

CALL TO ORDER:

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

Present: Mayor Shannon McKay; Councilmembers Eleanor Brodahl, Kenneth Caylor, Marc Spohr, Dale Wyman, and Tim Wilson.

Also Present: Department Heads: Curt Andrews, Debbie Kudrna, Dick Lee, Interim Finance Officer Mike Bailey; Police Chief Steve Dunnagan, and City Administrator, Ehman Sheldon.

Absent Were: Councilmembers Kathy Carlton and Everett Cole.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Officer Mike Bailey presented the year to date fund balances as of June 2006. It indicated the actual beginning balance of all funds as \$247,686.29 more than anticipated and the change from the beginning fund balance is currently \$639,742.44. Mr. Bailey reviewed the current revenue vs. budget amounts and current expenses vs. budget amount. He also presented the 2nd quarter comparison (2005 and 2006) for revenues, expenses, and ending fund balances. Mr. Bailey reviewed the quarterly report investments figures and the 2006 interest revenues and noted that the City's cash position is excellent.

CITY INSURANCE COVERAGE PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS

Lisa Pond, representing Washington Cities Insurance Association (WCIA), made a presentation including a detailed explanation of the municipal pool's functions, risk management services, claims management process, free training opportunities, and member orientation program. She advised that WCIA has been in existence for 26 years and has had 9 years of clean audit reports. She explained that all members are required to have a voting delegate on the board, which will meet to quarterly and those delegates are required to attend at least one of the quarterly meetings. WCIA also has executive committees and an executive board. She explained that the premiums costs are all inclusive, there will be no other hidden costs and no deductibles, they are very proactive to defend members, there are no other charges on defense court issues, and they have financial strength to defend the members. The by-laws provide that they look for coverage and they work closely with the Cities on claims filed. They also currently have 117 members.

Councilmember Caylor advised that there are several reasons why the committee recommended WCIA, including the fact that the current insurance pool, Cities Insurance Association of Washington (CIAW), is a third party insurance carrier and St. Paul is their excess carrier. There are concerns that Washington State is St. Paul's one and only municipal account and there are unknowns of future coverage. He explained that Othello is CIAW's largest member and there are concerns that the City is subsidizing smaller members. He noted that WCIA provides free training opportunities, have had excellent audit reports, have no deductibles, provide tail insurance coverage for the previous three years, and the present pool membership is decreasing.

Councilmember Spohr agreed that WCIA is probably the best insurance pool but is concerned of the increased premiums. He noted that CIAW has more members because their membership includes schools and other entities. Mayor McKay advised that he is concerned of CIAW's stability. Ms. Pond explained that WCIA uses an actuary to determine the reserves and premiums and they currently have \$132 million in reserves, \$42 million in surplus and they have financial strength. Councilmembers Wyman and Brodahl both noted that the training that WCIA offers is essential for our employees and Councilmember Brodahl advised that she supports the change to WCIA. Ms. Pond explained that WCIA is a state agency and was authorized by Washington State by an Interlocal Agreement to provide more comprehensive and economical liability coverage for their pool members.

RESOLUTION TO SET PARK SHELTER FEES

The City Clerk advised that the park shelter fees have been \$5.00 per shelter for years and the staff has discussed options to help eliminate mistakes in scheduling, reduce the number of

complaints from citizens, and how to reduce the complaints about the amount of trash that is left in the shelters. She provided a comparison of other community's park shelter fees and noted the average is \$28 per shelter. City Hall staff recommends a minimal increase in park shelter fees: \$10 for the small shelters and \$15 for the large shelter in Kiwanis Park. The increase is to help with the increased solid waste tipping fees and to help maintain the shelters. The staff also recommends that we set times for use of the shelters in two time periods per day: 6 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Council agreed with the following: set two time periods per day for the scheduling and the proposed fee increases. The Council recommended that we also establish a fee for reservations for over 50 people: \$20 for the small shelters and \$30 for the large shelter. Mr. Sheldon advised that they will determine whether to build additional shelters during the budget season.

ORDINANCE REPEALING OMC CHAPTER 5.36 NOISE CONTROL AND CREATING CHAPTER 5.38 ENTITLED NOISE CONTROL

Police Chief Dunnagan advised that most of the complaints of noise are generated during daytime hours and include loud speakers, loud cars, people working on cars, and dogs barking. The new ordinance specifically outlines times that certain noises are prohibited, clearly provides a definition of a public nuisance, and establishes how the City can enforce the provisions of the new chapter. He explained that it also provides what can be enforced by the Police and Code Enforcement Officers and what can be enforced based upon a creditable complaint from a citizen. It also addresses the latest standard for noise emitted from automobiles. The Chief advised that the ordinance provides that when the Council authorizes a permit to use public property, it exempts it from the noise rules. Mr. Sheldon advised that Council can establish limits of noise emitted from authorized events in public parks, which can then be enforced by the Police Department.

Councilmember Caylor had received a complaint of an intermittent loud noise from one of the industries and asked what it may be. Councilmember Wilson advised that it seems to be a pressure relief valve release. Chief Dunnagan explained that the Washington Administrative Code provides formulas to measure the dB(A)'s emitted from noise, which can be used in complicated situations. The ordinance provides "Prohibited Noises" and can be enforced by personnel without using a decibel metering. Councilmember Wyman asked if the ordinance would allow certain construction projects during the prohibited times to accommodate work schedules during extreme weather or to help complete a phase of the project. Chief Dunnagan advised the time could be adjusted by Council authorization based upon it being found in the public interest.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilmember Wyman reported on the changes in the Economic Development Council (EDC), noting John Taylor has recently retired. The EDC is developing a different format to include businesses and expand the membership base. They are also developing a program to have a consultant produce an Adams County Economic Development Plan. There will be an additional cost to each entity for their portion of the plan, and Othello's cost will be \$1,000. Two grants have been applied for the plan and the remaining costs will be paid by the entities.

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon reported that the final report on the business incubator project is drafted and being reviewed by the Port District.

Councilmember Brodahl reported that she found that the Pasco Boys and Girls Club branch provides day care and they are then able to get funding from other governmental sources. The local board is researching the possibility of doing that in Othello and the option of increasing membership fees.

Councilmember Spohr reported that he receives comments why there are no sidewalks on Mr. Deleon's vacant property between 11th and 12th Avenue on Main Street. Mr. Sheldon advised that

the City can now tow and cite trucks parked on the property. Mr. Deleon and a potential buyer of the property are discussing installing driveway approaches into the lot. Three years ago, the sidewalk assessment program included this property; however, Mr. Deleon received a waiver from the City Council and they removed this property from that sidewalk improvement program. Mayor McKay advised that the new property owner will be responsible for the sidewalk installation.

Councilmember Spohr advised the concern of trucks being diverted onto 1st Avenue. Mr. Sheldon explained that two pre-construction meetings have been held, which was advertised and open to the public. Detours have been developed for the truck traffic and asked for other input. Mayor McKay advised that trucks could be detoured on SR 26 to Hwy 17 to Lee Road and west to industries, Councilmember Wyman suggested that trucks can be diverted across Taylor Road and up Cunningham Road to Main Street, and then north to the industries.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor McKay adjourned the workshop at 9:11 p.m.

By: _____
SHANNON MCKAY, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk