

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Tim Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present:** Mayor Tim Wilson; Councilmembers: Eugene Bain, Ken Caylor, Dan Dever, Genna Dorow, Charles Garcia, Kenneth Johnson, and Mark Snyder.

**Also Present:** City Administrator Ehman Sheldon; Department Heads: Finance Officer Mike Bailey, Public Works Director Terry Clements, Police Chief Steven Dunnagan, Park and Recreation Coordinator Molly Klippert, City Clerk Debbie Kudrna, and City Attorney Katherine Kenison.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Council carried a motion to approve the agenda. M/S Johnson/Snyder.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approval of City Council Minutes of July 23, 2012
- B. Approval of City Council Workshop Minutes of August 6, 2012
- C. Approval of Accounts Payable Checks
- D. Approval of Payroll and Related Expenses
- E. Approval of Charges for Copying Policy and Procedure

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

Accounts Payable Check No. 41441 to No. 41523 in the amount of \$139,934.45.  
Payroll Check No. 27880 to No. 27949 in the amount of \$309,730.69.

Council carried a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. M/S Caylor/Dever.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – DAN QUICK 20 YEARS**

Mayor Wilson read into the record appreciation to Public Works employee Dan Quick for his 20 years of dedicated service to the City of Othello.

**BRENT STENSON – ADAMS COUNTY HOMELESS REPORT**

Adams County Environmental Health Director Brent Stenson gave a presentation on the County's 10-year plan to end homelessness in Adams County. The Adams County Commissioners appointed the Adams County Emergency Food and Shelter Board to act as a Housing Task Force and develop a 10 year homeless housing strategic plan to eliminate homelessness in the County by fifty percent.

**CONSIDERATION FOR DRILLING WELL #9**

Public Works Director Terry Clements advised that staff has been reviewing options for drilling a new well east of Hwy. 17. The City has selected property adjacent to Cunningham Road, east of Hwy. 17. He reviewed the estimated cost to drill a pilot hole before drilling the production hole and the cost to drill the production hole without a pilot hole. He asked if Council would want to consider the hydrogeology services projected costs.

City Engineer Larry Julius noted that a Hydrogeologist can analyze a new well site and make a recommendation of a good location to drill or report what they think of a selected well site. The Hydrogeologist will also work with the driller during the construction phases and report any effects to the aquifers and adjacent wells. He noted that Kevin Lyndsey of GSI has a lot of knowledge of the aquifers and wells in our area. Mr. Julius explained that we could drill a 6" or 8" pilot hole before drilling a 20" production well. Mr. Julius advised that the City project is larger in scope than most well drilling projects because it is at a new site and we have to proceed through the record of survey process. And because the existing Water System Plan noted that a new well

would be drilled on the west side of the city, we will have to do a change in point of withdrawal. When this is all approved by the agencies, we can start the drilling process. The City has consolidated all of the City's water rights and we have approximately 1500 gpm of water rights still available. Councilmember Johnson explained that there was a piece of property at the Taggares Park site for a City well site. That location was reviewed and they chose a different location for Well #8. Councilmember Johnson said he supports the hydrogeologist services. Councilmember Caylor advised that the Water and Sewer Council Committee discussed this and they support having the experts review the water issues at this location. After their initial review, and if the well site is sufficient for our needs, His recommendation is to drill the larger well hole and not drill a pilot hole.

Council carried a motion to authorize expenditure up to \$20,000 for an analysis study on the property and the well quality. M/S Dorow/Caylor.

#### **SECOND QUARTER REPORT FROM ADAMS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 5**

Adams County Fire Chief Lebacken briefed the Council on the second quarter activities for fire services provided to the City. This also included equipment testing and firefighter training.

#### **DISCUSSION OF ½ OF ONE PERCENT SALES TAX**

Finance Officer Mike Bailey explained that in 1985 the Othello City Council passed Ordinance No. 722 relating to the establishment of a street improvement plan and the intended use of the City's optional one-half percent sales tax. Section II of the ordinance provides that all funds collected from the sales tax would be used to fund the adopted Street Improvement Plan, in addition to general funds and grants. Mr. Bailey explained that since 2007, he has allocated a fixed amount of \$460,000 in sales tax to the Street Fund for the past six years.

Mr. Bailey proposed that an ordinance be considered to amend the Othello Municipal Code 11.02.020 to give the City Council more discretion as to how they use the City's resources for budgeting purposes. He explained how the sales tax revenue is currently allocated within the City's budget. Council's consensus was to consider the ordinance at the next meeting.

#### **DISCUSSION OF TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT**

City Administrator Ehman Sheldon reported that the Council has conducted two public hearings and can now consider an ordinance relative to the Transportation Benefit District (TBD). He reviewed a PowerPoint presentation regarding "What is a Transportation Benefit District". The potential revenue from the \$20 vehicle register fee is approximately \$130,000 annually. He noted that TBD funds are to be used exclusively for street projects. He explained that with Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) funding becoming more competitive, the State is looking at whether the jurisdictions have exhausted all local funding opportunities when allocating their funding. Councilmember Snyder noted that we have more County vehicles using the city streets and it makes more sense to increase the sales tax; the sales tax would be collected from all sales within the City. Mr. Bailey advised that a .2% sales and use tax increase would double the estimated annual revenue from the vehicle fee. Councilmember Johnson explained that we would have to create a TBD and then decide whether to impose a vehicle register fee or a sales tax increase.

Council's consensus was to consider an ordinance to create the TBD at the next meeting.

#### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING USE OF CITY PROPERTY**

Park and Recreation Coordinator Molly Klippert advised that the City has received a request for use of the Lions Park softball fields to host the Latino State Softball Championship Tournament on Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup> with the event setup scheduled on the night of Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. They will have DJ music during the weekend and it has been assured that the music levels will be maintained. They estimate the City's expenses will not exceed \$1600 and Burger King has agreed to cover \$900 of these costs.

Council carried a motion to approve A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING USE OF CITY PROPERTY FOR THE LATINO STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 24<sup>TH</sup>, 25<sup>TH</sup>, AND 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2012. M/S Snyder/Dorow. Councilmember Charles Garcia abstained from voting due to his involvement in the tournament. This shall be known as Resolution No. 2012-24.

**ORDINANCE AMENDING O.M.C. CHAPTER 9.04 TITLED "VEHICLES"**

Police Chief Dunnagan reported that vehicles are driving in or parked in the parks, in violation of Othello Municipal Code (OMC) 9.04.030. This causes damage to the grass and the underground sprinkler system. The current code is clear that vehicles cannot drive in the parks; however, there is no established penalty. He proposed to add a penalty as outlined in OMC 1.10.030 of \$110. He explained that staff is researching alternatives for park events to eliminate the number of vehicles in the parks.

Council carried a motion to adopt AN ORDINANCE AMENDING OTHELLO MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 9.04 TITLED "VEHICLES". M/S Dorow/Dever. This shall be known as Ordinance No. 1365.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Councilmember Johnson stated that he appreciates that staff revised the schedule for the Scooteny Street project.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Councilmember Johnson noted that Lions Park is having more activities and the stage owned by Evergreen is being used extensively. He suggested that we look at building a stage in the park.

Mr. Sheldon advised that the pool was closed due to mechanical issues on Saturday and Sunday and re-opened today at 1:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Wilson adjourned the Council meeting at 8:30 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
TIM WILSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk