

The Dalles Chronicle

Guess new History Mystery | A5



TD boys on a roll A9 ▶



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Revised charter filed for May 19 ballot

■ By Mark Gibson
The Dalles Chronicle

Voters in the city will be asked to approve a revised City of The Dalles charter on the May 19 primary election following unanimous approval of the proposed charter by the city council Jan. 13. The revisions were recommended to the council by a subcommittee tasked with reviewing the charter provisions and city attorney Gene Parker assisted by Dufur attorney Keith Mobley. Under the proposed charter, council members would no longer be nominated by district, but would be nominated and elected "at large," meaning a citizen living anywhere in the city could be elected to any one of five council positions, all serving four-year terms.

The practice of staggering terms for councilors and the mayor would continue unchanged. Beginning in 2022, the mayor, currently elected for a two-year term, would run for a four-year term. Subsequently, councilors and the mayor would be elected to staggered four-year terms.

The council and mayor would continue to serve as volunteers. However, language specifically prohibiting the paying of councilors or the mayor for their service would be removed. The proposed charter reads, "The Council may prescribe a plan for reimbursing city personnel and councilors or mayor for expenses that they incur in serving the city."

Current language regarding the appointment of a city attorney would be changed to allow the council to consider having legal services provided to the city by contract with a local attorney or law firm.

In addition to changes in language related to the above, the new charter also allows the city clerk to provide notification of city business by "the method of social media determined to be the most effective in communicating with the public."

Niki Lesich, a former mayor of The Dalles, said she wanted the council to reconsider increasing the mayor's term from two to four years. "I would like to see the public remain having the opportunity to recommit their vote for city leadership at a 2-year term," she told the council. She also suggested the council consider adding term limits for the mayor, limiting an individual to only two two-year terms.

Councilor Rob Runyon, a member of the subcommittee that reviewed the charter, said that the committee believed a two-year term was too short, especially during the budget process, which can be lengthy. "We felt the position needed three years, minimum," he said. Mayor Richard Mays agreed, and added that he didn't see why term limits would be applied only to the position of mayor.

Councilor Linda Miller, who was also on the subcommittee, said that a two-year term for the mayor simply didn't work. "I had suggested a three-year term for all positions, but we decided on four because of the election cycle and the need to be able to stagger terms," she added.

The council unanimously

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The Dalles community members begin voting for the city Tuesday morning, Jan. 14, as they gather at the Neon Museum downtown for a televised announcement of the city's nomination as one of the "top five" cities in the running for a season with Small Business Revolution, an online small business makeover show. Pictured are, left to right, The Dalles Mayor Richard Mays; City Councilor Tim McGLothlin; Charlotte Palmer, a The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce volunteer; and Beverly and Tom Krueger. Mark B. Gibson photo

TD among 'Final 5' for 'Small Business Revolution'

Online vote open through Jan. 21

The Dalles is one step closer to being the featured town on Season 5 of Small Business Revolution, an online video program. The city is competing against four other U.S. towns: Benicia, Calif.; Fredonia, N.Y.; Livingston, Mont. and Spearfish, S.D. To win, The Dalles must receive the most votes during the public voting period, which is open through Jan. 21. People can cast one vote per unique email per device per day. For more on how to vote, visit lovethe Dalles.com or vote directly at smallbusinessrevolution.org.

TD supporters hope to garner at least one million votes, which is what the Season 4 town, Searcy, Ark. (population: 22,000) received. The Dalles' population is 15,600.

The show, whose tagline is "on a mission to revitalize small towns, one small business at a time," highlights why small businesses are critical to local economies. The winning city will get help to revitalize their main street with a \$500,000 investment for six local small businesses and the community.

"This is an incredible opportunity for The Dalles. Our charming, historic downtown area has made huge strides in the past decade with a variety of unique new businesses—from boutiques to breweries—which have joined longtime businesses such as Klindt's Booksellers, the oldest bookstore in the West," said Don Warren, President of The Dalles Main Street. "We're so proud of our wonderful small business owners, who are the heart of The Dalles, and we would love to have Small Business Revolution help bring our downtown to the next level. I hope everyone will show their

TIME TO VOTE

Visit www.deluxe.com/small-business-revolution or www.lovethe Dalles.com and follow these steps:

1. Click on "vote now"
2. Click on "the dalles"
3. Enter your email address
4. Uncheck the marketing boxes if you want or leave them checked
5. Submit your vote

Go back and do it again with additional email addresses, switch devices and do it again. Wake up tomorrow and repeat process!

love for The Dalles and its small businesses by voting for our town every day."

"Small Business Revolution has recognized both The Dalles' charm and potential, and it's time to get us over the finish line, so let's all get voting!" said Lisa Farquharson, President/CEO of The Dalles Area

Chamber of Commerce.

The winning town will be announced on January 28.

Small Business Revolution is an online series available on Hulu and Amazon Prime co-hosted by Ty Pennington of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" and "Trading Spaces."

New, repaired ramps completed at Pine Hollow Reservoir

■ By Mark Gibson
The Dalles Chronicle

Residents, visitors and businesses alike are looking forward to spring in Wamic, when fisherman can launch from new boat ramps on the shores of Pine Hollow Reservoir.

The new ramps were a long time coming, with three rounds of grant applications over three and one-half years, said Brian Manning, board president of the South Wasco Park and Recreation District (SWPRD).

"The first two applications failed," Manning said. The first was denied by the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB), and another did

not contain adequate funding to meet the contractors low bid.

On the third try, Legacy Contracting of Stayton presented a bid that allowed the project to move forward. "It was finally approved with adequate funding to repair and replace the two boat ramps," said Manning. "The end product is outstanding."

The South Boat Ramp was repaired via concrete replacement, grouting of voids between the existing ramp and the base material underneath it, and the installation of riprap to forestall future erosion. The North Boat Ramp is a totally new installation of



base rock, reinforced concrete and riprap.

Both sites have new trench-drain systems to prevent pollutants from vehicles and watercraft from flowing into the lake.

The project was funded by grants from the state marine board and fish and wildlife departments, with donations from the Wasco County Commissioners, the Wasco County Public Works Department and a host of private supporters.

SWPRD is a Special District government agency that was

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