

City of Othello  
Regular Council Meeting  
June 22, 2009

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor McKay called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Shannon McKay, Councilmembers: Eleanor Brodahl, Ken Caylor, Dan Dever, Kenneth Johnson, Mark Snyder, and Marc Spohr.

Also Present: City Administrator Ehman Sheldon; Department Heads: Mike Bailey, Police Chief Steven Dunnagan and Jay Van Ness; and City Attorney James Whitaker.

Absent Was: Councilmember Tim Wilson.

**CITIZEN INPUT**

There was none.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Council carried a motion to amend the Agenda by adding item #8.5 Amendment to the Well #4 Contract. M/S Johnson/Brodahl.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approval of City Council minutes of June 8, 2009
- B. Approval of Accounts Payable Checks
- C. Resolution to Accept a Donation
- D. Approval of Fireworks Permit

Accounts Payable was audited and certified by the Auditing Officer, as required by RCW 42.24.080; and those expense reimbursement claims certified and as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing that has been reviewed by the Council audit committee and is available to the Council.

Expense Claim Check No. 36831 to No.36892 in the amount of \$ 340,660.94.

Council carried a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. M/S Dever/Caylor.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CDBG PLANNING ONLY GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE PLAN FOR MAINTAINING ADEQUATE CAPACITY (PMAC)**

Mayor McKay opened the hearing at 7:04 p.m. Larry Julius of Gray & Osborne, reported that the state Department of Ecology (DOE) had indicated that the City has a compliance issue at the wastewater treatment plant, with a component of total suspended solids (TSS.) The DOE stated that the City needs to look at why the TSS is high. Mr. Julius provided a time line to complete the plan and advised that the City is eligible to request a grant from the CDBG program to fund the project. An application has been prepared to cover 100% of the cost, which will include the advertising for consultant selection, paper work, and audits that the State may impose. The estimated total cost for the plan, including the City's portion, would be \$16,000. One requirement is to hold a public hearing, and another is to note that the CDBG program has funds set aside for planning only grants. This is a first-come-first serve process and applications will be accepted through November.

Mayor McKay asked for public input. There was none. Mayor McKay closed the public testimony at 7:10 p.m. He then asked for Council comments. Councilmember Spohr asked for clarification of what the City is looking at. Mr. Julius replied that this is the first step in working with the DOE to determine what the process will be. The plan will help guide the City with the problems the treatment plant has. It will also help with environmental documentation necessary for any funding. Councilmember Spohr asked if the City does the prep work up to the \$16,000 is the City liable for that cost. Mr. Julius stated that it would depend on what is discovered when looking into the problem. The hearing was closed at 7:13 p.m.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE CDBG PLANNING ONLY GRANT APPLICATION**

Council carried a motion to approve A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE CDBG PLANNING ONLY GRANT APPLICATION. M/S Spohr/Dever. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2009-11.

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE GRIEVANCE POLICY RELEVANT TO THE CDBG GRANT APPLICATION**

Mr. Julius provided an overview of the Grievance Policy relevant to the CDBG Grant Application. He noted that it is identical to the grievance policy passed last fall. Council carried a motion to approve A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE GRIEVANCE POLICY RELEVANT TO THE CDBG GRANT APPLICATION. M/S Johnson/Snyder. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2009-12.

**UPDATE OF PLANNING COMMISSION TRAINING – COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Mr. Darryl Piercy stated that the training program for the Planning Commission (PC) is well underway, and they have embraced the program. He implied that they should be completed with the training by the end of the year, and conveyed that they are currently covering the Growth Management Act. Mayor McKay noted the importance of the PC understanding what they do, as it impacts the community, and how essential the Commissioners are to the Council. Mr. Piercy stated that public involvement is still sparse, and his intentions are to get more press releases out. The Commissioners are also working on an update to the comprehensive plan, which they don't anticipate completing until October. Another extensive project is the process of undertaking a site plan review element to the zoning code. Part of this is to develop design standards for commercial districts, multifamily housing, Main Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Street. This should provide compatibility between business to business, such as parking, access, etc. The Commission is reviewing designs from other cities, and he anticipates holding a public hearing next month on both the design site plan review process and implementation of some design standards.

