

Vernonia City News...

At the May 6, 2019 City Council Meeting:

Council Approves Transportation Service District – After a lengthy discussion, Council approved Resolution 05-19, agreeing to join other communities to form a Columbia County Transportation Service District. The approval of the resolution allows County Commissioners to move forward with a tax levy on property value, to be approved by voters, to fund the CC Rider public transportation system that would include service for Vernonia. Several Councilors expressed concerns about the level of service the Vernonia community would receive. Council approved the resolution by a 4-1 vote, with Councilor J.R. Allen voting against it.

Council Approves Change to Library Hours – Council approved a recommendation from Library Director Shannon Romtvedt for a small adjustment to the hours the Library is open to the public. Romtvedt told the Council she has been tracking library hour use with a door counter, said staff has been observing busy and slow times, and has compared open hours of other libraries in Columbia County. She recommended, and Council approved, the following changes to hours:

Old Hours: Tues, Thurs 1:00 pm opening
New Hours: Tues, Thurs 12:00 pm opening

Old Hours: Sat 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
New Hours: Sat 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Council Approves Open Air Market Space – Council approved a request by the Vernonia Open Air Market for use of City owned property at the corner of Bridge Street and Grant Avenue (former site of the Vernonia Health Center) to hold the Open Air Market on Saturdays from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm from May 18 to September 28, except for Jamboree weekend.

Council Tables Decision on Airport Hanger Lease – Council tabled a decision on revisions to their Lease Agreement for rental of hangers by the public at the Vernonia Airport. In question are changes staff was asked to make to include storage of non-aircraft items. The draft lease staff presented contains a \$1 million liability insurance requirement. Council asked for staff to provide more information on the costs for liability insurance. The vote to table the decision to approve the draft lease was 4-1, with Councilor Susan Wagner voting against the decision.

City Administrator Report – City Administrator Josette Mitchell told the Council the low bid contractor for the construction of the Senior Center/Food Bank was Five-Star Builders, although the initial bid was still about \$500,000 over the proposed budget. Mitchell said

she has met with the contractor and together they are identifying additional cost savings. She said the project may need some foundation grant funding to be completed.

Mitchell told the Council the Archie Dass Dog Park will celebrate its Grand Opening on May 18.

Mitchell told the Council there are still five memorial trees left in Spencer Park for purchase.

Mitchell told the Council a public hearing will be held on May 20 for the sale and bid process for the City owned house next to the Memorial Cemetery.

Mitchell told the Council the City will host the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Memorial Cemetery on Monday, May 27 at 11:00 am. She said assistance is needed to put up the large flags at the cemetery on Wednesday, May 22 at 7:00 pm.

Council Schedules Work Sessions – Council scheduled the following work sessions:

Council Retreat and Communication Follow-up – May 14
Streets Inventory/Transportation Improvement Plan – June 5

Mayor's Report – Mayor Rick Hobart reported on the Council Retreat with facilitator John Morgan, in which the Council met on Friday and Saturday, April 26-27 to work on goal setting. Hobart said the workshop was "productive."

Topics From the Floor – Richard Stein expressed concern over safety in Spencer Park due to vehicles driving in the park and presented a proposal to provide a City managed golf cart to assist park users with mobility issues.

Gary Meyer discussed concerns about the required liability insurance for renters of hangers at the Vernonia Airport.

Steve Whiteman told the Council the Parks Committee would like the Council to find a way to fund a play structure for Anderson Park, and said the Parks Committee would bring a recommendation to the May 20 Council meeting.

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm:
Monday, May 20, 2019
Monday, June 3, 2019

City Closures are scheduled for:
Monday, May 27, 2019
Memorial Day Holiday

Dates and times subject to change

The Vernonia Transfer Station is scheduled to be open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday January - October May 25 June 8 & 22

Dates and times are subject to change due to weather

Police Blotter May 1-12, 2019

Reports Taken/Arrests

- May 1, 2019 Report of Curfew Violation
- May 11, 2019 Report of Criminal Mischief II and Theft III near Missouri Avenue
- May 11, 2019 Arrest for Driving Under the Influence and Reckless Driving near Nehalem HWY North

Citations/Other

- May 2, 2019 Cited for Driving While Suspended near Grant Avenue
- May 2, 2019 Cited for Driving While Suspended and Failure to Carry Proof of Insurance near Texas Avenue
- May 3, 2019 Cited for Violation of the Basic Rule 70/55 mph near Nehalem HWY South
- May 3, 2019 Cited for Driving Uninsured near Weed Avenue
- May 4, 2019 Cited for Violation of the

Basic Rule 75/55 mph near Nehalem HWY South

- May 4, 2019 Cited for Violation of the Basic Rule 72/55 mph near Nehalem HWY South
- May 6, 2019 Cited for No Insurance near East Bridge Street
- May 11, 2019 Cited for Switched Plates and Driving Uninsured near Adams Avenue
- May 11, 2019 Cited for Violation of the Basic Rule 74/55 mph near Nehalem HWY South
- May 12, 2019 Cited for Failure to Carry Proof of Insurance near Nehalem HWY South

Vernonia Police Department responds to calls that do not always end in Arrest, Report, or Citation. 5/01/2019 through 05/13/2019 VPD had 184 calls for service.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL

Proposed Sale of Public Property in the City of Vernonia, Oregon

When: May 20, 2019 at 7:00 pm for the City Council hearing

Where: Council Chamber, City of Vernonia, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR

Why: Sale of City-Owned Property 2080 Bridge Street

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Vernonia City Council, will conduct a public hearing for the sale of City Owned Property - 2080 Bridge Street. The Vernonia City Council has determined that this residential property is surplus and could benefit the public most by being sold. See map on opposite page.

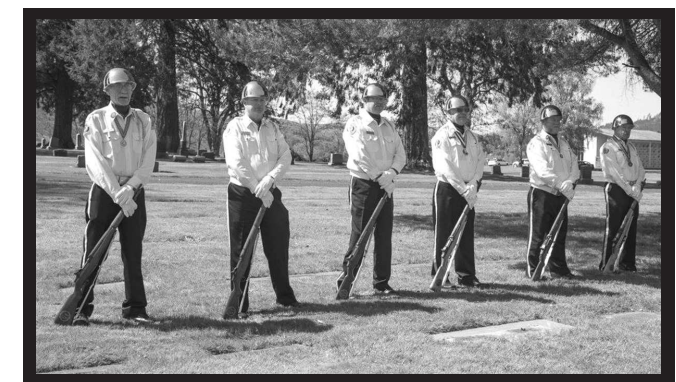
SAID PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the Vernonia City Council on Monday, May 20, 2019. The hearing will be held in the Council Chambers of Vernonia City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR at or after 7:00 pm, at which time proponents and opponents of the

proposed Sale will be heard.

A staff report will be available to the public at City Hall one week before the hearing, and may be copied for a nominal fee. Failure to raise an issue in a hearing, in person or by letter or failure to provide statements or evidence sufficient to afford the decision-maker an opportunity to respond to the issue precludes appeal to the board based on that issue. Public testimony is welcome, and written statements will also be received before the hearing.

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing to Stephanie Borst at 503-429-5291 ext. 105, TTY 1-800-735-2900 or at City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064.

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



The public is invited to come honor those who have served, given their lives, or are still missing

22nd Annual Memorial Day Service

Monday, May 27

11:00 AM

at Vernonia Memorial Cemetery
2080 Bridge Street

with **Pastor Sam Hough**
from Vernonia Christian Church

Speaker
Paul "Skip" Goodman

Colors Presented By
Aloha American Legion Post No. 104

Plan to arrive early! Limited seating available