

Vernonia City News...

At the January 16, 2018 City Council Meeting:

Two Councilors Absent from Meeting – Councilors Bruce McNair and Susan Wagner were absent from the meeting, so business was conducted by just the three remaining members, Councilors Jill Hult and Mike Seager and Mayor Mario Leonetti.

Council Approved Access Easement to Sword Property – Council authorized the City Administrator to sign an Access Easement for the new owners of 59201 Sword Place, the property across the Nehalem River from Anderson Park, formerly owned by Bill Sword who recently passed away. Mr. Sword had approached the City back in 1986 and Council approved a formal easement to allow Sword to travel through the park to his property, but that easement was never recorded by the City, which was discovered when the new owners tried to

close the sale of the property.

Council Approves Removal of Problem Trees in Park – Based on an inspection and report provided by consulting arborist David D. Hunter, the Council approved the immediate removal of four trees in Ora Bolmeier Park that were deemed a danger. Councilor Jill Hult declared a conflict of interest as she has family that live in that neighborhood and abstained from voting. Council also approved the removal of a tree that is leaning, and the limbing of a large walnut tree on Bridge Street that overhangs the road, based on Hunter's report. He also identified 20 other trees he was concerned about that needed further testing. Council decided to wait until the full Council was available before taking any further action.

Council Approves Jamboree Use Request – Council approved a request from the Jamboree Committee, represented by

Jamboree Chair Nicole Penney, for exclusive use during specific times of the usual City properties and several road closures on August 3-5, including Shay, Hawkins, and Spencer Parks; Anderson Park Horse Arena and Vernonia Lake; parking areas on Maple, Washington, and Bridge Streets; and closures on Adams Avenue, Park Drive, Bridge Street, and Maple Street.

City Administrator Report – City Administrator Josette Mitchell told Council that the bleachers at Greenman Field have been secured by the School District as a safety measure and that Council needs to discuss plans for their future demolition.

Mitchell told the Council that while meeting with ODOT represen-

tatives to discuss the replacement of the Green Bridge on Highway 47, she learned that ODOT may be replacing a different Bridge on Highway 47 this summer. The bridge is located just south of the Columbia/Washington county line which will require an approximate six week closure of the highway and force drivers to detour on Timber Road.

Topics From the Floor – City Recorder Stephanie Borst read a letter into the record sent by Katy Dennis, encouraging the City Council to replant trees in the downtown corridor. Borst later reminded the Council that they had agreed to reset and replace pavers and wait until the summer before making any streetscaping plans.

Vernonia Police Blotter January 15-30, 2018

Reports Taken

- January 12, 2018 Report of Unlawful Entry of a Motor Vehicle near State Avenue
- January 20, 2018 Report of a Hit and Run with property damage near Bridge Street
- January 26, 2018 Report of a Non Injury Vehicle Crash near North Mist Drive

Citations/Arrests/Other

- January 17, 2018 Cited for Failure to Carry Proof of Insurance and Violation of the Basic Rule 51/35 mph near Lone Pine Road
- January 18, 2018 Cited for Violation of the Basic Rule 70/55 mph near Nehalem HWY S
- January 23, 2018 Cited for Violation of the Basic Rule 60/35 mph near Lone

Pine Road

- January 24, 2018 Cited for Failure to Obey a Traffic Control Device near Adams Avenue
- January 25, 2018 Cited for Failure to Obey a Traffic Control Device near Adams Avenue
- January 26, 2018 Cited for Violation of the Urban Speed Limit 40/20 mph near Rose Avenue
- January 26, 2018 Cited for Following Too Closely near Bridge Street
- January 26, 2018 Cited for Failure to Carry Proof of Insurance

Vernonia Police Department responds to calls that do not always end in Arrest, Report, or Citation. 01/15/2018 through 01/30/2018 VPD had 92 calls for service

Matthew Barbee Family Benefit and Fundraiser

Matthew Barbee, a member of the Mist community, was critically injured mid-December on his way home from his shift as an 11-year veteran with the Tigard Police Department. Matt, his wife Sherrie, and their three school age children need our help. Let's show the Barbee family what this community can do!

Saturday, March 3 from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the Vernonia Schools there will be a Silent Auction; Spaghetti Dinner - with gluten-free and vegetarian options, salad, bread, and drink; Live Music; Bingo and a Desert Shop. Donations are coming in and there will be prizes/auction items for all ages.

If you are interested in helping with the Spaghetti Fundraiser in any capacity, please contact Barb Carr at bcarr@vernonia.k12.or.us.

In addition to this fundraiser benefit, our local food truck vendor, Chop Chop Chicken Sundaes, will be set up in the parking lot of Napa Auto Parts on Saturday February 17 from 10:00 am until 7:00 pm. The owners of Chop Chop Chicken Sundaes will be donating 20% of all sales that day to the Barbee family.

Thank you in advance to an amazing community!

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm:
Monday, February 5, 2018
Tuesday, February 20, 2018

City Closures are scheduled for:
Monday, February 19, 2018
Presidents' Day

Dates and times subject to change

The Vernonia Transfer Station is scheduled to be open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday January - October 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

**February 10 & 24
March 10 & 24**

Dates and times are subject to change due to weather

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