

CALL TO ORDER:

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

Present: Councilmembers Larry Bray, Eleanor Brodahl, Everett Cole, Kenneth Johnson, Shannon McKay, and Marc Spohr.

Absent was: Councilmember Tim Wilson.

Also Present: Department Heads: Curt Andrews, Lieutenant Bob Hampton, Debbie Kudrna, Dick Lee, Rhonda Miller; and City Administrator Ehman Sheldon.

OATH OF OFFICE TO MAYOR SHANNON MCKAY AND COUNCILMEMBER DALE WYMAN

The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Shannon McKay and Councilmember Dale Wyman.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW

City Planner Curt Andrews provided an update of the Comprehensive Plan, which is being revised by the Planning Commission. He advised that the Comprehensive Area Map was updated with the Water Plan and the Commission is now working on the zoning areas within the Comprehensive Plan Map. They will work on the footnotes and text in 2006 and then will complete the transportation element. Their intent is to be compatible with the State's Growth Management Act (GMA) guidelines, although Adams County is not GMA recognized. Mr. Andrews explained that Adams County has completed their Comprehensive Plan and their focus was on economic development and the Commission intends the City's plan to be compatible with the County growth plan. The Commission also wants to be compatible with the local growth philosophy; protect and maintain our land uses and businesses; plan and design within our infrastructure capacity, and provide for our growth projections. Mr. Andrews asked the Council to provide direction of what park services they want to provide and plan for; do they want to maintain our current ratio of park acres per thousand population or change that philosophy. He advised that we need to provide a scale of the approximate size of future park space. He explained that we currently have a park mitigation fee of \$250 per house, which will be used towards development of new parks.

Councilmember Cole requested statistics about the level of park services to compare with and Mayor McKay recommended that we review the statistics from our regional area.

COUNCIL MEETING TIMES

Mayor McKay asked the Council whether they would like to change the Council meeting times to 6:00 p.m. during Daylight Savings Time. Council consensus was to leave the meeting times as they are.

Mayor McKay asked if Council would want to cancel the December 27th City Council meeting. Finance Officer Rhonda Miller advised that the year-end bills can be presented to the City Council at the January 9th meeting, along with 2006 bills. Council consensus was to cancel the December 27th City Council meeting.

2006 BUDGET REVIEW

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon advised that the Council committees had met with Department Directors to review the various sections of the 2006 budget. Tonight there will be a collective review of the following: the preliminary budget figures; a proposed zero balance budget, which are drastic reductions from the preliminary budget; and the line items that have been reduced to present a zero balance budget. He explained that Ms. Miller will keep a running total of the changes and Council can see what the ending fund balance is and the running balance of reserves. Mr. Sheldon noted that the goal is to come to a consensus regarding the allocations and a budget ordinance will be prepared for consideration at the next Council meeting.

City of Othello
Council Workshop
December 5, 2005

The Department Heads made presentations regarding the reductions made to their particular funds for a proposed zero balance budget. The Council considered their requests and the projects impacted by the reductions and made budget decisions in the following funds: water, sewer, street, police, building/planning, parks and general administration. Finance Officer Rhonda Miller reviewed the Utility Tax Fund and how it is allocated; reviewed the Reserve Funds, and explained the anticipated budget amendment for 2005. As the decisions were made by the Council for the 2006 budget, Ms. Miller made changes to the preliminary budget figures.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Kenneth Johnson announced that he will resign from his position as Councilmember, effective January 1, 2006. He stated that he has been on Council for six years. He advised that he will stay very active in the community and has appreciated the time he has served the community. Mayor McKay thanked Councilmember Johnson for his past commitment.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor McKay adjourned the workshop at 10:30 p.m.

By: _____
SHANNON MCKAY, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk