

Council shoots down landscaping ordinance

By **JADE McDOWELL**
Staff Writer

Hermiston isn't getting a landscaping ordinance after all.

The City Council voted down the proposed ordinance, which would have required new and expanding businesses to landscape a percentage of their property to city specifications, by a vote of 5-3 on Monday after about an hour of public testimony and discussion.

Councilor Doug Smith said as a small business owner himself he had "real concerns" about adding any more burdens to incoming businesses.

"If we have a small business coming into town we're not laying down the red carpet, we're putting up more barriers," he said.

Manuel Gutierrez agreed, saying that costs to small businesses end up getting passed on to the consumers and he didn't want to see that.

After listening to local business owners say the regulations would be a hardship, councilor Clara Beas Fitzgerald asked if the proposed ordinance could be turned into a set of suggested guidelines rather than requirements.

"Why don't we go after the five or 10 percent that don't have any landscaping that are making the city look bad?" she asked.

John Kirwan, however, said one of the biggest complaints he hears as a city councilor is people asking why the city doesn't do something about businesses that are an eyesore. He said that it's true many people do

landscape on their own without the ordinance, but without an ordinance it's "really hard to have any teeth" in going after the rest.

The ordinance before the City Council was an updated one from their Aug. 24 meeting. After negative public testimony at that meeting and at hearings held by the Planning Commission, city staff made seven amendments to try to address specific concerns. The amendments included suspending the landscape requirements in times of drought, speeding up the process for obtaining a waiver and automatically granting a waiver for projects required by the federal government or projects where putting in more landscaping would mean the business was no longer compliant with parking requirements.

During public testimony five people testified against the newly amended ordinance, saying any landscaping requirements were going to create more red tape and expenses for them. Two people — Hermiston Chamber of Commerce director Debbie Pedro and Umatilla County planning director Tamra Mabbott — testified in favor.

Mayor David Drotzmann, who only votes on ordinances in the event of a tie, also expressed support for the ordinance.

In the end, councilors Smith, Beas Fitzgerald, Gutierrez, Lori Davis and Doug Primmer voted against the ordinance while Kirwan, Jackie Myers and Rod Hardin voted in favor.



FILE PHOTO

The caption from this photo published Nov. 8, 1973, in the Hermiston Herald read: "The Rev. Del Storey, co-pastor of the Christian Center, Twin Falls, Ida., second from left, was guest speaker at the Junior High auditorium Oct. 19, sponsored by the Hermiston Chapter of the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship International. From left, Ed Sheets, president of FGBMFI; Storey; the Rev. Bob Lovett, director of the Hermiston Interfaith Christian Center; and Ralph Hector, secretary of FGBMFI." Sheets died in 1996. A memorial honoring the 100th anniversary of Sheets' birth will take place at 2 p.m. Friday at the Hermiston Cemetery.

Longtime business owner remembered

Memorial celebration planned Friday on what would have been Ed Sheets' 100th birthday

By **SEAN HART**
Staff Writer

A Hermiston businessman who died in 1996 would have turned 100 on Friday, and family, friends and community members plan to celebrate the occasion at 2 p.m. Friday at the Hermiston Cemetery.

The Hermiston Herald archives show that Ed Sheets was a prolific businessman and a director of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International with a passion for serving God and helping others. He died June 17, 1996, at the age of 80.

According to his June 18, 1996, obituary, "Sheets was born in Smith Center, Kan. on Sept. 18, 1915. In 1926, his family moved to Emmett, Idaho, and all of his school years were spent there. He graduated in 1935. After graduation he enlisted in the Army and served in the Philippines until May of 1938.

"On Dec. 3, 1938, he married Minnie Bane in Emmett, Idaho. They resided in Boise, Idaho. During World War II, he served as a cost accountant at Gowen Field. He was promoted and sent to Hunt, Idaho. The family returned to Emmett and purchased a sporting goods business. In 1945 they moved to Milton-Freewater and opened a sporting goods and mens clothing business. In 1952, he purchased a clothing store from Lee Quiring in Hermiston. The family moved to Hermiston in 1956. The store was renamed Ed Sheets Clothing and remained in business for 30 years. He also opened Edwin's Shoe Store.

"Mr. Sheets served on the Hermiston City Council. In 1973, he became involved with the Full Gospel Business Mens Fellowship International



STAFF PHOTO BY SEAN HART

This full-page ad was published Aug. 23, 1956, when Ed Sheets and Hollis Brock announced the opening of a new Hermiston store, Holly Shoes.

and served as president of the first chapter that was formed in Hermiston. In 1977, he became an international director. He served as chairman of the F.G.B.F.I. Conventions. He was a member of the Desert Springs Four-square Church. ..."

After his memorial service, the Herald published a follow-up article, "Popular Hermiston businessman went to work spreading the gospel," detailing Sheets' commitment to his faith.

"Ed Sheets may have been known to many for his wide variety of business activities," the June 25, 1996, article states, "but according to his family, his passion for the Lord was what drove him.

"... Sheets was well known throughout the community for his varied business enterprises.

"Sheets opened a shoe store (Edwin's Shoe Store), men's clothing store (Ed Sheets Clothing), second-hand store (Jack's Second Hand) and sold insurance for Pacific Northwest Life Insurance.

"Sheets, also known for his assorted undertakings as a land developer, developed Village Port.

"The energetic man not only dedicated the last years of his life to the Full Gospel Businessmen's Association, but he also spent much of his time on missions.

"After selling the shoe store to Ralph and Vera Hector in 1960, Ed and Min took a three-month trip to Mexico visiting missions for his church, the First Christian Church.

"Disturbed at what he saw, Sheets came home determined to help support the mission hospital."

Hermiston History will be a regular feature in the Hermiston Herald. If you have something to share about the history of the greater Hermiston area, send your submission to editor @hermistonherald.com with "Hermiston History" in the subject line. If you have a question about the area's history you would like the Herald staff to look into, you can send your questions to the same email address with "Hermiston History question" in the subject line.

Chuckwagon celebrates 45 years

In recognition of 45 years in business, the Chuckwagon Cafe is celebrating all this week.

The celebration includes food specials, drawings for 45 gift certificates and a coloring contest for kids. In addition, spontaneous "anniversary ambushes" will provide extra fun for dining customers.

Also, free cake and ice cream will be served Saturday at 2 p.m., with winners of the drawings and contests posted at that time.

Chuckwagon Cafe is located at 81027 N. Highway 395, Hermiston. For more information, visit www.chuckwagoncafe.net or call 541-567-6329.

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Thanking You All Week Long
For Our First

45 YEARS

Of Serving The Best

DINE WITH US ANYTIME THIS WEEK & YOU COULD WIN!

<p>Chuckwagon Cafe Certificates 45 to be won by 45 lucky people</p> <p>Children's Coloring Contest 3 age groups, 3 \$25 gift certificates Every entrant wins a FREE ice cream cone</p> <p>8-10 oz. New York Steak alacart \$4.50 (in honor of 45 years)</p>	<p>Spontaneous Anniversary Ambushes Sudden prize giveaways</p> <p>Two New Pies & An Annual Favorite Try new Heavenly Huckleberry or Hershey Bar Chocolate Dream Pie and our traditional Baked Huckleberry Pie</p>
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WINNERS POSTED - Sat. 2pm
Free Cake & Ice Cream, too!



Two mi. N of Hermiston on 395 541-567-6329

www.chuckwagoncafe.NET

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Tri-Cities Native Returns Home



Dr. Guy Jones, a Hanford High School graduate, has just joined the medical team at your Tri-Cities Cancer Center as our third radiation oncologist.


Most recently Dr. Jones served as the Chief Resident for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) at the National Institute of Health (NIH).

- NCI is the government's foremost cancer research and training authority.
- NIH is the leading research center for medicine in the world.

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