

Mayor E R Kelley called the workshop to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Everett Cole, Eleanor Brodahl, Les Clemons, Leonard Lyon, Donald Derifield, and Jeannie Ochoa. Absent with cause was Samuel Garza. Others present were Bill Shaw, City Administrator; Debbie Kudrna, Debra Travis and Curt Andrews, City Department Heads and Kenneth Johnson, Council-elect.

#### CABOOSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Alan Hanks, representing the Caboose Committee shared the history, enthusiasm and ideas of the committee. He reported on their fundraising activities, location and presentation of the cabooses and the possibilities of obtaining other grants. The committee will be requesting funding from the tourism funds to repay the general fund for the amount taken out of this year's budget that was used toward the purchase and transportation of the two cabooses.

Council member Clemons reported on the activities of the Heritage Trail Tourism Committee. The committee has received federal funding to be used for promoting tourism and educational signage between Othello north to Coulee Dam. Mr. Clemons has taken on the task to make the entrances into Othello more presentable. He stated there is federal funds available for the refurbishing of railroad historical restorations, and knows someone that can be of help with the grant application.

Council member Cole stated the city should consider who will be the legal owners of the two cabooses when the federal grants are applied for; there may be certain stipulations on the grant criteria to consider.

#### REVIEW CRITICAL AREAS ORDINANCE

The Council received a draft ordinance which provides for development regulations to conserve natural resource lands and critical areas. Curt Andrews reviewed certain sections of the ordinance, noting this draft is the ordinance that was adopted by Adams County with changes made accordingly to fit the needs of the city. The City will need to provide a public hearing and adopt the ordinance by year-end.

#### DRAFT PROPOSED PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Finance Officer presented a draft, proposed, preliminary budget to the Council. This draft includes the Department Heads first requests. Since then, the Department Heads have met with the Mayor and Administrator and several changes have been made and the requests are now below the projected revenues for year 2000.

Mr. Shaw stated there are no allocations for the recreation department and there have been discussions with the Boys and Girls Club about contracting with the city to oversee the limited recreations programs. These programs include the ballfield and concession stand scheduling, pool operations and the summer park program. Details such as pool revenues/expenses and continuation of the summer park program will be discuss thoroughly.

A discussion was held whether a budget committee should be appointed or review of the line item budget be reviewed by full Council. Consensus was to appoint a committee, they are: Jeannie Ochoa, Leonard Lyon, Kenneth Johnson and city staff. Council member Lyon recommended that

by the time the preliminary budget is presented to the full Council, the fine details will be addressed, and it would not be necessary to review it by line item.

#### APPOINT AN ENGINEERING REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Shaw reported that requests for proposals are being advertised for engineering services. He recommended a committee be appointed to review all proposals and interviews be scheduled for three or so with a recommendation to be made to the Council by the committee. The committee is: Les Clemons, Don Derifield, Samuel Garza and city staff.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Curt Andrews reported Well #2 pump was pulled and replaced and is pumping 250 g.p.m. Work on Well #4 revealed that the airline needed to be replaced. This will be a split costs between warranty work and city funds. The staff and pump specialists have been discussing ways to get more water pumped from this well. It was decided to fix the airline problem and continue researching problem solving for Well #4.

Mr. Andrews noted we have requested D.O.E. to consolidate the city's water rights. The staff also recommends continuation of our aquifer study because it will be very important in many ways, one being that the County has applied for the Water Conservative Board. This will allow the County to have water right transfer abilities, which would allow them to develop a new community anywhere in Adams County and transfer water rights. This could effect our aquifer quantity for potable water. Mr. Shaw reported T-16 Ranch has offered water rights to the city, but the well can't be located outside of the district of which it was originally drilled. This may be too far a distance to be feasible.

Mr. Andrews reported the Well #5 is currently running very efficiently. A maintenance schedule on our wells and pumps are being encouraged by our insurance carrier, so Well #3 will be pulled and tested next year.

Mr. Andrews explained that the weeds around the abandoned Rama Inn property have been removed, currently at the city's expense, with a lien to be placed for repayment of the job. Letters have been sent from the Police Department and the Building Department to the property owner regarding weeds and security issues, but the city is not getting any positive responses. Further discussion was held on the long term abatement and security commitment.

Council was presented a copy of the draft city newsletter, which will be going out to all water users.

#### ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Kelley adjourned the workshop at 8:45 p.m.

Debbie Kudrna, CMC  
City Clerk