

**City of Othello  
Council Workshop  
October 2, 2000**

**Mayor E R Kelley called the workshop to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Leonard Lyon, Eleanor Brodahl, Les Clemons, Everett Cole, Donald Derifield, Jeannie Ochoa and Kenneth Johnson. Others present were: Debra Travis, Reuel Klempel, and Debbie Kudrna, City Departments Heads; William Shaw, City Administrator; Debbie Sanchez and Ryan Graves from the Columbia Basin Boys & Girls Club.**

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB REPORT**

Ryan Graves gave a Power Point presentation about the Othello Boys & Girls Club. This included discussing their mission; showing their accomplishments of the last year, including their help with reducing Adams County juvenile crime. He highlighted some of the year's activities, reviewed their current location and acknowledged that they have "outgrown" the building quickly. They have developed a Teen Center within the Club and are striving to provide a positive hangout for our teens. He discussed their goals for the next year and acknowledged the local financial contributions and volunteers who have helped the Club become a positive and safe place for the children to go to. Besides the SIG grant, which will continue for the next two years, and local contributions, Mr. Graves asked the City for a financial commitment of \$20,000.00 for 2001.

**2001 BUDGET**

Finance Officer, Debra Travis presented the Draft 2001 Budget and supplement to the Council. She reported that all funds within the budget will meet or beat estimated revenues for 2000. Ms. Travis briefly discussed the following budget items: City Hall/Police Dept. building emergency siren system; lease program for Police Dept. vehicles; Fire Dept. issues; SIG funding for Boys & Girls Club; Lions Park ballfield lighting, field work, play equipment and part time employment for the park department; street projects including Lee Road grant work, traffic signal replacement, 6-year street plan; and well maintenance program.

Bill Shaw commented on capital improvements; concerns of revenue sources for the street fund, which is derived from sales tax collections; revenue sources for a new well, including PWTF loans; repair of Well #6; and funding of sewer extension south of town; and future planning and engineering.

Public Works Director, Reuel Klempel briefed the council on a vehicle replacement program that is similar to the Police Department rotation program and discussed the need for a Public Works Records Clerk and part time mower for the parks. The Council was presented a PRELIMINARY review of the job responsibilities for a Public Works Records Clerk. They reviewed the duties of the proposed position,

which included Public Works GIS computer input. Bill Shaw explained the justification and support of this position. There were some Council concerns that the position had too many duties including the GIS work and was some confusion why there wasn't still the need for a GIS technician. Staff explained that the first work to complete on the GIS system will be Public Works water, sewer, streets etc. information and they thought this new employee may be able to include it in their responsibilities. Mr. Klempel stated that meetings are being held with Avista to discuss possibilities of partnership for reading water meters and utility billing.

Mayor Kelley asked the Council whether they wanted to form a Budget Committee to review the preliminary 2001 budget. It was the Council's consensus that a committee not be formed, and that each Council member would review the proposed budget thoroughly and meet with staff to discuss any concerns or questions they may have.

Councilmember Lyon stated that he wants to explore all options of Library funding and what the city may be responsible for if the voters approve the annexation into the Rural County Library. It was noted that the Rural Library District will not begin receiving their portion of tax funding until the 2002 budget year. Mr. Shaw encouraged the Council to discuss this after the November election, when they will know whether the annexation into the library district is approved or not.

Councilmember Brodahl asked what has been done with Pete Johnson and of him dumping into the city's sewer lines. Mayor Kelley responded that this has been discussed with Mr. Johnson and with the Police Chief and if he is caught dumping into the city's sewer, he will be fined and possibly arrested. Mayor Kelley stated that correspondence from Adams County Health regarding his inability to dump into the city's sewer and consequences if caught doing so has also been reviewed.

Mayor Kelley held a discussion on the current sidewalk projects. He stated that contractors are having to build sidewalks to certain state, city and federal standards. Mr. Shaw explained that they are having to meet Washington State ADA standards and Washington Administrative Code guidelines. Mr. Shaw noted that due to the situation of the sidewalk construction on East Main Street not meeting certain ADA requirements, city staff has been put on alert that they must inspect all infrastructure development to insure that it's meeting our standards and to stop construction if there are any concerns of not meeting the standards.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Kelley adjourned the workshop at approximately 9:43 p.m.

**Debbie Kudrna, CMC  
City Clerk**