

City of Othello
City Council Workshop
November 01, 2010

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Tim Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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, Asst. Police Chief David Inks, and City Clerk Debbie Kudrna.

MAIN STREET UPDATE – GRAY & OSBORNE

Engineers Larry Julius and Taylor Denney from Gray & Osborne provided an update to the Main Street project. Councilmember Spohr stated that the last report from the engineers indicated that paving would be starting. Mr. Julius advised the contractor has some deadlines. December 6th was the original 105 working days for substantial completion date of the contract, excluding the traffic signals. The change orders added 13 working days and there's an additional 5 days for physical completion for the contractor. The traffic signals also added an additional 40 working days. The schedule to begin the pre-level is November 8th. Mayor Wilson said that as long as the weather holds the contractor will meet the schedule. Mr. Sheldon stated that his efforts have been to keep the Council up-to-date, as it is known at the time, and the schedule changes quickly. He advised that Council can propose a change order to finish the job early, although there will be a cost. Mr. Julius gave an update of the pre-level and paving schedule. He answered some more questions that were brought up at last week's contractor meeting. Mr. Julius introduced the on-site inspector Tom McGough. All concerns and questions about the project are to go through Mr. McGough. Councilmember Caylor said he is concerned of the conditions of the sub-grade. Mr. Julius stated that there are areas that will be repaired, prior to pre-level. Councilmember Johnson commented that after the project gets done, we should all be proud of it. Councilmember Caylor stated that we have to respect the businesses and traffic and make the best efforts to accommodate them. Maury Block, office manager of Gray & Osborne noted that this is a complex project and what seems reasonable by the Council may not be reasonable for the contractor. There have been a lot of unknown factors that the contractor has to deal with. He reiterated that the schedule belongs to the contractor. If the city wants to change the schedule, the city will have to pay for it through a change order.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET DISCUSSION:

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon noted a budget retreat was held and committee meetings have been held to review the 2011 budget. There are "red flagged" line items within the general fund that need to be discussed tonight. He noted that the general fund budget has decreased -1.3% over the last three years. The budgets have decreased, maintaining a high level of customer service. He advised that the Council has a balanced operating budget and they can adopt the budget as is with no capital improvement projects. A 2nd option is to add those items from the "red flagged" items that the Council feels are necessary; and then, take a look at where the budget stands at the end of the 2nd quarter in 2011 and revisit the capital items that were not originally approved during the budget process. A 3rd option is to adopt the balanced operating budget and add all of the "red flagged" items and decide where the funding will come from.

Finance Officer Mike Bailey reported that we received the state shared revenues and the utility tax and sales taxex have increased. He presented the 2011 reserve fund balances. Mr. Bailey reviewed the general fund proposed budget and council gave direction on the "red flagged" items, including capital expenditures. Councilmember Spohr noted that the Adams County Development Council's budget showed some conflicting budget figures. He also recommended to hold the line on salaries this year. Mr. Sheldon advised that union negotiations need to continue to figure out salaries and/or medical benefits.

A five minute break was called at 8:57 p.m. Mayor Wilson called the meeting back to order at 9:02 p.m. Council continued to review the 2011 general fund line items and made some decisions on capital projects and funding those projects.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Caylor advised that there was a big discussion at the SWAC meeting. He reported that the tipping fees will remain the same. He attended a GWMA meeting last week and Kevin Lyndsey reported on the progress of the GWMA water project. There will be a presentation about the Regional Ground Water forum, which is scheduled for mid-November.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Wilson made the following announcements:

- Bid opening for Well #6 is November 4th at 11:00 a.m.
- Union negotiations are November 5th at 8:30 a.m.
- Mayor's luncheon is at noon on November 10th at the Senior Center.
- ACDC is at 6:00 p.m. on November 10th at City Hall.
- The City's audit should be completed this week.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Wilson adjourned the workshop at 9:40 p.m.

By: _____
TIM WILSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk