

City of Othello
Regular Council Meeting
October 25, 2010

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Tim Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Tim Wilson; Councilmembers: Ken Caylor, Dan Dever, Genna Dorow, Charles Garcia, 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; and City Attorney James Whitaker.

CITIZEN INPUT

Jiri Vanorek, 101 W. Fir Street, General Manager and CEO of Multi Star Industries. He stated that he has an issue concerning a hook up to the city sewer and they have been without for 5 months at their wash rack. The city sewer was blocked when their business had an ammonia solution accident which went into the city sewer system this summer. The city staff requested that they make provisions to eliminate the problem and Multi Star has removed the tank. He asked that the City allow them to use their wash rack. Mayor Wilson stated that he thought it had been resolved and understood that they had a meeting last week. Mr. Vanorek said that if they have to make further improvements, it should be done on a schedule and asked if they could have the sewer hooked up within a week because he feels it was an isolated accident. Mayor Wilson asked that they set up another meeting with Mr. Vanorek and his son and stated that the City needs to be assured that there will not be another contamination incident.

Mr. Rodney DeLeon, 1212 E. Main Street, stated that he was advised by the City to remove his truck from his empty lot. He moved the truck to another location and his tools were then stolen. He asked if he could move his truck back onto his empty lot on E. Main Street, where he will take good care of it and will be able to keep an eye on it. Mayor Wilson thanked Mr. DeLeon for keeping his lots cleaned up. City Attorney Whitaker advised that it would require an amendment to the zoning code to allow truck parking in this particular zone. Mayor Wilson stated that we cannot allow him to park his truck on the empty lot; however, he could build a shop to park his truck in. He said that he was going to move the truck back to his gas station.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of City Council Minutes of October 11, 2010
- B. Approval of Accounts Payable Checks
- C. Set Public Hearing on the 2011-2016 Capital Facility Plan for November 8, 2010

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.

Expense Claim Check No. 38917 to No. 38974 in the amount of \$93,532.15.

Council carried a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. M/S Garcia/Dever.

THIRD QUARTER REPORT FROM ADAMS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 5

Fire Chief Gary Lebacken presented the 3rd quarter report and advised that they have responded to 27 city fire incidents this quarter; year to date 88 fire incidents. He reported on business inspections, training, and advised that they have tested about half of the fire hydrants in partnership with Public Works. They will perform fire hydrant testing on a two-year cycle, which will help with the insurance ratings. They have tested vehicles and equipment and purchased the equipment to pump and test the city ladder truck. They have had no fires with significant loss. They are also looking into outsourcing fire classes next year.

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FIRE DISTRICT CONTRACT – MUTUAL AID

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon explained that the bi-annual fire meeting was held and it was brought up that Adams County Fire District #5 (ACFD #5) provides mutual aid to various fire districts. The question arose whether they could respond to mutual aid fires using city equipment. He recommended changing the contract language in the Fire Protection Agreement to acknowledge that the City recognizes the current mutual aid agreements that ACFD #5 has and to expand the authority of approval to use city equipment at mutual aid fires not only by the Mayor, but also from the Mayor Pro-Tem or the Chairman of the Council Fire Committee. This would allow the Fire Chief to get approval or denial immediately. He asked that the Council approve the proposed language, and an addendum to the fire agreement would be drafted.

Council carried a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the 3rd Amendment to the Fire Protection Agreement with Adams County Fire District #5, relative to use of City equipment and mutual aid. M/S Dever/Snyder.

Councilmember Spohr accepted the appointment as the Chairman of the Council Fire Committee.

ADAMS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT #1 CONTRACT AMENDMENT

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon stated that the City entered into a contract for water service to Adams County Water District #1 (ACWD) in 1984, which has a 99 year term. ACWD currently has certain defined boundaries and they have requested that the City allow them to expand their boundaries. He presented Addendum #6 to the contract to authorize expansion of the boundaries. He explained that the City has a master meter to service the water district. Beyond the water district is property that is also served by city water. The property owners of the undeveloped parcels within the proposed expansion have indicated an interest to build farm worker housing. ACWD has asked that they be allowed to build on the 10 empty lots within their current boundaries and allowed to expand water connections to the proposed area. The City has proposed that they be allowed to connect an additional 200 connections. This is equivalent to about 188,800 gallons of water per day for the additional 200 connections. In addition, ACWD would be responsible to read the meters and bill for the water use within their proposal boundaries. He noted that we have budgeting for several years for a new well. Without the new well, we currently have capacity for an additional 420 new units.

Mr. Sheldon said that if the Council approves the expansion of the boundaries, it will then be considered by the ACWD board and will be forwarded to the Department of Health for consideration. Mr. Sheldon stated that the City has radio read meters within the proposed expansion, which have expended half of their life cycle. The City can surplus those meters to the water district. He advised that any new infrastructure would be built to city standards.

Councilmember Johnson stated that the current property owners served by the city need to be notified of any changes to their service and rates. Mr. Sheldon stated that ACWD has not increased their rates to their customers, as the city has increased rates to the water district. Councilmember Spohr noted his concern of other developments, such as industrial or factories built within the proposed expansion. Mr. Sheldon stated if ACWD wanted to expand for industrial use or exceed the 200 connections, they would have to ask for a modification to the contract.

Council carried a motion to approve the addendum to the agreement with the Adams County Water District #1. M/S Dorow/Johnson.

CASH ONLY POLICY FOR NONSUFFICIENT FUND CHECKS

City Clerk Debbie Kudrna presented a policy relevant to putting people and businesses, that write the City two nonsufficient fund checks within a 12-month period, on a cash only basis for one year.

Council carried a motion to approve the cash only policy for nonsufficient fund checks, as presented. M/S Garcia/Caylor.

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RESOLUTION TO INCREASE PETTY CASH/CHANGE FUNDS

Finance Officer Mike Bailey presented a resolution to change the petty cash fund from \$850 to \$950. This would increase the two pool cash drawers \$50 each.

Council carried a motion to approve A RESOLUTION TO RE-ESTABLISH PETTY CASH/CHANGE FUNDS. M/S Dever/Dorow. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2010-26.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilmember Spohr stated he is concerned about the condition of the walking path south of the Middle School. He is also serious about the completion of Main Street and asked for confirmation of the deadline date. Mr. Sheldon advised they will start asphalting this Friday and they plan to have another crew working. He reminded the Council that they allowed the contractor to set the project schedule. Councilmember Caylor stated that the sidewalks have been torn up for two months and asked what they are going to do with the sub-grade on Main Street because it is destroyed. He is concerned of the conditions of new paved streets in the future, noting that the city may end up being responsible for it.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Johnson advised that the new driveway exit at the Middle School is within the crosswalk and asked staff to look into it. He also noted that the monthly finance report indicates that the utility and sales tax revenues are both down. Finance Officer Mike Bailey stated that the utility taxes are paid quarterly and it can change quickly. The sale tax funding comes in at a two-month lag.

Mayor Wilson made the following announcements:

- He asked that they follow up on the request from the City Clerk to the elected officials asking what they would want as their public contact information.
- The Police Department is hosting their annual chili feed Friday, October 29th.
- The November workshop will focus on the budget.
- Well #6 bid opening is Thursday, November 4th at 11:00 a.m.
- Union negotiations are Friday, November 5th at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Wilson adjourned the Council meeting at 8:10 p.m.

By: _____
TIM WILSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk