

City of Othello  
Council Workshop  
December 2, 2002

Mayor Sanders called the workshop to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Jeannie L. Sanders; Councilmembers Everett Cole, Eleanor Brodahl, Larry Bray, Kenneth Johnson, Leonard Lyon, Don Derifield, and Tim Wilson.

Also Present: City Administrator Ehman Sheldon, Department Heads: Curt Andrews, Debbie Kudrna, Rhonda Miller, Dick Lee, and Police Chief Ron Axtman.

**2003 BUDGET REVIEW**

Mayor Sanders requested that the sidewalk and trails line item in the Parks budget be reduced to \$20,000. She mentioned that Al Shoenhuth and Callie Moore from the Adams County Health District were in attendance to answer any further questions regarding their request for funding. Mayor Sanders explained that if the Health District is changed to a Health Department by the County Commissioners, it would be managed by the Commissioners but it is expected that a committee would be formed with city representation for the department. She clarified that the Health District is requesting \$16,000 and commented that she is in favor of supporting services for the citizens of Othello. Councilmember Cole, Johnson, and Bray stated they are not in favor of appropriating funding at this time without additional information and were concerned that it would become an annual request. Mayor Sanders explained that Ritzville will discuss the funding request at their meeting the following night, she thought Hatton was going to consider funding; Lind has been asked for funding, although no decision has been made, and no decision has been made by Washtucna. Councilmember Brodahl suggested to wait and see what the other cities in the County decide, and encourage the Council to make a wise decision. Councilmember Lyon asked for further information including what services are available elsewhere and how is the Health District unique in providing services and what the pros and cons are. The Health District representatives were asked to provide statistics from their quarterly reports indicating how many city and county residents receive Health District services. Mr. Shoenhuth explained that if Othello appropriates funding, it would be used to keep the staff hours status quo; staff would be more available to the public; there may be quicker response to emergency situations; and WIC dollars will stay in Othello.

Finance Officer Rhonda Miller reviewed the most current changes in the preliminary budget, as have been directed by the Council and Mayor.

**PROPOSED INVESTMENT POLICY**

Ms. Miller presented a draft Investment Policy. She reviewed the city's amount of liquid money in the various funds and her proposed breakdown of investment tiers and allocations. She explained that she would work with the Deputy Finance Officer to delegate duties to insure segregation of duties and will develop a schedule to work on and track the city's investment program. Councilmember Lyon explained that he wants to be assured that the city's investment is protected and that the staff is above reproach and not at risk.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Jeannie Sanders adjourned the Council meeting to hold an executive session as provided in RCW 42.30.110 (g) and (i) to discuss union negotiations and possible litigation at 7:59 p.m. for approximately 20 minutes. Council reconvened at 7:59 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Sanders adjourned the workshop at 8:00 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeannie L. Sanders, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Debbie L. Kudrna, City Clerk