

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Shannon McKay called the workshop to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Shannon McKay; Councilmembers Eleanor Brodahl, Kathy Carlton, Kenneth Caylor, Everett Cole, Dale Wyman, and Tim Wilson.

Also Present: Department Heads: Curt Andrews, Mike Bailey, Police Chief Steve Dunnagan, Debbie Kudrna, and Jay Van Ness.

Absent Was: Councilmember Marc Spohr.

PORT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW BUSINESS PARK

Sam Garza, Chairman of the Port of Othello Board of Directors advised that it has been their vision to promote business development and growth to benefit the community. He thanked the new manager, Mike Beardsley and the fellowship that has grown between the City, County and Port District. The Port District recently purchased 65 acres on the SW corner of Hwy 26 and Reynolds Road to be used as a multi development district with a commercial center, light industrial area, and professionally managed apartments. They will erect buildings for lease and will build to suit the needs of new companies. The site will have easy access, high visibility, convenient parking, attractive landscaping, exterior lighting, sidewalks, and quality standards for the buildings and signs.

Mayor McKay reported that the economic partnership between the City, County and Port District is bearing fruit and the business park is the first step toward economic stability for our community. He congratulated the Port Commissioners for their commitment to economic development and leadership and acknowledged the business park will provide employment, development, and an alternative for shopping.

County Commissioner Roger Hartwig thanked the Port District for their decision to purchase the property for future development. He advised that the Adams County Commissioners are in full support of the decision and are looking forward to growth in the County. He announced the establishment of the Adams County Development Council, composed of 21 local citizens from diverse businesses, agriculture, and governmental segments. Fiber optics will be brought to Othello in the near future and negotiations continue with bio-diesel and ethanol plants. The new vision is that Adams County is a County of opportunity.

Mike Beardsly, Port Director, advised that they intend to build a dynamic business park. It will succeed through hard work and the support of the entire community. They are grateful for the active support of the County, City, Roger Krug, and the EDC.

LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH DOUBLE U FARMS, LLC

Municipal Services Coordinator Jay Van Ness explained that they reviewed three options regarding the request by Double U Farms to vacate a portion of Curtis Drive. They considered offsetting Curtis Drive to the north side of Lad Irrigation and believe it will disrupt the future traffic flow plan for the area. They do recommend approval of a license agreement for use of the portion of Curtis Drive. This would allow the property owner to erect a fence on the portion of Curtis Drive, adjacent to Lad Irrigation. Mr. Van Ness advised there are no city utilities within the right of way. Councilmember Caylor recommended that the agreement include language that assures City access into the right of way, when needed.

Bob Carlson, advised that he is part owner of property east of Curtis Drive and advised that he supports the license agreement and is not in favor of relocating Curtis Drive.

POLICE DEPARTMENT K-9 DOG PROGRAM

Police Chief Dunnagan explained that he is partial to K-9 dog programs, but it has to be balanced with practicality and be fiscally effective for an agency. In 2005 and 2006, the department's K-9 dog was involved in 25 applications. Out of those 25 applications (responses), 12 were for other agencies. In the last two years, overtime, food, and veterinarian costs have totaled \$15,287, which is a cost of approximately \$611 for every application. He also reported that our K-9 dog is not being used enough in our department and training is extensive and expensive.

Chief Dunnagan recommended the Council surplus the K-9 dog and sell it to another agency, where the dog would be used more often. He suggested contacting WASPC and sending out a state wide announcement that the dog is for sale and also contacting the original kennel. Chief Dunnagan advised that a K-9 dog is valuable but the officers now have other tools for their use. He is reviewing this program to see if the costs outweigh the results and the effectiveness of the program. Councilmember Brodahl mentioned that a K-9 dog saved an officer's life a few years ago. Councilmember Caylor asked if INET would want the K-9 dog. Mayor McKay asked the Chief to explore if there are other agencies interested.

SR 26 WATER LINE EXTENSION (FARM STORE)

Municipal Services Coordinator Jay Van Ness explained that when the site plan for the new farm store was submitted, the water lines were not looped in the drawings, as staff had directed. The developer commented that looping the water line through the project would be detrimental to the entire project. They also requested that the City extend the water main from the property's easterly point, east to Well #5. Mr. Van Ness advised this would be the best option for the City and would promote future business expansion on the strip of property parallel to SR 26. Estimated costs for this water line extension are \$90k to \$100k. The Council could also establish a latecomer's fee for repayment of the water line when new businesses connect. Mr. Van Ness advised that the water comprehensive plan requires the developer to loop the line back to Columbia Avenue. He explained that the water line to Burger King is 115' and the farm store is proposing an additional 247' of 8" line, which exceeds the maximum length for dead end lines. Councilmember Caylor suggested that the new developer pay an additional cost, if we do not require them to loop the water line within their property. Mr. Van Ness explained that it would be detrimental to have each lot loop their water line back to Columbia Street. The lots are deep and there are requirements to have fire flows and fire hydrants at the back of each lot. Councilmember Brodahl asked for the initial drawings that indicated the water loop was within the property. Mayor McKay asked that Mr. Van Ness prepare a map; firmer quotes and the impact to the budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERS SHARE INFORMATION

Mayor McKay reviewed the entire Council committee list. Councilmember Wilson advised that the Fire District committee had met and had already reported on it. Councilmember Cole reported that the Adams County Mosquito District reports there is no evidence of West Nile disease in Adams County. The auditing committee alternate was changed from Councilmember Brodahl to Carlton. Councilmember Brodahl advised that the judicial committee has not met and Chief Dunnagan advised that a meeting is being scheduled for in August. The pool design committee was changed to the pool committee and Councilmember Carlton was appointed as an alternate member.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilmember Brodahl asked how the pool patrons who have family passes, that were asked to leave when the pool closed the previous Sunday, were taken care of? Mayor McKay advised that the pool hours will be maintained and the pool staff were advised that they can not close the pool, as they did. The community is being advised that the pool is open on Sundays. He advised that we will discuss how we could compensate the patrons that have family passes. He explained that staff will evaluate the season to see if there are changes to be made for next year.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor McKay adjourned the workshop at 7:58 p.m.

By: _____
SHANNON MCKAY, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk