

City of Othello
City Council Workshop
December 1, 2014

CALL TO ORDER:

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

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

Also Present: City Administrator Wade Farris; Department Heads: Public Works Director Terry Clements, Police Chief Phil Schenck, Finance Officer Spencer Williams, and City Clerk Debbie Kudrna.

Absent Was: Councilmembers Angel Garza and Corey Everett.

Council carried a motion to excuse Councilmember Cory Everett. M/S Snyder/Bain.

Council carried a motion to excuse Councilmember Angel Garza. M/S Johnson/Dorow.

CITIZEN INPUT

Sean Bates, 1156 E. Juniper Street, requested for the Council to find a way to include in the budget an ADA handicap restroom facility in Lions Park.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITIONS:

Mayor Logan presented Community Service Award certificates to the following citizens: Terry Thompson, Jessie Dominguez, Dulcye Field and Tracy Field.

PAUL STOKER – GWMA REPORT

Paul Stoker, Executive Director of the Ground Water Management Act (GWMA). He advised that they have completed a water supply alternatives evaluation for the City of Othello. He summarized the evaluation document including demand and capacity and presented options for the City to consider regarding future water supply. Mr. Stoker clarified that if the City plans to go into an ASR aquifer storage and if we expect to pump the water back out of the well, we will pump an excess of what we originally put in. If they continue to use their basalt wells for supply, they will continue to deteriorate your supply. He noted that the State provides that you can pump out of an ASR 95% of the water.

14TH AVENUE STREET PROJECT REPORT

City Administrator Wade Farris explained that with the funding that we've received for improvements of 14th Avenue, we need to plan for those improvements, including discussing the intersection of Scooteny Street and 14th Avenue. Options to consider is a traffic signal, turn lanes or a roundabout. He advised that with the proposed development of the area, we understand that we will need to mitigate the increased traffic and meet the safety concerns.

City Engineer Larry Julius advised that the City received a State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) grant to reconstruct and widen 14th Avenue from Cemetery Road to State Route 26. The City's matching funds for this project is \$490,000. Staff has been discussing the installation of a traffic signal, turn lanes or a roundabout at the intersection of 14th Avenue and Scooteny Street. The City's match was \$490,000 for the TIB grant. He noted that staff has been reviewing whether pedestrian-actuated traffic signals should be installed north, south, and west of the intersection of Scooteny Street and 14th Avenue if a roundabout is installed.

Mike Meskimen from Gray & Osborne explained the pros and cons of a roundabout and a traffic signal. There was a discussion about the development of Scooteny Street east of 14th Avenue, including the proposed Columbia Basin Health Association property.

Mr. Julius reviewed options for adjacent property owners and property developers in and along 14th Avenue paying a portion of the City's matching funds and cost difference to pay for the improvements.

It was noted that improvements to 14th Avenue is projected at:

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Amount of TIB grant:	\$1,960,000
Amount of City matching funds:	\$490,000
Total Estimated Project Cost:	\$2,450,000

Chief Schenck presented his thoughts on safety at a traffic signal or a roundabout at this location.

Mayor Logan asked if any of the property owners in attendance had comments. Pete Olsen, Olsen Homes asked to see a map, indicating where his 930 feet are. He asked that a 3rd party review the traffic study. Rob Simmons from the Othello School District asked who has the right-of-way on one lane roundabout. Mr. Julius advised that the vehicle in the roundabout has the right-of-way. Mr. Simmons noted that the School District's intent is that the Scooteny Street will be widened after the curve in it. Mr. Julius advised that CBHA will work with the School District on the widening of the street.

Mr. Devon Michael, DDM Enterprises, asked how much of the traffic from SR 26 drives north pass the School District? His concern is of paying for his share when current traffic already flows north on 14th Avenue. He requested that he is placed on a mailing list for further discussions.

Engineer Larry Julius asked where they should go from here regarding the Scooteny Street intersection configuration and whether parking lanes and right turn pockets should be included.

Mayor Logan recognized and thanked Eric Paige from The Othello Outlook, who is moving back to Cle Elum.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Logan adjourned the workshop at 8:40 p.m.

By: _____
SHAWN LOGAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk