



MINUTES

City Council Regular Meeting

6:30 PM – Monday, September 25, 2017

Council Chambers, City Hall – 500 E Main St

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Logan called the meeting of the Othello City Council to order at 6:30 and led a silent invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present:

Eugene Bain
Corey Everett
Larry McCourtie
John Lallas
Mark Snyder

Councilmembers Absent:

Genna Dorow
Angel Garza

MOVED BY BAIN, SECONDED BY LALLAS, COUNCIL EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCILMEMBER, GENNA DOROW AND ANGEL GARZA. CARRIED.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT

Shawn Logan, Mayor
Wade Farris, City Administrator
Police Chief Phil Schenck
Rebecca P. Ozuna, City Clerk
Spencer Williams, Finance Officer
Terry Clements, Public Works Director
Kelly Konkright, City Attorney

CITIZEN INPUT

Dave Spearl started by telling the story of when Sandy Dodge and his wife (Ann Spearl) planted some flowers on Main Street in April 2006 because they thought it looked boring and started the planting at Gilbert Chiropractic in an old tractor rim given to them by Les Schwab. During which time they told him that the flowers needed to be watered. Then they planted some by Norco and those needed to be watered also. Mr. Spearl then mentioned that during that time Jerry Vanderhook saw the flowers,

which he too is a flower man, came to City Hall and gave the City \$1000 which gave the project a boost to get going. Then they went by the Columbia River down to Paterson winery and brought back 2 truck and trailer loads of barrels and they cut them in half. Some of those barrels were placed around town and some were sold which help them to keep the project going.

Mr. Spearl went on to comment about the idea of benches and that he built 55 benches and how this project started by 2 ladies has blossomed and have had tremendous donors over the years. He mentioned that he has been watering the flowers for the past 11 years and requested that Council budget 4 hours per week for someone to do it next year because he is quitting the project as far as the watering is concerned. He mentioned that the Beautification committee will continue to plant the flowers and get them ready and maybe then the summer help can do the rest. Mr. Spearl commented that he has a tank which can be used and could be put on a gator during the summer. Mayor Logan asked for comments and the council in censuses asked for staff to gather the cost for the request and come back to council with a proposal.

Adan Garza, 2097 W Horacio Lane, reported that his presence at Council is because they own the house at 705 E Elm St and for the past 20 years they have been paying \$115.99 for water because they have a 1 ½" meter and the normal house has a 1" or smaller and they pay \$34.83. Mr. Garza mentioned that this happened because the house sits on ½ a lot and the owner wanted to connect 2 houses to one meter and that was not feasible so they installed another meter for the second house and were supposed to remove the 1 ½" meter which was never done. Mr. Garza stated that the problem came when they started renting the house because his sister used to own it for 10 years and paid the bill then his son bought the house and was paying the bill for a while.

Mr. Garza reported that he has been told that to fix the problem it would cost him \$1,699, which would be the cost to put in a new meter and with his calculations he has paid over \$20,000 since the house was built. He requested that before they change the meter that if it can be adjusted to where he can start paying the normal rate because he uses less water because he is on ½ a lot. Mr. Garza realizes that this change should have been done a lot sooner because with the difference of \$80 per/month over time it could have been paid off already and he is wanting to fix the issues without having to put in a new meter. There were further questions and discussion between Mayor, Council, Public Works Director, Staff and Mr. Garza in regards to the cost to change the meter, the price of water per unit per block, the possible review of the municipal code regarding meter rates and the possibility of payment plan to change the meter.

The censuses was to gather information about how many 1 ½" meters are in town and then provide that information plus the cost to change out the meter and connections to the Water Committee for further discussion and possible recommendation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council carried a motion to approve the agenda. M/S Bain/Snyder

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of City Council Minutes of September 11, 2017
- B. Approval of Accounts Payable Checks
- C. Acceptance of the 2017 Street Overlay Project
- D. Resolution for Release of Retainage to Granite Construction for the Tennis Court Asphalt
- E. 14th Avenue – Payment Application #8

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.

Accounts Payable Check No. 48702 to No. 48761 in the amount of \$407,467.89.

Accounts Payable Check No. 5403 to No. 5404 in the amount of \$220.00.

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Council carried a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. M/S McCourtie/Everett.

PUBLIC HEARING ON DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR SAND HILL ESTATES

Mayor Logan opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. Community Development Anne Henning reported that development agreement is still being worked on and has requested the public hearing be continued until next Council Meeting on October 2nd. Mayor and Council carried a consensus to continue the public hearing to Monday, October 2nd.

SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE

Finance Officer Spencer Williams reported that the City operates with a 3 year Solid Waste rate schedule that expires at the end of this year and new rate schedule needs to be put in place. We met recently with the Solid Waste committee to consider new rates. Mr. Williams mentioned that the possibility of a recycling program has been brought up many times and to introduce a curbside service at each residence would drive a significant rate increase to residential rates. He commented that the City doesn't want to raise rates significantly but we do want to expand the recycling program. One option presented to council was to investigate providing 2 large containers on a piece of property, which would be one for cardboard and one for yard waste. This would allow us to avoid a large increase to rates and provide more recycling options to citizens. These rates also consider the need for personnel growth in the future. Councilmember Lallas gave a brief overview of what has been discussed at the meeting and what their goals were for solid waste.

Mr. Williams showed Council the rate schedule (fund forecast) for detail rate discussions. We propose we keep the current 5% annual increase to rates. This would keep the total increase to residents between \$0.73 and \$0.93 per month. At this direction of the Committee we prepared an ordinance to approve the rate increase for the next 3 years. If you wish we can pass the Ord tonight or have further discussion and pass the Ord at a later meeting.

Council carried a motion to adopt AN ORDINANCE AMENDING OTHELLO MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 5.08.190 OF CHAPTER 5.08 ENTITLED "SOLID WASTE AND REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL. M/S McCourtie/Lallas

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilmember Snyder asked when the planting of the trees will start on 14th Avenue was responded by Public Works Director Terry Clements that they are in the process because there some irrigation issues that need to be resolved first.

Councilmember McCourtie commented on the great work that is being done on the ice cream shop going in on Main St.

Councilmember Snyder commented to the Public Works Director about the sinking asphalt on Broadway Ave that seems to be getting worse.

Councilmember McCourtie gave gratitude to Public Works Director Terry Clements for the quick work he did for putting up the four stop signs on Ash Street.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Logan announced that Council will now adjourn at 7:14 p.m. to go into an executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1) (b) to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase. The executive session is expected to last 15 minutes. City Administrator Wade Farris, City Clerk Rebecca P. Ozuna, Police Chief Phil Schenck, Community Development Director Anne Henning, Public Works Director Terry Clements and Finance Officer Spencer Williams attended the executive session. No action will be taken during the executive session. Mayor Logan reconvened the Council meeting at 7:24 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Logan adjourned the Council meeting at 7:24 p.m.

By: _____
SHAWN LOGAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
REBECCA P. OZUNA, City Clerk