

Vernonia City News...

At the August 2, 2010, City Council Meeting:

Council Discusses Numerous Items, No Actions Taken-- Council discussed a number of business items but took no action.

City consultant Jim Johnson and Jennie Messmer from the League of Oregon Cities discussed with Council their options for the process for hiring a new permanent City Administrator. Johnson explained that budget constraints will limit the ability of the city to hire a full-time employee.

City Administrator Pro Tem Bill Haack explained some possible options for dealing with potentially dangerous trees in Ora Bolmeir Park.

Council discussed the need to move the Vernonia "Down Here" sign

that currently sits at Staley's Junction at the intersection of Highway 47 and Highway 26. The property where the sign is located has been sold and the sign needs to be relocated.

Police Chief Frank Grace introduced a proposal to implement "Fix -It-Ticket" and "Parking Ticket" programs that would include a \$25 fine and no court appearance for violation of ORS equipment standards or parking regulations instead of the current fines.

Council Approves Expenditures-- Following guidelines set last month under the emergency hold policy on spending, City Administrator Pro Tem Bill Haack requested and received approval for three expenditures: \$1001.00 for installation of a DSL Line at the VCLC to run the GIS platform;

\$20,000 to hire an intern to enter GIS information into the city system; police overtime as needed during the Vernonia Friendship Jamboree.

Council Approves Appointment-- Council approved the appointment of Tim Bero to represent the City of Vernonia on the Columbia County Economic Team.

Council Approves Downtown Association as Sub-Committee-- Council approved a request from the Vernonia Economic Development Committee to appoint the Vernonia Downtown Association as a sub-committee.

Baraibar Resigns From Planning Commission-- James Baraibar resigned

his position on the Planning Commission due to job obligations.

City of Nehalem Offers Challenge-- The City of Nehalem has issued a challenge to all of Oregon's cities and counties, individuals, and private businesses to come together and help the citizens of Vernonia replace their Elementary, Middle and High Schools. The City of Nehalem has pledged \$1,000 to assist Vernonia Schools in accomplishing their goal-- a number that works out to \$3.85 for every resident of Nehalem.

Land Acquisition Completed-- A land acquisition between the City and Nehalem Valley Development has been completed.

Deadline Approaching for Local Candidates

Anyone wishing to run for Vernonia City Council or for Mayor have until August 20th to submit required paperwork.

Offices open in the November 2, 2010 election include Vernonia Mayor for a two-year term and two four-year term positions as Vernonia City Councilor.

Election packets are available at the Vernonia City Hall from the City

Recorder, 1001 Bridge Street. Nominating petitions can be filed no later than August 24, 2010. Those filing with signatures are requested to present the petition no later than August 20, 2010 to allow time for all signatures to be validated.

For more information please contact Joann Glass, City Recorder 503-429-5291 ext. 104.

Volunteers Paint Curbs *continued from front page*

not have that crew available this year. And due to budget constraints, City work crews will not be spending as much time this fiscal year working on streets related projects-- very little money was allocated to this fund for street sweeping, tree trimming, curb painting and other cosmetic-type upkeep.

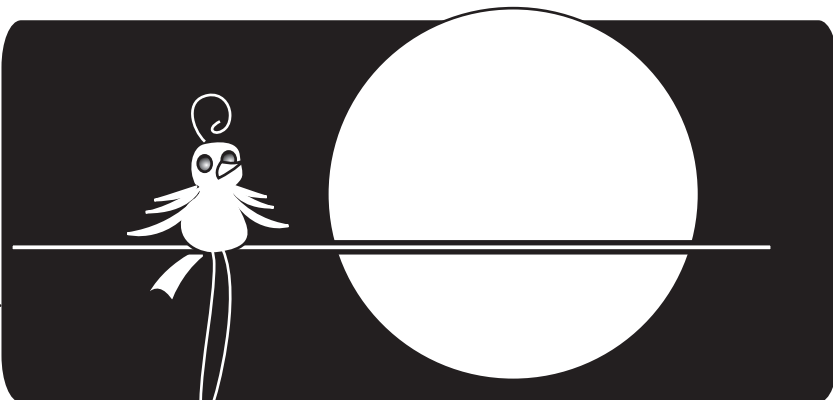
That's when the Vernonia Kiwanis and the Vernonia Downtown Association stepped in. The Downtown Association went to the Public Works Department who already had the paint but just didn't have the manpower to paint curbs. Then it was just a matter of putting together a work crew. "We were at

a Kiwanis meeting and we didn't really have any pressing business," said Jay Nesmith, co-owner of Vernonia Hardware and Supply and a Kiwanis member, as well as part of the Downtown Association. "We just grabbed the paint, found some rollers and went to work."

In all, about twenty volunteers from a number of businesses jumped on board with the project.

"We didn't have to write a mission statement or create a committee or have a bunch of meetings," said Nesmith "We just went out and did the work."

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"Our own life is the instrument with which we experiment with truth"
Thich Nhat Hanh



BEAR CREEK RUN 2010

VERNONIA BEAR CREEK 10K/5K RUN/WALK

Benefiting Vernonia Cares Food Bank

Sat. August 14th at Anderson Park

Registration begins at 7AM

Races begin at 8AM

<http://www.signmeup.com/66420>



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