



MINUTES

City Council Regular Meeting

6:30 PM – Monday, November 12, 2019

Council Chambers, City Hall – 500 E Main St

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Logan called the meeting of the Othello City Council to order at 6:30 and led a silent invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present:

Genna Dorow

Corey Everett

Angel Garza

Maria Quezada

John Lallas

Mark Snyder

Councilmembers Absent:

Eugene Bain

Council Action: Council carried a motion to EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER. M/S Dorow/Lallas

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT

Shawn Logan, Mayor

Tania Morelos, City Clerk

Spencer Williams, Finance Officer

Anne Henning, Community Development Director

Phil Schenck, Police Chief

Terry Clements, Public Works Director

Abner Garza, IT Director

Shawn O'Brien, City Engineer

CITIZEN INPUT

There was none.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council carried a motion to APPROVE THE AGENDA. M/S Garza/Lallas

CONSENT OF AGENDA

- A. Approval of City Council Minutes of October 28, 2019 and November 4, 2019
- B. Approval of Accounts Payable Checks
- C. Approval of Surplus Items by IT
- D. Approval of Surplus Items by Clerk
- E. Acceptance of Lee Roach Reconstruction Project

Council carried a motion to APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. M/S Snyder/Everett

CURRENT BUSINESS

UPDATE ON PET RESCUE

Kyya Grant from Pet Rescue gives an update on the 2019 Intake and Outcome. The numbers consisted of the amount of City, County, and Other animals taken in, adopted, transferred, died, and euthanized.

AGREEMENT WITH SUNNYSIDE

Phil Schenck, Police Chief explains the purpose of the agreement between the City of Othello and City of Sunnyside and recommends Council approve the agreement for housing inmates for the year 2020.

Council carried a motion to APPROVE THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SUNNYSIDE AND THE CITY OF OTHELLO FOR HOUSING INMATES IN THE YEAR 2020. M/S Dorow/Quezada

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION ORDINANCE

Spencer Williams, Finance Officer explains the current ordinance was passed in 1991 and needs to be updated. Council approval is recommended as this policy is intended to promote good will for City employees. The recognition award budget was amended from \$50 to \$125 plus \$2 for every year of service.

Council carried a motion to APPROVE ORDINANCE UPDATING THE EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION POLICY. M/S Snyder/Garza

PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING UPDATE

Mayor Logan opened the Public Hearing at 6:42 p.m.

Anne Henning, Community Development Director gives a brief history of the process the Planning Commission and City Council have been through on the issue of the current proposed zoning update. Henning explains letters were mailed to everyone who are within 300 feet of a zone change and the public hearing is be held so those at the meeting today can comment or ask questions.

Mayor Logan opened the public testimony for those in support of the proposal.

People who spoke in support of the proposal:

- Octavio Vargas has lived in Othello for 15 years and believes that making more room for Commercial zones is a positive for Othello as there is not much commercial property that can be developed now. Vargas believes this zone change will make a positive impact to Othello giving people the ability to open more and new businesses in Othello.

Mayor Logan opened the public testimony for those neutral to the proposal.

People who spoke in neutral of the proposal:

- Chris Vidal, 629 S. 3rd Avenue says he's not against it he's actually in support of it. He speaks of parcel #1529030682615 South of Olympia and East of 2nd Avenue. Vidal would like to eventually build a two-story apartment complex. The current proposal would zone this area as an R3 and Vidal is requesting it be zoned to R4.
- Kathaleen Lathem from Coventry House explains they would like to eventually include a Dementia/Memory Care Unit and is asking that Council consider their area as an R4.

Mayor Logan opened the public testimony for those in opposition to the proposal.

People who spoke in support of the proposal:

- Nathan Gerber, 505 N. 14th Avenue says he wrote a request that his property stay as residential medical and asks Council if they have any questions. Mayor Logan says Council is generally in favor for the reasons Gerber stated in his letter.

Mayor Logan suspends speaking in neutral, support, or in opposition to give others the ability to make a comment of any kind or ask questions. Much more discussion ensued between Council and many of the public present. Planning Commissioner Chris Dorow also speaks to give Council and the public clarification to some specific questions asked.

Mayor Logan continued the Public Hearing at 7:48pm to November 25th people may contact Anne Henning with any more questions in the meantime.

WATER RATE DISCUSSION

Spencer Williams, Finance Officer explains the water rate ordinance covers a 3-year period, ending in December 2019. A discussion is due about water rates for the next 3 years (2020, 21,

22). The water committee concluded that the rate increase should fall between 2.25% and 2.5% and staff is looking for guidance from Council based on the committee recommendation.

Motion to APPROVE AND PASS 2.25% INCREASE PER YEAR FOR 3 YEARS. M/S Dorow/Snyder

BUDGET DISCUSSION (1 OF 2)

Spencer Williams, Finance Officer presents the budget items and explains which red zone items are up for discussion for possibilities in the 2020 budget. Council briefly discussed the items.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Logan adjourned the Council meeting at 8:19 p.m.

By: _____
SHAWN R. LOGAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
TANIA D. MORELOS, City Clerk