Vernonia City **News...**

At the December 16, 2019 City Council Meeting:

City Hall Closed December 23-27 – City Administrator Josette Mitchell reminded the Council that City Hall will be closed during the week of December 23 through December 27.

Council Schedules Executive Session – At the request of City Administrator Josette Mitchell, Council scheduled an Executive Session for Monday, January 13, 2020 at 7:00 pm to "consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation."

Mayor Recognizes Spirit of Christmas – Mayor Rick Hobart thanked Nicole Larke and the Intercultural Society of Vernonia for their work organizing the Spirit of Christmas in Vernonia. He also thanked the Pelster family for donating the wreath in front of City Hall.

Council Clarifies Work for Park Bench – City Administrator Josette Mitchell requested the Council clarify who is doing the work to move a sign and install the new bench overlooking Vernonia Lake. The Council agreed that the work will be done by volunteers through the Lions Club. Councilor Dale Webb recused himself from the discussion because the spot will be named in honor of his family.

Council Schedules Work Sessions – Council scheduled a work session for February 24, 2020 to meet with the City Planner and discuss options for restructuring the City's Urban Growth Boundary. Council also scheduled a work session on February 3 at 6:00 pm with Police Chief Mike Conner to discuss strategies for retention of police personnel. They also scheduled a work session on Council Rules on February 10 at 6:00 pm.

City Administrator Report – City Administrator Josette Mitchell said staff is waiting for a proposal from the City Engineer to design a solution for a sewer upgrade in the Springboard Drive area. Mitchell told the Council multiple adjacent properties in the area have been sold or are for sale, and said once a proposal is ready, it will be presented to the Public Works Committee and the Council.

Police Department Report – Police Chief Mike Conner told the Council part-time officer Jeremy Hasenkamp has agreed to join the department full-time, and Conner said he has hired another experienced officer to work full-time, starting December 23.

St. Mary's Catholic Church cordially invites you to attend **Bible Study for Beginners** Are you interested in learning more about the Bible but don't know where to begin? Do you have questions, such as: Is the Bible really inspired by God? How is it properly understood? How is the Bible relevant to me? Come learn about the Bible and its message on Thursdays at 4:00pm or 6:30pm on the following dates: 2019 2020 **December 19 January 2 & 23** February 🕅 13 & 20 More dates TBA 960 Missouri Ave, Vernonia

Citizen of the Month

Council President Bruce McNair nominated and recognized Jim and Kim Tierney as Citizen of the Month for their service in numerous roles and organizations across the community. Councilor McNair recognized Kim for her work as a Boy Scout leader, her service on the Unmet Needs Committee after the floods in 1996 and 2007, the grant she wrote to fund local swimming lessons, her work to spay and neuter feral cats, her service as a City Councilor and currently on the Parks Committee. He recognized Jim for his service on the Planning Commission, his work with flood recovery efforts as part of Community Action Team, his work to develop the new Senior Center and Vernonia Cares facility, his work to develop the Blue Heron housing complex and Head Start facility, and his service on numerous County Boards.



The Vernonia Transfer Station is scheduled to be open on the 1st and 3rd Saturday in November & December December 21

The Transfer Station is scheduled to be open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday January - October January 11 & 25

> Dates and times are subject to change due to weather

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.

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm: Monday, January 6, 2020 Tuesday, January 21, 2020

City Closures are scheduled for: Monday, December 23 thru Friday, December 27, 2019 *Christmas Holiday* Noon, Tuesday, December 31 Wednesday, January 1, 2020 *New Year Holiday*

Dates and times subject to change

AA Meetings

Open Meetings Mondays & Thursdays 6:30-7:30 pm Vernonia Christian Church 410 North Street

Women's Meeting

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 pm Vernonia Christian Church 410 North Street





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Check our Facebook page for daily specials and upcoming events756 Bridge Street, Vernonia503-429-5841