**POST OFFICE PARKING REVISIONS**

Mr. Van Ness advised that the Post Master had asked that the City give them until June 29<sup>th</sup> to complete their part of the parking project. He advised that the City is completely done with their part, however the "do not" enter signs are still covered until the post office is done. On June 29<sup>th</sup> these issues will be addressed and traffic will be rerouted. The Post Master should have the fencing up by then. Councilmember Spohr stated his concern in regards to the "No left turn" symbol/sign versus a word sign. Mr. Van Ness explained their final decision regarding the universal sign. Chief Dunnagan also stated that the 18" solid yellow line represents a raised, curbed barrier that should not be crossed. Mr. Van Ness noted that raised curbs and signs in the middle of a road create plowing issues.

**WELL #6 UPDATE**

Mr. Van Ness reported that Gray and Osborn had applied for a CDBG grant for the rehabilitation of Well #6 and was funded \$310,000 for the project. The next step is to submit a rehabilitation plan to the Department of Ecology for approval, which should be by late July. If approved, the City could go out to bid this fall to block off the section of high infiltrated fluorides; which should bring us back into compliance under the maximum contaminant level. This will include all the work that it takes to pull it back out, the plug and reinstalling. Mr. Van Ness informed the Council that the well has pumped up to 3300 gpm, however we could lose up to 1,000 gpm with the rehabilitation.

**BIDS FOR WELL #4**

Mr. Van Ness stated that Schneider Equipment provided a bid for nearly \$16,000 to pull Well #4 and do an evaluation of what happened. The well was pulled out and they found it lost an upper bearing in the motor which caused additional damage to the pump and bowls. Part of the bid was to provide an estimate to rebuild or fix the problem. Schneider Equipment went above and beyond by providing an estimate for a new Gould pump as opposed to a Franklin model. The difference between the two types is about \$2400. Mr. Schneider has indicated that he would honor his workmanship for the same two year period as opposed to the one year warranty; as well as

City of Othello  
Regular Council Meeting  
June 22, 2009

pulling and putting the pump back in. Mr. Van Ness recommended the City go with the higher cost opposed to fixing the old pump. Councilmember Caylor made a motion to approve the amendment in the amount of \$31,106.97. Councilmember Spohr stated his concerns and asked how long the pump lasted. Mr. Van Ness stated that it lasted 21 months; it should have lasted 4-5 years. Councilmember Spohr noted his concerns that the Council may be moving too fast on this change. Council Caylor indicated that he would like to see a contract between the City and Schneider Equipment to include their workmanship warranty. Councilmember Johnson asked if this is covered by the City's Insurance. Mr. Sheldon stated that the City would follow through with the insurance to see if it is or not. Mr. Sheldon stated that a Memo of Understanding would be proposed to Schneider Equipment. Council carried a motion to amend the Contract for Well #4. M/S Caylor/Johnson. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Councilmember Brodahl asked when the playground equipment project would be completed. Mr. Sheldon stated that July 6<sup>th</sup> would be the installation date. He indicated, per the City's insurance standards, that the City is required to be the main installer, therefore any outside assistance to erect the toys would require City employees present. Anyone interested in assisting can contact Mr. Van Ness.

Councilmember Brodahl questioned whether the pool slide is operational. Mr. Sheldon stated that it is operational. Councilmember Spohr noted that there are some limitations to manning the slide. Mr. Sheldon explained the operations of the pool in regards to the guards and the slide. Councilmember Spohr stated his concern regarding the closing of the pool on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, due to inclement weather. Mr. Sheldon explained that the pool has operating hours and it should not be closed again during those hours.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Council Workshop will be held July 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to discuss, Mayor McKay adjourned the Council meeting at 7:45 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
SHANNON MCKAY, Mayor

ATTEST:

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