

City of Othello
Regular Council Meeting
December 10th, 2001

Mayor E R Kelley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Eleanor Brodahl, Les Clemons, Everett Cole, Don Derifield, Jeannie Ochoa, and Kenneth Johnson. Absent was Leonard Lyon. Also present were: Curt Andrews, Debbie Kudrna, Rhonda Miller, and Reuel Klempel, City Department Heads; Police Chief, Ron Axtman; and James Whitaker, City Attorney.

Council member, Kenneth Johnson led the opening invocation and Mayor Kelley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council carried a motion to approve the agenda as presented. M/S Clemons/Cole.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes of November 26th, 2001.
- B. Approval of Payroll and Related Expenses for November, 2001.
- C. Approval of Warrants for November, 2001.
- D. Set Public Hearing on the Petition to Rezone filed by Olsen Homes, LLC for December 27th, 2001.

Accounts Payable was audited and certified by the Auditing Officer, as required by RCW 42.24.080; and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, and have been recorded on a listing that is available to the Council.

Expense Claim Check No. 24133 to No. 24255 in the amount of \$505,380.74.
Payroll Check No. 15034 No. 15124 in the amount of \$149,471.51.

Mayor Kelley mentioned the approval of the consent agenda included the scheduling of the public hearing for the petition to rezone filed by Olsen Homes.

Council carried a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. M/S Cole/Clemons. Council member, Kenneth Johnson abstained from voting, due to a payment made to Johnson Glass.

CHANGE ORDER FOR COLUMBIA STREET PROJECT

Public Works Director, Reuel Klempel presented Change Order #1 for the Columbia Street Project contract with Hollenbeck Excavation, Inc. in the amount of \$18,110.40. He explained that the original contract did not include a portion of the street project for work performed adjacent to property owned by Cenex, and Gary Weaver and the city's portion of an additional right-of-way. The Change Order also included additional curb and catch basins that had to be lowered in order for water to flow properly on both corners of 1st and Columbia Street, and it included a charge for concrete blankets. He noted that the sub-base quantities were a major factor in the Change Order. City Attorney, James Whitaker explained that an Ordinance will be crafted to provide a late comers payment to the city for the work performed adjacent to private property. The repayment of their portion of the street project will be attached to the platting requirements of the property.

Council carried a motion to approve Change Order #1 for the Columbia Street Project in the total amount of \$18,110.40; contractor being Hollenbeck Excavation and Plumbing, Inc. M/S Cole/Clemons.

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RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT COLUMBIA STREET PROJECT

Public Works Director, Reuel Klempel reported that the portion that Hollenbeck Excavation and Plumbing, Inc. were responsible for has been completed on the Columbia Street Project, per the contract terms. He recommended council adopting the resolution to accept the project.

Council carried a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE COLUMBIA STREET PROJECT. M/S Clemons/Brodahl. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2001-41.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT ELM STREET WATER PROJECT

Public Works Director, Reuel Klempel reported that the water project has been completed by Venture Construction per the contract terms. He reported that the water lines had been tested and approved. Mr. Klempel explained that the street surfacing will be performed by a different contractor and will be completed in the spring.

Council carried a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE ELM STREET WATER PROJECT. M/S Johnson/Derifield. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2001-42.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT DONATION – JIRI VANOUREK

The City Clerk provided copies of a letter that was sent out to Multi-Star Industries indicating the necessity to flow test the two private fire hydrants located within his property. Multi-Star Industries owner, Jiri Vanourek responded to the city's letter indicating that he had not performed a sufficient flow test of these hydrants. Included with his response was a check in the amount of \$100.00 made out to the City of Othello to be used for Christmas decorations. The Clerk recommended that Mr. Vanourek forward the monitory donation to the appropriate committee for Christmas decorations.

Council carried a motion to direct the Clerk to return the check to Mr. Vanourek advising him that the city is not responsible for the Christmas decorations and indicating that the donation could be made to the Festival of Lights Committee. M/S Cole/Johnson. They took no action on the resolution to accept a donation.

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING EASEMENT FROM ROBERTS AND OTHELLO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Building Official, Curt Andrews presented the resolution, which would accept the easements for the right-of-way from Curtis and Sue Roberts and the Othello School District for Cemetery Road.

Council carried a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AN EASEMENT FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY PURPOSES FROM CURTIS AND SUE ROBERTS AND THE OTHELLO SCHOOL DISTRICT. M/S Cole/Clemons. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2001-43.

SALARIES OF NON-UNION EMPLOYEES

Mayor Kelley presented a 3.1% salary increase for non-union employees for 2002. He noted that this was the same rate increase that was agreed upon with the two union contracts. It was explained that Mr. James Hash had received a job reclassification, advancing him from the Administrative Secretary position to a position that pays equivalent to the Deputy Finance and Deputy Clerk positions.

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Council carried a motion to approve the non-union salary increases as presented at 3.1%.
M/S Derifield/Clemons.

ORDINANCE TO ADOPT 2002 CITY BUDGET

Finance Officer, Rhonda Miller presented a revised ordinance for the council to consider, which would adopt the 2002 budget. This proposal included a transfer amount from the Utility Tax Fund into the Cumulative Reserve Fund in the amount of \$256,000.00. She stated that the budget ordinance does include combined revenues and expenditures for each fund and total budget revenues and expenditures with an expected ending balance.

Mayor Kelley asked for any questions regarding the 2002 budget. The Finance Officer later clarified that the \$350,000.00 in the Reserve Funds was appropriated as a planning tool for drilling a new well.

