI rate increase. This is the 8th contract since 1994. It puts in place a 2.1% increase which is the average of the past 2 years, which is a cost to the City. Mr. Sheldon reported that the first City garbage rate increase was adopted in 2004, which provided a three-year, 6% per year rate increase for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Councilmember Caylor, on behalf of the SWAC committee summarizing their efforts and noting that they anticipate the landfill tipping fee will be lowered. Mr. Sheldon recommended that Council approve the 8th contract amendment with CDSI at their next regular council meeting and not increase the garbage rates charged to our citizens.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE USE OF LIONS PARK – OTHELLO SCHOOL DISTRICT SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon explained that the Othello School District (OSD) received state funding for a summer food program and they have requested use of Lions Park shelter #1 as part of their summer food program. Their lunch program will be held Monday thru Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. June 16th to July 21st. The School District will haul away their garbage. They have requested a parking stall for their vehicle and will have 2 supervisors on site. The children will not be bused in by the school district they will be walk-ins or dropped off. Mr. Sheldon recommended that Council waive the park shelter fee for the summer food program and approve the resolution authorizing use of City property for the Othello School District summer food program at the next Council meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERS SHARE INFORMATION

Councilmember Caylor spoke on behalf of the Coulee Corridor. He distributed maps and brochures to the Council and provided extras for the public.

Councilmember Johnson stated that a pool meeting was recently held and that they will have a proposal regarding concession fees for the Council at the next meeting. Training was held today at the pool and that the swim team will be using the pool this week. He noted that the pool opens on June 11th.

Councilmember Caylor announced that there is an ACDC meeting this Thursday, June 9th at 6 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilmember Spohr asked for confirmation whether a handicap ramp had been posted at the museum. Councilmember Caylor confirmed its installation.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Spohr asked if new basketball court was to have new lights installed with the lighting project. Staff will follow up for verification.

Councilmember Spohr stated concerns of private windmills for electric power. He suggested that this be addressed by Council prior to it becoming an issue. Council requested it be brought back with recommendations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PROPERTY PURCHASE

Mayor Wilson called for an executive session at 8:36 p.m. to discuss property purchase. He estimated that the executive session would last approximately 20 minutes.

Mayor Wilson reconvened the Council Workshop at 8:53 p.m.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Wilson made the following announcements:

- The Adams County Regional Mayor's Luncheon is this Wednesday, June 8, 2011 at noon at the Othello Senior Center. Sherri Brewer, Adams County Assessor, will be the featured speaker.
- The Mayor stated that he will not be at the June 13, 2011 Council meeting; Mayor Pro Tem Ken Johnson will conduct the meeting.
- This is filing week for elected positions. Anyone can file online at the County website, in Ritzville, by fax or mail. City Hall and the County have the paperwork.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Wilson adjourned the workshop at 8:55 p.m.

By: _____
TIM WILSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
REBECCA DOVER, Deputy City Clerk