

Vernonia City News...

At the May 1, 2017 City Council Meeting:

Council Approves Travel Trailer Ordinance – Council approved the second reading of Ordinance #913, which amends current municipal code and allows a travel trailer to be used as a residence only with a one-time, non-renewable, six month permit, and stipulates additional application requirements and criteria.

Council to Hold Workshop on Truck Parking – Council will hold a workshop on May 15, following their regular City Council meeting, to discuss how to control parking on the empty lot on Rose Avenue near the Vernonia Health Center.

Mayor Declares EMS Week – Trish Smith, Volunteer Coordinator for Vernonia Ambulance operations and representing Metro West Ambulance, presented the City with a certificate, thanked the City for letting Metro West serve the community, and invited everyone to the EMS BBQ at the fire station on Monday, May 22 at 6:00 pm. Following Smith's presentation Mayor Mario Leonetti read a proclamation declaring

May 21-27 as Emergency Medical Services Week, with the Theme of "EMS Strong: Always in Service," and encouraged the community to observe the week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

City to Sell Walking Tour Handbook – Council gave approval for the City to help sell the updated "Vernonia, Oregon Historic Walking Tour" handbook, published by the Vernonia Pioneer Museum.

Council Approves P.E.O. Sale – Council approved a request from P.E.O. to use property near Spencer Park for a one day "Junk in the Trunk" sale. The sale will be a fundraiser for the group, which supports scholarships for local students.

Police Chief Report – Police Chief Mike Conner updated the Council on the recent evacuation at the Vernonia Schools due to a perceived bomb threat which initiated a response from the VPD, Columbia County Sheriff's Office and Oregon State Police. Conner said the VPD was involved in the search of the building, which took

over two hours and uncovered nothing suspicious. Conner said the incident is still being investigated and there are several people of interest.

Conner told the Council that Officer Cody Pesio would be responsible for the Reserve Officer Program and will continue with recruitment efforts.

City Administrator Report – City Administrator Josette Mitchell told the Council that DEQ has approved the City plan to use ammonia removing bio domes in the sewer lagoons. The newer technology will help the City meet DEQ requirements.

Mitchell reported that planning for the new Senior Center/Food Bank project is moving forward on schedule.

Mitchell said there is still concern about violations occurring on

Bear Creek and that state authorities have been notified.

Mitchell said plans are moving forward on construction of the picnic shelter at Spencer Park with work beginning May 13-14. She said six families have expressed interest in donating memorial trees to the landscaping project around the shelter. Mitchell also said the shed at the cemetery will also be demolished that same weekend, since the City is renting equipment for both projects.

Mitchell said she has been in contact with Waste Management and has made arrangements for recycling containers to be delivered to several of the City's parks, where they can easily be monitored.

Reserve Police Officer Job Announcement

The Vernonia Police Department has openings for Reserve Police Officers. Interested citizens can obtain an application and complete job description in person at the Vernonia Police Department. Minimum qualifications include, but not limited to: must have a high school diploma or GED; must be at least 21 years of age and be a U.S. Citizen; have a valid Oregon driver's license; be able to pass a criminal background investigation; and pass medical and psychological evaluations. Questions regarding the position should be directed to Chief Michael Conner (503) 429-7335 ext. 110.

The Vernonia Transfer Station is open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday from 8am-2pm

**May 13 & 27
June 10 & 24**

Dates and times are subject to change due to weather

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm:
Monday, May 15, 2017
Monday, June 5, 2017

City Closures are scheduled for:
Monday, May 29, 2017
Memorial Day Holiday

Dates and times subject to change

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