



MINUTES

City Council Regular Meeting

6:30 PM – Monday, May 26, 2020

GoToMeetings

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:

John Lallas

Jonathan Erickson

Genna Dorow

Mark Snyder

Corey Everett

Maria Quezada

Councilmembers Absent:

Angel Garza

Council carried a motion to EXCUSE COUNCILMEMBER. M/S DOROW/LALLAS

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT

Shawn Logan, Mayor

Tania Morelos, City Clerk

Abner Garza, IT Director

Spencer Williams, Finance Officer

Anne Henning, Community Development Director

Phil Schenck, Police Chief

Shawn O'Brien, City Engineer

Randy Gomez, Parks and Recreation Coordinator

Kelly Konkright, City Attorney

CITIZEN INPUT

There was none.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council carried a motion to APPROVE THE AGENDA. M/S ERICKSON/LALLAS

CONSENT OF AGENDA

- A. Approval of Accounts Payable Checks
- B. Approval of Payroll and Related Expenses
- C. Approval of City Council Minutes for May 11, 2020
- D. City Hall ROW
- E. Surplus Items

Council carried a motion to APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. M/S EVERETT/DOROW

CURRENT BUSINESS

CITY OF OTHELLO WWFP AMENDMENT

Shawn O'Brien, City Engineer explains the need for an amendment to the Wastewater Facility Plan. Councilman Lallas does not feel comfortable voting on the issue tonight and would like to discuss it in a Water/Sewer/Street committee meeting to better understand the contract amendment with Varela.

POOL SUMMER SEASON

Randy Gomez, Parks and Recreation Coordinator gives Council a briefing on the status of opening the pool and the swim team due to COVID. After making calls to surrounding cities, speaking with the Mayor and Finance Officer it does not seem logical to open the pool this year. Staff seeks recommendation from City Council whether to open or close the Othello Community Pool for Summer 2020.

Council carried a motion to RECOMMEND STAFF TO CLOSE THE OTHELLO COMMUNITY POOL FOR THE 2020 SEASON AND PREPARE FOR NEXT YEARS SWIM SEASON WHEN THE SWIM TEAM PLANS TO HOST THEIR CHAMPS EVENT. M/S LALLAS/EVERETT

Councilman Erickson opposed the motion to close the pool. Erickson would like to “take a look at this in a week or so to reevaluate, closing is taking too much from the community”.

REOPENING-PHASE TWO

Mayor Shawn Logan goes over the letter from Washington State Secretary Health John Wiesman approving Adams County to move to Phase 2 and explains what exactly moving to Phase 2 means. Council is informed that the letter states the issuing approval for the Phase 2 variance can be revoked if circumstances change within Adams County.

Q&A WITH KELLY KONKRIGHT

Kelly Konkright, City Attorney briefs Council on his research to potentially bring a lawsuit against the state Governor. Konkright's legal opinion and experience in litigation does not recommend moving forward with a legal action at the time and the City should wait to see how other open lawsuits against the Governor play out. Council agrees with Konkright's recommendation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Logan announces City staff is returning to work at full staff on Monday, June 1st and will prepare on opening City Hall doors on June 8th. City Council meetings will remain on GoToMeeting until July. If Adams County moves to Phase 3 before July Council meetings will be held in Council Chambers again immediately.

The City is now issuing building permits and yard sale permits.

Randy Gomez, Parks and Recreation Coordinator updates Council on the status of the ballparks and Little League and seeks recommendation whether to cancel Little League this year or not. Much discussion ensued regarding the guidelines for Phase 2 and Phase 3, timelines to prepare to start the league, and more.

It is difficult to come to a decision at such a time of uncertainty especially with the restrictions set by the Governor. Council is having a hard time with the cancellations of so many events but understands the importance of the health of the public. Council would like to hear from the Public and receive input on Facebook on the issue.

Staff will schedule a Parks and Recreation committee meeting to discuss the topic further and possibly come up with alternatives.

Mayor Logan asks Council to be prepared to have a discussion on the Fireworks show for 4th of July.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Logan adjourned the Council meeting at 7:37 p.m.

By: _____
SHAWN R. LOGAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
TANIA D. MORELOS, City Clerk