

City of Othello  
City Council Workshop  
October 04, 2010

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Tim Wilson called the workshop meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor Tim Wilson; Councilmembers: Ken Caylor, Dan Dever, Genna Dorow, Kenneth Johnson, Mark Snyder, and Marc Spohr.

**Also Present:** City Administrator Ehman Sheldon; Department Heads: Finance Officer Mike Bailey, Police Chief Steven Dunnagan, City Clerk Debbie Kudrna; Public Works Maintenance Foreman Terry Clements; IT Manager Stan Anderton, and City Planner Darryl Piercy.

**Absent Was:** Councilmember Charles Garcia.

**2010 REVENUE ESTIMATES REVIEW**

Mayor Wilson advised that proposed 2011 budget information will be presented, excluding capital requests. Finance Officer Mike Bailey explained that if the liquor initiatives pass, the city has funding available in the operations budget to offset the revenue shortfalls. He reviewed the 2011 estimated revenue sources in all funds.

**WATER RATES**

Finance Officer Mike Bailey explained that 2010 is the last year of a 3-year water rate increase, which allowed for a 4% increase each year beginning 2008. He reviewed proposals of a 4%, 3%, and a 2%, 3-year increase for water rates. He showed billing examples for the 4%, 3% and 2% water rate increases for a normal household and what the annual increase would be. He also reviewed examples of the water fund, which included the effect of the projected increases, revenues, the expected expenditures, and the water reserve fund. There was further discussion regarding proposed water rates. Councilmember Spohr suggested that we increase the third step-rate, encouraging water conservation.

**DEPARTMENT PRESENTATIONS "WHAT DOES MY DEPARTMENT DO?"**

Ehman Sheldon explained that the guidance the department head's were given for 2011 budget was to hold the budget to the 2010 figures and based upon past budgets. He explained that the proposed 2011 budget is based upon the budget 4 years ago because the budgets have held the line for 4 years. He noted the level of service has not diminished and complemented the department head's on providing efficient services.

The Department Heads all gave an overview of their department and capital requests.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION FOR THE 2011 BUDGET**

The Council was asked to present their capital requests. This included:

- Councilmember Snyder – save money for a new fire truck; budget for some type of an emergency power generator for the City fire station.
- Councilmember Johnson – funding for a park and recreation director.
- Mayor Wilson – from the gang awareness meetings, it was suggested that the community build something on the City property on the small lot south of Lions Park; repave the two inside lanes on South Broadway Avenue; set aside funding for park equipment and facilities for a new park.
- Councilmember Caylor – ADA access for the City Hall building; help with replacement of the sidewalk at the Othello Community Museum and install a handicap ramp at the corner; improve the parking lots at Kiwanis Park to improve the storm water drainage system to relieve overflow that enters private property; set aside funding for transmission lines from a new well site; continue funding for a community center.
- Councilmember Spohr - install a timer system for the tennis court lights; revamp the light system at the ballfield complex.
- Councilmember Dorow – add to the funding for a new slide and a sandpit volley ball court for the community pool.
- Councilmember Dever – skateboard park.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Councilmember Spohr stated that the walk path between 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> south of McFarland Middle School has not been replaced since the school district renovation project. Mr. Sheldon advised that the last portion of the walk path in Lions Park will be completed in October.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Wilson advised that the 2<sup>nd</sup> gang forum was held. The Council was provided a list of the items that were discussed during the round table discussions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Wilson adjourned the workshop at 8:23 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
TIM WILSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

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