



MINUTES

City Council Regular Meeting

6:30 PM – Monday, October 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 p.m. and led a silent invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present:

John Lallas

Mark Snyder

Maria Quezada

Genna Dorow

Corey Everett

Angel Garza

Councilmembers Absent:

Jonathan Erickson

Council carried a motion to EXCUSE COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN ERICKSON. M/S Dorow/Quezada

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT

Shawn Logan, Mayor

Yvonne Hernandez, Deputy City Clerk

Anne Henning, Community Development Director

Spencer Williams, Finance Officer

Terry Clements, Public Works Director

CITIZEN INPUT

There was none.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT OF AGENDA

- A. Approval of Accounts Payable Checks
- B. Approval of Payroll & Related Expenses

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

CURRENT BUSINESS

CONSULTANT HOUSING PRESENTATION

Anne Henning, Community Development Director informed council that this past spring, Othello applied for and Washington Department of Commerce awarded a \$25,000 grant for the preparation of a Housing Action Plan, to evaluate existing housing supply and future needs, and determine ways to increase the supply and affordability of housing in Othello. Based on proposals from 4 companies that specialize in this type of work, we chose BERK Consulting, Inc. to prepare the Plan. To date, BERK has prepared a Public Engagement Plan, a draft Housing Needs Analysis, a draft Policy Review, and a public survey that is open right now. Henning informs council that BERK will present their work so far and get feedback from the City Council and Planning Commission on the direction for the remainder of the work.

Jessie Hartmann, with Berk Consulting presented council with a Housing Needs Assessment & Policy Review presentation. The housing action plan is funded through a grant with Department of Commerce with the goal of encouraging construction of additional affordable and market rate housing in a greater variety of housing types and at prices accessible to a greater variety of incomes, including strategies aimed at the for-profit single family home market.

2021 TOURISM FUNDING

Spencer Williams, Finance Officer informs council that the City receives Hotel/Motel taxes into the Tourism fund. These dollars are to be used by organizations that promote tourism within the City of Othello. Last week, City staff met with the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) to discuss the 2021 available dollars and recommend allocations among our tourism related organizations. 2021 Budget – The LTAC reviewed the requests for tourism funds for next year and the available dollars. Their recommendations for the 2021 Budget were presented. This committee considered the tourism activities generated by each of the organizations requesting money and divided up the available dollars accordingly. Discussion included allocating more money towards the Othello Holiday Committee. Council directs to proceed with taking the proper steps to increase monies towards the Othello Holiday Committee.

3rd Disbursement of Corona Virus Relief Funds/Small Business Grants

Mayor Shawn Logan presents to council that an additional \$125,175 was received of the federal Coronavirus Relief Funds to add to the \$250,350 previously received from the Washington State Department of Commerce for a total of \$375,525.

Funds may only be used to cover costs that:

1. Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).
2. Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State or government; and
3. Were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on October 31, 2020

The grant may be used for expenses the City incurs as well as offering small business grants within the City of Othello. The City Council requested that the small business who have financially suffered due to COVID-19 who had not applied or had missed the previous deadline to apply for the grant be contacted in person and be encouraged to apply. After fulfilling this request an additional 16 applications were received, and aid has been awarded accordingly.

Othello Beautification Committee	\$2,500
Othello Fair	\$2,500
Othello Senior Center	\$2,500
Tu Taqueria	\$2,500
Golden Fountain	\$4,000
Sagehill Builders	\$3,000
Christmas Miracle on Main Street	\$6,000
B Beauty Salon	\$4,000
Adams County Pet Rescue	\$1,000
Reichert's Showhouse	\$7,000
Total	\$35,000

Resolution 2020-16 and the agreements between the city and small businesses were created in accordance to disperse these funds.

Council carried a motion to APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-16 ESTABLISHING THE 3rd DISBURSEMENT OF THE CARES ACT SMALL BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANT FUND AND AWARDING MONIES. M/S Lallas/Dorow

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Logan read a thank you letter from Basin Karate and Terry Stone for monies received from the Covid Grant.

FIREWORKS – SURVEY MONKEY RESULTS

Mayor Shawn Logan, presented council with the results for the survey monkey regarding which night to have the firework display came back as 150 votes for Miracle on Main Street and 151 votes for New Year's Eve. The survey also asked what would be a preferred time to have the firework display. The results were 102 voted for 7pm, 114 for 9pm and 85 for 10pm. Mayor informed council that they would need to make a decision. Council decided to proceed with the firework show to be the Night of the Miracle on Main Street. Tanya, City Clerk asked about the time of the firework show as she envisioned the fireworks being displayed after the tree lighting as the event will be ending by 9pm. Council agreed with Tanya and it was decided to be at 7pm.

Mayor Shawn Logan, presented council with the Farmers Market Survey and a sample from the consultant, Mary Bosch with a survey asking food entrepreneurs for their interest and ideas. Mayor asked council for their permission to provide their contact information to the consultant so she may have the opportunity to speak to everyone individually and ask about their thoughts and ideas. Council agreed for their information to be released.

NEW BUSINESS

John Lallas, councilmember asked when the water tank was going to start being filled. Mayor stated that he would talk to Shawn O'Brien, City engineer and get him an answer.

Mayor Shawn Logan advised council that Donna Dietmeyer is retiring from the city and they will be having a surprise retirement party for her on October 27 from 11am to 1pm and invited council to attend.

Mayor Logan also informed council that he was working with Spencer, Finance Officer in regard to proceeding with in person city budget meetings following Covid guidelines. Mayor stated he asked for input from our city attorney who advised that he did not see away for this to happen without violating the governors' order. So, the decision has been made that the budget meeting will have to be done online with GoToMeeting. Spencer Williams, Finance Officer informed council that all worksheets will be provided.

COUNCIL WILL ALSO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Logan adjourned the Council meeting at 7:47 p.m.

By: _____
SHAWN R. LOGAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
YVONNE HERNANDEZ, DEPUTY CITY CLERK