

City of Othello
City Council Workshop
October 5, 2015

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Shawn Logan called the workshop to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Shawn Logan; Councilmembers: Eugene Bain, Corey Everett, Genna Dorow, Angel Garza, Kenneth Johnson, John Lallas, and Mark Snyder.

Also Present: City Administrator Wade Farris; Department Heads: Police Chief Phil Schenck, Finance Officer Spencer Williams, Community Development Director Travis Goddard, and City Clerk Debbie Kudrna.

CITIZEN INPUT

Katelynne Martuscelli, 901 S Steele Road, addressed the Council. She gave a brief update of her activities in school. She advised that in January she will be on a team for the International Models and Talent Association in Las Angeles. She will auditioning for pilot seasons; movie roles and modeling.

Katelynne's mom asked for community support to sponsor her daughter on her trip to L.A. Mayor Logan and Council gave them some suggestions for raising funds.

Mayor Logan read a letter from the Mayor from Gunpo, Korea to thank him for their warm reception while they were in Othello.

PUBLIC HEARING ON REVENUE SOURCES FOR 2016

Mayor Logan opened the public hearing at 7:12 p.m. Finance Officer Spencer Williams reviewed the projected revenue estimates for 2016.

Mayor Logan asked for Council comments. There was none.

Mayor Logan closed the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

LIBRARY UPDATE – CORINNE FIELD

Mid-Columbia Library District Manager Corinne Field gave an update of the library's 2014/2015 programs. She commended the Friends of the Othello library and volunteers for their hard work and support.

SEWER RATE DISCUSSION

Finance Officer Spencer Williams advised that our current sewer rates are set by ordinance for through 2015. He noted that for the last 6 years, we have increased sewer rates by 10% each year.

He advised that we need to consider the following when setting sewer rates:

- A new sewer facility will cost \$25 - \$30 million, as required by DOE.
- Competitive rates improve our ability to secure grants and low interest loans.
- The need to build sewer reserve funds to offset the cost of a new facility.
- He projected \$6,019,545 in the sewer reserve fund by the end of 2015.

Mr. Williams reviewed a worksheet which provided comparisons of current municipal sewer rates and those rates with a 10% increase. He then reviewed an amortization schedule for \$24 M and \$30 M sewer improvement. Mayor Logan and Council held a discussion about the proposed sewer rates and future improvements. It was suggested that they also consider an established monthly dollar increase instead of a percentage rate increase. This will be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Logan adjourned the workshop at 8:06 p.m.

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**By: _____
SHAWN LOGAN, Mayor**

ATTEST:

**By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk**