

Vernonia City News...

At the August 1, 2016 City Council Meeting:

Council Approves Contract for Legal Services – Council received a letter from Alexandra Sosnkowski, announcing her retirement from the legal firm of Sosnkowski & Cleaveland LLC in Hood River, Oregon, which has been providing local government and municipal legal counsel to the City. Council approved a new contract with Annala, Carey, Baker, Thompson, VanKoten & Cleaveland, also in Hood River, to provide the same services. Ruben Cleaveland, who was a partner with Sosnkowski, and has been the lead attorney for the City for various issues over the past several years, has joined the new firm and will continue to provide service to the City. The new contract calls for an increase in hourly fees for Cleaveland's service, from \$105 to \$140 per hour; Cleaveland will also add a mileage reimbursement when he travels to Vernonia to his charges.

Police Chief Discusses Highway 47 Patrols – Vernonia Police Chief Mike Conner said his officers are spending more time outside city limits patrolling Highway 47 south of Vernonia in response to the recent head on crash that

resulted in the death of both drivers. Council asked staff to draft a letter for their review that would request State Police, Columbia County Sheriff, and the Washington County Sheriff to also increase patrols on Highway 47.

Council Approves Cemetery Bench – Council approved a request from the Cemetery Committee to place a bench at the cemetery, to be purchased with donated funds and funds from the Cemetery Beautification Fund.

Council Approves Parks Benches – Council approved a recommendation from the Parks Committee to ask the Lions Club to place new benches near the play structures at Spencer and Hawkins Park. The Lions Club has raised money for benches at the Dewey Pool swim area, and already placed one bench there, but the Parks Committee and City do not have a plan for siting more benches in that area and a need for benches at the other park locations has been identified. City Administrator Josette Mitchell will pass the request on to the Lions Club.

Council Approves Cooperative Assistance Agreement – Council approved the renewal of the Oregon Public Works

Emergency Response Cooperative Assistance Agreement. The mutual aid agreement is for five years and enables public works agencies in various jurisdictions to support each other during an emergency with resources and expertise. It also sets up documentation to seek reimbursement from federal agencies.

Councilor Suggests Joining Senior Center – After attending a meeting of the Senior Center Board of Directors as the City Council liaison, Councilor Kim Tierney suggested that anyone in the community over the age of 60 should join the Senior Center and support their efforts.

City Administrator Report – City Administrator Josette Mitchell told Council the Waste Water Treatment Upgrade project is on time and within budget. She said she expects there to be approximately \$700,000 left in the grant, which could be used for add alternates for the project, including fencing around the infrastructure buildings and the purchase of needed maintenance equipment.

Mitchell said the City Attorney has communicated to the purchaser of the trailer at the airport that he has 10 days to remove his property or commu-

nicate his plans for removal to the City, or it will be considered abandoned.

Mitchell said the City has submitted a proposal to West Oregon Electric Cooperative (WOEC) to purchase property at the Rose Avenue Project site that abuts Cougar Street. The purchase of the property has been in negotiations since the original construction of the WOEC headquarters building. The City offered \$80,000 with an initial payment of \$20,000 and subsequent payments of \$10,000 annually for six years. Mitchell said the WOEC Board of Directors has rejected the offer and will provide a counter proposal.

The Vernonia Police Department (VPD) would like to inform the public that anyone missing a bicycle should check with VPD. The VPD will be disposing of all bicycles in their possession on August 12, 2016.

NOTICE OF POSITIONS OPEN CITY OF VERNONIA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the General Election will be held on the 8th day of November 2016, at which time the legal voters of the City of Vernonia will be entitled to vote for candidates to certain city offices.

OFFICES OPEN FOR ELECTION:

VERNONIA MAYOR TWO YEAR TERM
VERNONIA COUNCIL MEMBER FOUR YEAR TERM
VERNONIA COUNCIL MEMBER FOUR YEAR TERM

Election packets are available at the office of the City Recorder, 1001 Bridge St, Vernonia, OR 97064. Nominating petitions can be filed no sooner than June 1, 2016, and filed no later than Friday, August 26, 2016, by 4:00 pm with the City Recorder. For more information call Stephanie Borst, City Recorder at 503-429-5291 ext. 104.

The City of Vernonia is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

HOW TO SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vernonia's Voice welcomes and requests your thoughts, opinions and ideas. Please include your name, address and phone number, limit your letters to 300 words or less. Vernonia's Voice reserves the right to edit, omit, respond or ask for a response to letters submitted. We will print letters space permitting. Deadline is the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Email: scott@vernoniasvoice.com or mail to: Letters, PO Box 55, Vernonia, OR 97064.

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The IRS does not endorse any particular individual tax return preparer. For more information on tax return preparers, go to www.IRS.gov.

The Vernonia Transfer Station is open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday

August 13 & 27
September 10 & 24
October 8 & 22

Dates are subject to change due to weather

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm:
Monday, August 15, 2016
Tuesday, September 6, 2016

City Closures are scheduled for:
Monday, September 5, 2016
Labor Day

Dates and times subject to change due to conflicts of schedules

Camp 18 to Host Tool Swap and Show

The Camp 18 Logging Museum, home of the Loggers Memorial, is proud to be sponsoring the first annual "Hammer In" Event and Antique Tool Swap & Show, August 27th and 28th from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Camp 18 Logging Museum - Blacksmith Shop. Bring your equipment, tools, and projects to work on with fellow blacksmiths, or simply watch! This event is free!

If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please contact Herman Doty (503) 990-4134 or Mark Standley (503) 434-0148, for more information.



The Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD Board of Directors will meet Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Main Station, 12525 HWY 202, Mist, OR. Agenda items include but are not limited to usual order of business, citizen input, Fire Chief's report, financial reports and any other business needing to be discussed.

William DeJager
-Board President

Vernonia Police Blotter July 15 - July 31, 2016

REPORTS TAKEN/ARRESTS

- July 18, 2016 Arrest on a Felony Warrant x3 near Bridge St.
- July 1, 2016 Arrest on a Misdemeanor Warrant x2 near Vernonia Lake
- July 21, 2016 Report of Theft near Lakeview Dr.
- July 23, 2016 Arrest on a Warrant and Driving While Suspended near Bridge St.
- July 26, 2016 Report of Criminal Mischief near Juniper St.

CITATIONS/OTHER

- July 17, 2016 Cited for No Operators License, Driving Uninsured, and Failure to Carry Registration near State Ave.
- July 23, 2016 Cited for Driving While Suspended near California Ave.
- July 28, 2016 Cited for No Operators License near Lone Pine Rd.

Vernonia Police Department responds to calls that do not always end in Arrest, Report, or Citation. 07/15/2016 through 07/31/2016 VPD had 159 calls for service.