

Vernonia City News...

At the November 16, 2015 City Council Meeting:

Council Extends “Walk Your Wheels” Zone – Council voted to approve Ordinance 908, amending Ordinance 745, and extending the area in the City where you can not ride, operate, or use a bicycle to include the sidewalk along Bridge Street between California Avenue and Texas Avenue. The extension was brought forward to the Council at the request of Councilor Jill Hult and extends the “Walk Your Wheels” campaign that already protected the downtown from Weed Avenue to Adams Avenue. Council asked staff to notify the community of the change by posting “Walk Your Wheels” signage in the newly designated area, by notifying the school, and publicizing it in *Vernonia’s Voice*. Council heard the first reading of the Ordinance, the second reading will take place at the next Council meeting.

Council Approves Travel Trailer Permit – Council approved a temporary permit request for Inhabiting a Travel Trailer from David Garlington at 1164 Douglas Street. Garlington made the request to provide housing for a neighbor

who has to vacate the property where he has been living and has no where to go. Garlington said his neighbor is working with Columbia County Community Action Veterans to find permanent housing. Council approved the temporary permit for six months on the condition that all required sanitary provisions are met.

Council Approve Street Closure for Run Event – Council approved a request from the Vernonia Chamber of Commerce to close Adams and Jefferson Avenues at Anderson Park on December 12 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm for the Ugly Sweater Run.

Council Receives Quarterly Financial Report – Finance Director Angie Haandegard presented Council with a quarterly financial report for July-September, 2015. She said she would provide a more detailed report in January.

Council Approves Funds for Holiday Party – Council approved a request from staff for funding to have limited catering for the annual Holiday Party for city staff and committee volunteers. In the past the event food has been prepared and paid for by staff, with volunteers also

bringing food. About 40 people usually attend. Council approved \$10 per person in funding.

City Administrator Report - City Administrator Josette Mitchell told Council that the restroom at Spencer Park is almost complete and that a walkway to the doors will be poured and a bike rack installed during a break in the weather.

Staff will hopefully bring new proposed sewer rates to Council in December or January after the Public Works Committee has a chance to review them and make a recommendation.

Staff will meet with the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council, ODFW and DSL in December to review the Nickerson Ridge development in regards to culverts and wetland and riparian areas.

Staff reported that WOEC has requested that the City purchase the parcel of land owned by WOEC that includes part of Cougar Avenue and a

small portion of the property at the Rose Avenue Project. City Administrator Mitchell told the Council that when WOEC originally purchased the property to construct their new headquarters they entered into an MOU with the City that states the City would attempt to create an Improvement District and collect funds from any development at the site to purchase the parcel. Mitchell said the City did not create the Improvement District before development of the Vernonia Health Center. Mitchell said it is now too late to create it and that the City does not have the estimated \$85,000 to purchase the property itself.

City Administrator Mitchell told Council that staff will be asking the Planning Commission to review and make changes to the floodplain ordinance before it comes to Council for adoption.

Police Blotter November 1 - 15, 2015

REPORTS TAKEN

- November 1, 2015 Report of Criminal Mischief in the 700 block of Riverside Dr.
- November 5, 2015 Report of Theft in the 1000 block of Missouri Ave.
- November 9, 2015 Arrest on a Warrant in the 700 block of Mist Dr.
- November 13, 2015 Arrest on a Warrant in the 400 block of Jefferson Ave.

- While Suspended and Driving Uninsured on HWY 47 South
- November 11, 2015 Citation for Driving While Suspended and Failure to Carry Proof of Insurance near East St. and Bridge St.
- November 14, 2015 Citation for DUII and Reckless Driving on East Bridge St.

Vernonia Police Department responds to calls that do not always end in Arrest, Report, or Citation. 11/01/2015 through 11/16/2015 VPD had a 126 calls for service

TRAFFIC/OTHER CITATIONS

- November 7, 2015 Citation for Driving While Suspended near Rose Ave. and River St.
- November 11, 2015 Citation for Driving

The City of Vernonia has determined the old shed at the Vernonia Memorial Cemetery is surplus. The City will be taking bids from interested public in order to auction the structure off to the highest bidder. Bids may be turned in at City Hall 1001 Bridge St. until November 30th, at 5 pm. Bids will be opened December 1st, 2015 at 9 am. The winning bidder will have to remove the structure in its entirety by Feb. 1st, 2015.

Remember - this bid is the same as a contract. Please only bid on an item if you are serious about buying. If you do win the bid you are legally bound by contract to purchase the item.

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm:
Monday, December 7, 2015
Monday, December 21, 2015

City Closures are scheduled for:
Thursday, November 26, 2015
Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Friday, November 27, 2015
Staff Day

Dates and times subject to change due to conflicts of schedules

What’s Happening at the Vernonia Library

Upcoming Events

Adopt-a-Book Event:

December 2 - December 23
Create a unique holiday treasure by purchasing a book for the Vernonia Public Library’s collection. You can even dedicate the book to the person of your choice with a special bookplate. Sponsored by the Friends of the Vernonia Library.

Family Movie Night

Tuesday, November 24, 6 pm
Relax and enjoy a new movie and free popcorn. Call or visit the library for movie titles.

Ongoing Programs

Stamp Club

December 3, 4:30-5:30 pm
1st Thursday of each month
Open to all ages! Come join us for some stamp learning, collecting, trading, and all around fun!

Tabletop Gaming

November 27, 4 pm
2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month
For teens and adults. New and experienced gamers welcome. Sign up at the library.

Writer’s Group

November 19, 6 - 7:30 pm

3rd Thursday of every month
Opportunity for writers with all levels of experience to get together, write, and get feedback.

Book Discussion Group

November 30, 5:30 pm
Last Monday of every month
Selection for November:
Last Bus to Wisdom by Ivan Doig

Storytimes

Baby and Toddler Time

Mondays, 10:30 – 11:15 am
Songs, rhymes, books, toys, and bubbles! For ages 0 – 3. Older siblings welcome.

Preschool Storytime

Fridays, 10:30 – 11:15 am
Stories and a craft/activity for children up to age 5.

Holiday Closures

Closed Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27 for Thanksgiving

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



FREE EVENT

to help you apply for or renew your health care coverage! PH Tech and Lower Columbia Hispanic Council can help with the following:

- See if you or your children qualify for OHP
- Did you receive a **renewal** or **closure** notice? We can help with that!
- See if you qualify for private health plans with financial assistance and sign up with an Insurance Agent on site

Come by and see us!

Saturday, Nov. 21, from 10:00– 3:00

Community Action Team

125 N 17th St. in St. Helens

For more information call PH Tech’s Application Assister Line:
(503) 584-4208

Helpful information to bring with you:

- Birth dates for all applying for coverage
- Social Security number, if you have one (or Permanent Resident Number)for everyone applying
- Employer and income information
- Any taxable deductions
- Policy number(s) and plan name(s) for any current health insurance
- Information about other health coverage available to you through your job

