

City of Othello  
Regular City Council Meeting  
June 11, 2001

Mayor E R Kelley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Leonard Lyon, Eleanor Brodahl, Les Clemons, Everett Cole, Don Derifield, Jeannie Ochoa and Kenneth Johnson. Also present were: Debbie Kudrna, Rhonda Miller, Curt Andrews, and Reuel Klempel, City Department Heads; Bill Shaw, City Administrator; James Whitaker, City Attorney; members of the Central Basin Traffic Task Force and representatives from the Columbia Basin Health Association.

Council member, Kenneth Johnson led the opening invocation and Mayor Kelley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AMENDED AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Payroll and Related Expenses for May, 2001.
- B. Approval of Warrants for May, 2001.
- C. Approval of Minutes of May 29, 2001.
- D. Reschedule discussion on the Planning Commission's Recommendation of the PDD's Preliminary Plat for June 25, 2001.

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

Expense Claim Check No. 23323 to No. 23456 in the amount of \$403,262.54.  
Payroll Check No. 14426 to No. 14521 in the amount of \$172,898.65.

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

**TASK FORCE COORDINATOR – POLICE OFFICER NELS LARSON**

A report was given by members of the Central Basin Traffic Safety Task Force explaining the formation of the Task Force and their goals and duties. Sergeant Dave Sands, Moses Lake Police Department explained that members of the Task Force have partnered to co-ordinate activities to reduce problems with DUI's and enforce traffic safety regulations within Grant and Adams County. Sergeant Sands presented the Task Force mission statement. Washington State Trooper, Pat Lunning explained the recent Task Force enforcement projects within Grant and Adams County. He noted that they are in the process of being accredited by Washington State, noting that they do need to hire a Task Force coordinator to receive accreditation. He explained their partnerships within Grant and Adams County and reported on their recent mock scenes and education emphasis in 13 area schools, which was held on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2001. They're also partnering with the local Fire Departments, EMS, SADD, and MedStar. Washington State Trooper, Kirk Wilson explained that their beginning budget was only \$253.00 and noted the need for a coordinator. He explained the Task Force's project on the Highway 17 corridor to enforce traffic safety regulations and DUI enforcement. He noted the recent increase in collisions and fatalities on Highway 17 from Othello to Moses Lake. Othello Police Officer, Nels Larson explained that there is State funding available that is passed through the Traffic Safety Commission that could be used for a Task Force coordinator position. The Task Force could be reimbursed \$15,000.00 for two years for a part time coordinator. They do need an entity to match the State funding, which could include the office space, vehicle, telephone, supplies, and other in-kind expenses. He noted that this part time position

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would be considered an employee of the entity and after the first two years commitment, the position would be reviewed and the funding could be increased to \$30,000.00 for the following two years. He asked that the Council consider locating this Task Force coordinator position in Othello and meeting the matching grant with in-kind expenses. He stated that the City's benefits would be positive publicity, citizen support, probability of receiving additional grant funding, and media coverage. Police Officer, Nels Larson noted that this position could become self sufficient with continued grant funding.

The Council took no action at this time. Police Officer, Larson offered more information to the Council, if needed.

**PROCLAMATION – HIRE A VETERAN MONTH**

Mayor E R Kelley read into the record a proclamation, which did proclaim June 2001 as "Hire a Veteran Month."

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COLUMBIA BASIN HEALTH ASSOCIATION'S LANDSCAPE AND LIGHTING**

Greg Brandenburg and Patrick Buckman from Columbia Basin Health Association explained that Columbia Basin Health Association (CBHA) has recently completed a 12 month expansion and remodeling of the east Main Street location. They would like to coordinate a tree and street light theme, using funding from their remodeling project. They noted that their proposal has been submitted to the City Tree Committee and would like to work out the details with that committee. Mr. Brandenburg did explain that the CBHA would provide all continued maintenance of the trees and street lighting. Lolo Garza, Chairman of the Tree Committee, commended CBHA's preliminary plan and suggested the same theme as what has recently been approved for the Wal-Mart Super Center frontage landscaping. He thought that this was an excellent step forward for the City and gave some statistics of positive attributes about trees within a City boulevard.

Council carried a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LOCATION OF ALTERNATIVE SIDEWALK MATERIALS, TREES AND DECORATIVE STREETLIGHTS WITHIN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY ADJACENT TO COLUMBIA BASIN HEALTH ASSOCIATION. M/S Derifield/Ochoa. Council member, Cole abstained from voting due to being a member of the CBHA's Board of Directors. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2001-13.

**AWARD BID FOR GAS AND DIESEL FUEL SERVICE**

City Administrator, Bill Shaw noted that the gas and diesel bids were opened on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2001 and the following submitted bids for gasoline and diesel services:

Lawrence Oil Company, Inc.	\$ .07 per gallon above the branded average at the Moses Lake rack.
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Connell Oil, Inc. dba 76 Distributing	\$ .0797 per gallon above the branded average at the Moses Lake rack.
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Mr. Shaw noted that Lawrence Oil has complied with all of the necessary criteria listed in the bid packets and recommended the contract be awarded to Lawrence Oil for a two year period and may be extended for an additional year upon agreement by both parties.

