

City Department Updates February 16-27, 2015

Administration/ Utility Billing

- As of 1/20/2015 the outstanding balances were as follows: 90 days: \$630.59 60 days: \$2,477.79 30 days \$10,701.01
- With the new ordinance No. 898 that states bill are due within 30 days of billing date, in January we had 105 shut off notices sent out, 3 were shut off, and in February we are sending out 73 shut off notices. The numbers are coming down.
- Please come in to City Hall if you have an outstanding balance and would like to see if you are eligible for a payment plan, Thank you to all of you who have come in and set up payment plans.

Finance

- Finance Director filled out parade permit for the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. This is a small but lively parade put on each year by our local leprechaun, Pat Knight. Parade starts around 5:15, come out and join the fun.
- Finance Director met with our building inspector to go over permitting requirements

for two new homes. Plans were submitted for review, but without a planner on staff the City will be looking for a planner to fill in. There are several steps involved in the permit process for new homes that must be done prior to issuance.

Public Works

- Public Works staff continued pruning of downtown trees.
- Staff began putting up new signage and parking lot striping at the VLCC in preparation for the Senior Center to move in.

Library

- Library staff had a meeting on Tuesday, February 17 and discussed new procedures, upcoming programs, and new equipment.
- Library Director met with the Chief of Police to discuss staff procedures and follow-up in emergency and other difficult situations.
- Every year the Friends of the Vernonia Library purchase a movie license for the library so we can show movies on a regular basis. Our movie license (through Movie

Licensing, USA) restricts the library from using the name of the movie or studio when advertising through public media (newspapers, website, etc.). So that is why we ask you to contact the library for movie titles.

City Administrator /Administration

- City Administrator, together with Mayor Mitchell and Councilor Hult attended a meeting with representatives of Ridge Riders.

- City Administrator met with Charlice Kaylor (The Building Department Manager/Building Official) to discuss current situation and potential improvement to the planning / inspection functions.
- The City Administrator, Mayor Mitchell, and Dan Brown (Community Action Team) met with Scott VanHoff (FEMA) to discuss enforcement of the City's flood hazard reduction ordinance, and compliance with deficiencies noted in the previous Community Assistance Visit (CAV).

Mayor Resigns

“Over the past six months we have worked on an assessment of our organization and identified some functions that were extremely important for us, but that we could not discharge without some level of expertise,” said Mammone. “This position was created with specific areas of responsibility in mind, as it was projected it would assume oversight and responsibility for the City Recorder position, FEMA administrator, oversight of billing systems and integrations with GIS, and administrative assistant to the City Administrator. We looked, therefore at this recruitment as an opportunity to hire someone who could help us discharge these very important tasks in house.”

According to Mammone, eleven candidates applied for the position of Assistant to the City Administrator/City Recorder, and the top three potential

continued from front page

candidates were interviewed.

“With experience and established relationships in the private, public, and not for profit sector I am looking forward to adding Mayor Mitchell’s expertise to the City’s team as we focus on complex projects and compliance with FEMA Floodplain management,” said Mammone. “Mayor Mitchell brings direct experience in helping deliver the services needed in a growing but challenged community. Josette’s commitment to public service, community engagement, community knowledge, complete awareness of our operations, and specific expertise in some of the most needed areas of help made her a clear choice to assist us in managing the city. Her strong experience, obvious leadership skills and energetic spirit are all reasons that I believe she is a great fit for our office and our community.”

Vernonia City News *continued from page 5*

Council Hears Two Recommendations From Committees - Council heard a recommendation from the Public Works Committee asking them to prioritize the posting of the WasteWater Treatment Project RFP. Later in the meeting it was reported that a 500 page draft RPF is available for review and the City is only waiting for an approval from USDA before putting the RFP out to bid.

Council also heard a request from the Parks Committee asking staff to prioritize the hiring of a Parks Manager to oversee the maintenance, supervision and operation of parks properties. Council instructed the City Administrator to move forward with this by April 1.

Topics From the Floor - Sam Potter from the Public Works Committee asked Council to finalize procedures for Public Works Committee members

to participate in Waste Water Treatment Project meetings.

Ernie Smith asked about use of the new Spencer Park fields for the car show at Jamboree. Smith was told the City is planning for the fields to be available for use in the fall and is unsure about use for Jamboree. The City will check with field experts and have an answer at the March 16 City Council meeting.

Council Accepts Resignation - Council accepted the resignation of Maria Williams from the Parks Committee.

Council to Hold Workshop - Council scheduled a workshop for March 30, at 6:30 to discuss Council goals and to discuss filling the vacant City Council position due to the resignation of Mayor Josette Mitchell and the appointment of Councilor Randy Parrow as Mayor.

What's Happening at the Vernonia Library

Dr. Seuss Character Hunt
Monday, March 2 – Saturday, March 7
Find Dr. Seuss characters hidden throughout the library and enter a prize drawing for Dr. Seussish prizes.

Friends of the Library Spring Booksale
Friday, March 13, 10 – 5 pm
Saturday, March 14, 10 – 4 pm
Come to the booksale and support the library. Proceeds fund library programs and services.

Movie Nights at the Library
Thursday, March 5, 6 pm, Rated PG
Tuesday, March 24, 6 pm, Rated PG
Relax with a movie and popcorn at the library. Call or visit the library for movie titles.

Ongoing Programs

Stamp Club
March 5
1st Thursday of each month, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Open to all ages! Come join us for some stamp learning, collecting, trading, and all around fun!

Book Group
March 30

Last Monday of every month, 5:30 pm
Selection for March: *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery

Storytimes

Preschool Storytime
Mondays, 10:30 – 11:15 am
Stories and activities for children up to 5 years old.

Baby and Toddler Time
Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:00 am
Songs, rhymes, books, toys, and bubbles! For ages 0 – 3. Older siblings welcome.

Starting in April the Library will have a New Storytime schedule
Preschool Storytime – Fridays, 10:30 – 11:15 am
Baby and Toddler Time – Mondays, 10:30 – 11:00 am

Library Hours & Contact
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10 – 5
Tuesday, Thursday: 1 - 7
Saturday: 10 – 4
Closed Sundays

Phone: 503 429-1818
E-mail: library@vernonia-or.gov
701 Weed Avenue

291
a
street
CALL KIM

Happy Grooming
Dog Salon
429-0576

LOVABLE SERVICE AT
a reasonable PRICE

- BATHING
- HAIRCUTS
- NAIL CLIPPING
- NAIL POLISHING
- SPECIALTY SHAMPOOS

Vernonia Dental

Dr. Christopher M. Scheuerman DMD

622 Bridge Street Vernonia, OR 97064
phone (503) 429-0880 -- fax (503) 429-0881

Accidents happen

That's why it's so important to have the right auto coverage for your vehicle. COUNTRY offers a wide variety of plans to choose from, and a variety of ways to save on your premium. Let us help you build a tangible plan for financial security.

Sheryl Teuscher
Rainier
503-556-0186
sheryl.teuscher@countryfinancial.com

COUNTRY FINANCIAL
Issued by COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL

012015-02362AC