

Vernonia City News...

At the July 1, 2013 City Council Meeting:

Topics From the Floor-DeAnna Pearl invited the Council to attend the Great American Bash on July 4th. Pearl is helping organize the event which will include a parade, concert by Jesse Cain and Fireworks display.

Sandy Welch spoke against the idea of including a beer garden at the Logging Show on the Sunday of Jamboree. Welch said a beer garden would distract from the family friendly atmosphere was not in the best interests of the City.

Sally Harrison asked when the Council would be holding workshops to address issues with the Ridge Riders and about cemetery maintenance. She was informed that Council hopes to meet soon with the Ridge Riders but no date has been set and that Council has already met about the cemetery and are looking to hire a temporary worker to mow the cemetery.

Randy Carlton told Council that a beer garden at the Logging Show is a good opportunity for the Vernonia Fire Volunteers to sell food and fundraise and asked Council to approve the beer garden.

Council Approves New Solid Waste Service

City Administrator Report

By Bill Hack

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT HEADWORKS PARSHALL FLUME & RELATED IMPROVEMENTS

Lyda Excavating is near completion of the Flume Improvement Project. The Parshall Flume is installed and we are scheduling the calibration of the new facility. Final costs with change orders will be calculated based on KLS survey to determine amount of materials that were added because a deeper cut was required per the geotechnical engineer instructions and the City Engineer's direction. The project will be completed ahead of schedule, and under engineers estimate.

DIKE ELEVATION AND BIOSOLIDS PROJECT TAKING SHAPE

The City is secured authorization from DEQ to procure professional services to elevate the dikes, install a new chlorinator and do limited pipe and pump improvements as an expansion of the work originally approved by DEQ in 2006. The City asked our attorney to provide guidance on procurement using emergency rules. This project will likely be bid as three projects: biosolids, dike elevation, and cement structure. The City Engineer recommends dividing the project to maintain overall momentum, provide assurance to funders that the project is progressing. As a part of the preparation for the elevation, lagoon one was emptied. Lowering the lagoon level disclosed that the

Agreements-Council approved a new agreement with Waste Management of Oregon, Inc. to provide solid waste service. The new agreement allows for a rate increase for most home owners of \$0.17 per month.

Council Approves Beer Garden at Logging Show-Vernonia Police Chief Mike Conner presented Council with an application to host a beer garden at the Logging Show on August 4, 2013 from Cedar Side Inn, Inc. Council was informed that the operators of the beer garden would return some of their proceeds to the Logging Show. Conner told Council he would need to have an extra officer on for overtime to provide extra coverage if this activity was added to the Logging Show event. Council unanimously approved the application but requested that the beer garden end at 3:30 PM and that the applicant provide dimensions of the beer garden area.

Council Sets Workshop to Discuss Wastewater Project-Council and the Public Works Committee will meet on July 15, 2013 at 6:00 PM, prior to the regular Council meeting, to discuss questions about the wastewater upgrade project that were raised at the

Public Works Committee meeting on June 27, 2013. Questions have specifically been asked about the removal of biosolids and dike elevation aspects of the projects.

Council Authorizes Settlement-After retiring to Executive Session under ORS192.660(2) Legal Council, Council returned to regular session and directed their legal council, by phone, to move forward with a settlement agreement that they discussed in Executive Session.

Council Directs Staff to End Contract-Council directed staff to use the termination clause to terminate the current contract with the camp host at Airport Park and rewrite the contract to include mowing at the airport as the part of the duties of the park host.

Councilor Expresses Concerns About Condition of Cemetery-Councilor Donna Webb expressed concern that Council has indicated that the cemetery is a priority and that it is not being taken care of.

2008 sludge removal project for reasons unknown did not fully scour the lagoons. The ledge that is exposed is significant, and may raise the specter that biosolids may need to be processed next year.

DIKE ELEVATION RESEARCH

As a part of this project the City is looking for fill dirt and aggregate stores near Vernonia. We seek input of prospective sites that the engineer can assess for quality and quantity. Please contact City Hall, ask for Angie Handegard (503) 429-5291.

OTHER PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITY PARKS DEPARTMENT

OPRD MASTER PARK PLAN

MacKay and Sposito seek input from the public to assist in their park planning project. Survey will be posted on line and made available at local outlets in July.

SPENCER PARK DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

The District and contractor feel confident that the demolition will be complete by the end of July 2013. The replacement park is still on schedule to be completed by December 2013. The selected contractor will be under contract into the Spring 2014 to ensure that the seeded areas are checked and reseeded if necessary.

GENERAL CITY ADMINISTRATION PUBLIC MEETINGS ON OPEN SPACE

The City engaged in three community meetings in June, Saturday June 8//15//22,

2013. There was a range of topics discussed. I will develop a memo to the Council for the July 15, 2013 meeting and conduct a single follow-up community meet to further invite input. A public hearing will be conducted in August 2013. At this time, the use for nearly all property will be as recommended in last year's rezoning project. The majority of the property will be zoned Public Institutional. There will likely be six properties zoned public Recreational as a result of this process.

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

The City Council reviewed options in a work session on June 10, 2013. The Council will further review options on July 12, 2013. The Council will review both the cemetery ordinance and the maintenance standards developed by the Cemetery Committee. The Council authorized hiring a limited term employee to serve as groundskeeper at the cemetery. We anticipate hiring in July.

CITY HALL REMODEL

Absolute Marble and Granite started the installation of marble trim and a new marble counter section. This is a donation to the City. The City will provide a letter that accepts this donation of labor and materials. A local contractor completed wallboard texturing and painting of the drywall section earlier in June.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS VERNONIA LAKE PUMP IMPROVEMENTS

WOEC provide power options for the project

team's review. KLS developed a survey to use in scaling the project. The City Engineer continues to provide limited volunteer support that we will use as in-kind match when the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Restoration and Enhancement Grant are submitted later this year. At this time the value of the project is unknown but if its cost is high the City may be required to use formal bid procurement processes.

Due to space limitations this is an edited version of this report. For the full City Administrator report go to <http://www.vernoniasvoice.com/news/city-news/>.

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7 PM:

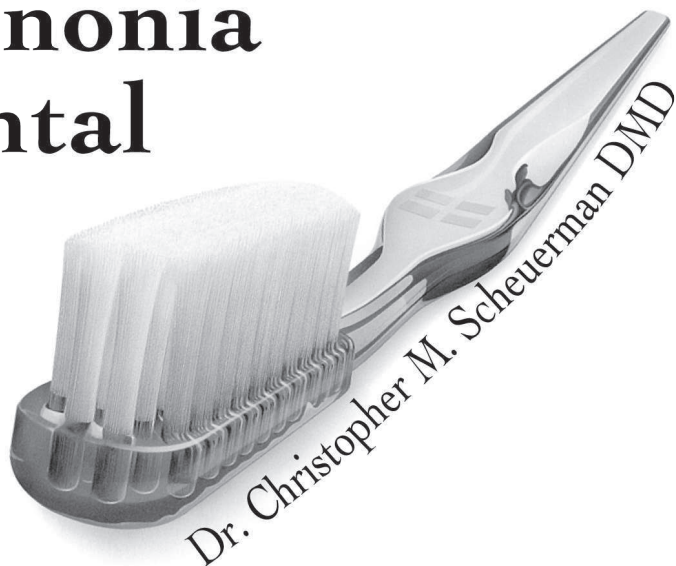
Monday, July 15, 2013
Monday, August 5, 2013

City Closures are scheduled for:

Independence Day
Thursday, July 4, 2013
Friday, July 5, 2013

Dates and times subject to change due to conflicts of schedules

Vernonia Dental



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