Council carried a motion to authorize the contract between the City of Othello and Lawrence Oil Co., Inc. for gasoline and diesel services at \$.07 per gallon charge above the

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branded average at the Moses Lake rack for a two year contract, with an option of an additional one year extension. M/S Cole/Clemons.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUILDING PERMIT – PJT HOUSE ASSOCIATES, LLC**

City Administrator, Bill Shaw explained that PJT Associates, LLC is currently in the process of establishing the Assisted Living center and Single Family Home project located at the northwest intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Olympia Street. They would like to commence work on the site while they finish the filing of the preliminary plat. According to city ordinance, building permits can only be issued for unplatting lands by the City Council through adoption of a resolution as presented to the Council tonight. Mr. Shaw noted that he assumes that they will bond the plat to assure completeness of all the platting requirements.

Council member, Lyon expressed some concern of the unimproved roads adjacent to this project during construction. He asked that the contractors be encouraged to complete the road project as soon as possible.

Council carried a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS ON UNPLATTED LAND. M/S Ochoa/Clemons. This shall be known as 2001-14.

**RESOLUTION TO SURPLUS K-9 POLICE DOG**

City Clerk, Debbie Kudrna explained that the resolution does surplus the Police Department K-9 dog that has become physically impaired and unable to perform all necessary duties.

Council carried a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OTHELLO, WASHINGTON, DECLARES SURPLUS EQUIPMENT. M/S Clemons/Cole. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2001-15.

**RESOLUTION TO SET RECREATION FEES**

The City Clerk noted that the proposed resolution changes the swim lesson fee from \$15.00 per person for a two week session to \$18.00 per person for a two week session. The increase was recommended by Debbie Sanchez, Pool Manager in order to cover the continual increase of costs that is associated with getting our pool staff trained, employee wages, certification costs, and materials needed for lessons.

Council carried a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OTHELLO, WASHINGTON, SETTING RECREATION FEES. M/S Johnson/Cole. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2001-16.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUILDING PERMIT – OTHELLO SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Mr. Shaw noted that the proposed resolution grants permission for a building permit for the Othello School District for a concession stand/restroom on the new ball field and it extends the completion of their platting process to December 31, 2002. The Council had already approved the building permit for the structure on unplatting land; this resolution extends the completion of the platting process for an additional year.

Council carried a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS ON UNPLATTED LAND. M/S Lyon/Ochoa. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2001-17.

**CONTRACT WITH WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS**

Mr. Shaw presented the contract with WASPC to provide an assessment center of selective applicants for the Police Chief's position. The assessment center would also include recommendation of an individual for this position. The contract provided a fee of \$1,000.00 plus travel and other incidental expenses to provide the assessment center process.

Council carried a motion to authorize the execution of the contract with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs as presented. M/S Cole/Brodahl.

**ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF SALARY REQUEST**

Council carried a motion to increase the Assistant Fire Chief, Robin Swartz monthly pay to \$1,000.00. This would be retroactive to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001 during the interim of Mr. Swartz serving as acting Fire Chief; only until the City of Othello hires another employee such as Chief, Marshall, or a similar position. M/S Ochoa/Derifield.

Council member, Ochoa noted that this is special consideration because he is mainly a Volunteer Fire Fighter and Assistant Fire Chief and this is the second time Mr. Swartz has served as acting Fire Chief in a 12 month period.

**AUTHORIZE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY FIREWORKS PERMIT**

Council member, Kenneth Johnson noted that Western Display Fireworks has met all code requirements for a public fireworks display permit. He will be acting as a pyrotechnician during the firing of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks display.

Council carried a motion to authorize the public fireworks display permit to Western Display Fireworks, for July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2001, as presented. M/S Cole/Clemons.

**DRAFT 6-YEAR STREET PLAN**

Mr. Andrews reviewed the Draft 6-Year Transportation Improvement Program for the years 2002-2007. He reviewed every project thoroughly with the Council, noting whether or not a right-of-way would need to be obtained and consideration of what criteria the project was meeting. He showed areas of traffic and safety hazards within the Othello area, which is a result of the recent transportation study. He explained that having these projects listed on a 6-Year Transportation Plan is necessary for any type of Federal or State funding. This will be discussed again during the upcoming public hearing set for June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2001.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mr. Shaw reported that due to some delays with the preliminary plat documents, the Eagle Village water and sewer request has been put on hold and will be brought back to the Council as soon as all issues are settled.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – RCW 42.30.110 (d)**

Mayor Kelley announced an executive session at 8:40 p.m. as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (d) for approximately 45 minutes.

Council reconvened the regular session at 9:30 p.m.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Kelley adjourned the Council meeting at 9:31 p.m.

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E R KELLEY, Mayor

ATTEST:

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DEBBIE L KUDRNA, City Clerk