Council carried a motion to adopt AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OTHELLO, WASHINGTON, FIXING THE BUDGET FOR 2002, SETTING FORTH APPROPRIATIONS AND ESTIMATED REVENUES AND ADOPTING, BY REFERENCE, THE FINAL BUDGET FOR 2002. M/S Cole/Ochoa. Council member, Derifield cast an opposing vote. This shall be known as Ordinance No. 1109.

ORDINANCE REPEALING O.M.C. SECTIONS 16.29.050-130 ENTITLED “DESIGN STANDARDS” AND CREATING NEW SECTIONS 16.29.050-110

Planner, Curt Andrews presented the proposed new ordinance explaining that the major change in the ordinance is limiting 20 dwellings on any one street having only one access point. He noted that we are not changing the existing right-of-way or street widths; it does reduce the size of cul-de-sacs; reduce the width of short dead end streets; and provides for smaller cul-de-sacs on short end streets. The ordinance also provides provisions for street curves, intersections, grades, and widths.

Council carried a motion to adopt AN ORDINANCE REPEALING OTHELLO MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 16.29.050-130 OF CHAPTER 16.29 ENTITLED “DESIGN STANDARDS” IN THEIR ENTIRETY, AND CREATING NEW SECTIONS 16.29.050-110. M/S Cole/Clemons. This shall be known as Ordinance No. 1110.

ORDINANCE AMENDING O.M.C. SECTION 13.04.030 ENTITLED “STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT”

Planner, Curt Andrews presented the proposed ordinance, which would change the levels of projects within the city that will be exempt from completing a SEPA checklist for those certain projects. The ordinance would exempt residential dwelling units of four or less; agricultural structures up to 30,000 square feet; office, school, commercial, recreation, or storage buildings up to 6,000 square feet and up to 40 parking spaces; parking lots up to 20 parking spaces; landfills up to 100 cubic yards; and excavations up to 50 cubic yards. He commented this would allow city staff and other entities SEPA review of new projects that fall above these thresholds.

Council carried a motion to adopt AN ORDINANCE AMENDING OTHELLO MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 13.04.030 OF CHAPTER 13.04 ENTITLED “STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT.” M/S Clemons/Brodahl. This shall be known as Ordinance No. 1111.

ORDINANCE TO REPEAL O.M.C. SECTION 6.04.150 ENTITLED “ANIMAL CONTROL”

City Attorney, James Whitaker presented an ordinance, which would repeal the current ordinance relating to cruelty to animals. He noted that current state laws provide misdemeanor or felony provisions for animal cruelty.

Council carried a motion to adopt AN ORDINANCE REPEALING OTHELLO MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 6.04.150 OF CHAPTER 6.04 ENTITLED “ANIMAL CONTROL.” M/S Clemons/Cole. This shall be known as Ordinance No. 1112.

RECEIVE THE DRAFT PLANNING COMMISSION FINDINGS OF FACTS ON THE REZONE REQUEST

Mayor Kelley noted the city council received the draft Planning Commissions Findings of Facts, Conclusions and Decisions on the rezone request filed by Olsen Homes. He noted the council would discuss this during the public hearing set for December 27th, 2001.

AGREEMENT WITH HOSPITAL DISTRICT #3 FOR DISPATCH SERVICES

Police Chief, Axtman presented the three dispatch service agreements to the council. He noted that the calendar year for these agreements commence January 2002 through December 31, 2002. He noted that all three agreements are consistent with those signed by Mayor Kelley for the 2001 dispatch services. Chief Axtman recommended that the current agreements be continued at the fee schedule set for 2001, allowing him to review budgetary considerations, call volume, and staffing considerations throughout the year to determine if changes are needed for fiscal year 2003.

Council carried a motion to authorize the inter-local agreement between the City of Othello and Othello Hospital District #3 for dispatch services as presented for January 1st, 2002 through December 31st, 2002. M/S Ochoa/Cole.

AGREEMENT WITH ADAMS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #5 FOR DISPATCH SERVICES

Chief, Axtman reiterated his recommendation to approve all three of the dispatch service agreements for 2002 allowing him next year to review the budget constraints and staffing etc. Chief Axtman explained that there is an Othello Dispatch Center Advisory Board, which consist of one representative from the Othello Police Department, Adams County Sheriff’s Department, Adams County Fire District #5, and Othello Community Hospital Ambulance Service. The Dispatch Advisory Boards’ roll is to recommend to the city as respects to the operation of the dispatch center.

Council carried a motion to authorize the inter-local agreement between the City of Othello and Adams County Fire District #5 for dispatch services as presented for January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002. M/S Clemons/Ochoa.

AGREEMENT WITH ADAMS COUNTY FOR DISPATCH SERVICES

Council carried a motion to enter into the inter-local agreement between the City of Othello and Adams County for dispatch services as presented for January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002. M/S Cole/Clemons.

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APPOINTMENT OF KIM OORD TO THE OTHELLO PLANNING COMMISSION

Mayor Kelley appointed Kim Oord to fill the unexpired term of Position #2 on the Planning Commission, which expires January of 2004. This vacancy is left by the resignation of Cal Schaffer.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The City Clerk presented the council with copies of the Association of Washington Cities water and sewer survey. She briefly reviewed the survey and noted that this may be helpful for the council for responding to questions regarding the proposed new rates.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Kelley expressed his gratitude to the family of Ramiro Perez for their donation of the Christmas wreath, which is hanging at the entrance of City Hall. Mayor Kelley commended the citizens of Othello for their pouring out of gratitude.

The City Clerk announced the appointment of Rebecca Dover as the Deputy City Clerk who will be beginning employment on December 18th, 2001.

Mayor Kelley noted that the City Administrator search is continuing and the committee is reviewing their options at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Kelley adjourned the city council meeting at 8:02 p.m.

E R KELLEY, Mayor

ATTEST:

DEBBIE L KUDRNA, City Clerk