

CJ Council adopts FY 2010-11 budget, passes resolutions

By SCOTT JORGENSEN
IVN Staff Writer

A speed limit recommendation was among a smorgasbord of matters dealt with by the Cave Junction City Council during its 40-minute meeting on Monday evening, June 14, at city hall.

Mayor Don Moore provided a brief update on the condition of Councilor Carl Jacobson, who was absent.

Jacobson has been hospitalized, Moore said, and was in an intensive care unit. He has since been moved to a hospital private room. Friends are asking for prayers.

"Hopefully, his medical condition is going to improve," Moore said.

No comments were received during a public hearing on the city's \$3.4 million fiscal 2009-10 supplemental budget before the resolution to adopt passed 4-0.

The supplemental budget comprises a \$1.1 million administrative general fund, \$557,116 water fund, \$579,116 sewer fund, \$30,796 park fund, \$112,100 street maintenance fund, and \$30,238 pool fund.

Also, a \$177,022 law enforcement fund, \$335,173 water and sewer expansion improvement fund, \$183,684 guarantee bond payment fund, \$10,000 liability insurance fund, \$55,316 vehicle and equipment replacement fund and a \$183,684 debt service fund, \$96,409 street fund.

Also passed 4-0 by the council were resolutions declaring the city's election to

receive state revenues; and one authorizing the mayor to recommend denial of a 2010-11 liquor license renewal application if businesses receive an unfavorable comment from the Josephine County Sheriff's Office or fail to pay the required processing fee.

Another OK'd resolution identifies the positions of elective offices to be filled in the Nov. 2 general election. Those are the two-year mayor position and council positions 1 and 3, both of which have four-year terms.

Any city resident interested in filing for those positions can do so as of July 8, and the deadline is Aug. 23.

Councilors also voted 4-0 to ratify a three-year contract with the union representing many of the city's employees. Under terms of the new agreement, which will expire in 2013, employees other than stand-by duty persons, who are called out in response to a public works necessity, shall receive minimum pay of two hours worked.

Employees asked to attend a scheduled meeting outside normal work hours shall also receive a minimum of two hours worked. And they must be provided notice of that assignment at least three work days prior.

City Recorder Jim Polk asked for permission to codify a new procedure regarding sick leave donation. He said that current policies don't address emergency situations.

Polk said that he modeled the proposed procedure after that of three other cities. It would allow employees to donate sick leave to each other under five quite specific conditions.

Such a policy would enable employees to prevent a loss of income, and allow the donations with council approval on a case-by-case basis. Polk said that he would prepare a resolution for the council to consider.

Councilors were informed by the Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) that a speed zone investigation has been completed for Old Stage Road from Laurel Road to E. River Street.

ODOT is recommending that the speed limit on that stretch of road be dropped from 55 to 35 mph.

Two properties that were deemed a nuisance by the council months ago now are heading to the auction block.

Polk informed councilors that the property located at 310 Caves Hwy. that belonged to a now-defunct cable company is ready to be auctioned by the sheriff's office, along with a property at 126 Caves Hwy. that was declared a nuisance in 2007.

Councilors also were asked to help the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) determine its top priorities for the 2011 legislative session. LOC has identified 28 issues, and is asking elected officials throughout the state pick the four most important to them.

Four Way grants announced

The Four Way Community Foundation is giving \$246,155 for 2010 with most of the funds going to help nonprofit community organizations serving Josephine County and the western portion of Jackson County.

However, a portion will fund scholarships for seniors graduating this spring from five area high schools.

The foundation's 12-person board of directors reviewed 47 applications before deciding to fund 35 requests fully or in part. These discretionary grants totaled \$161,600. The foundation also is disbursing approximately \$68,000 in donor-directed awards to designated organizations and awarding \$16,600 in scholarships.

In Illinois Valley,

Takilma Dome School received \$8,500 for a metal roof, and Spiral Living Center of Takilma was given \$4,500 for a cider press and storage container.

The Glass Rail Outfit of Cave Junction accepted a \$5,000 donation for its butterfly pavilion, and Selma Community & Education Center has \$2,100 for library bookshelves.

Steve Welch, foundation president, said, "Our investments have impacted by continuing volatility in the market; still the board understands the needs in the community and prefers giving as much as possible rather than simply holding onto the funds."

Welch said that Four Way grants have a significant

effect in improving area communities. He noted that larger foundations from outside the local area look at what Four Way is doing regarding projects and organizations as an indication of strong community support.

The foundation annually provides funds to projects by nonprofit groups that enhance the educational, economic, cultural, and social conditions in Grants Pass, Illinois Valley, Rogue River and the many smaller communities in the area. Grant funds come from \$3.7 million in investments held by the foundation at the end of last year.

The invested funds are bequests and gifts from community-minded individuals and families.

The Four Way Community Foundation was established as a project of the Rotary Club of Grants Pass in 1975. It is now a completely independent community organization.

Directors of the foundation are Cheryl Walker, Ann Bauer, Charles Seagraves, Steve Welch, Dr. Barbara Sniffen, Jim Dole, John Higgins, Brady Adams, Debbie Brownell, Dr. Chris Matthews, Jennifer Phillippi, and Dr. Charles Potter. The foundation's part-time executive director is Phil Hart.



Illinois Valley News hosted an I.V. Chamber of Commerce Mixer on Friday evening, June 11. The get-togethers provide an opportunity for business people to mingle casually. Among attendees were

(above, from left) Josephine County Sheriff's Office Deputy George Gasperson, Ann & Ron Padgett, of Waggle Dance Farms, Cave Junction Mayor Don Moore and Bridgeview Vineyards Winery owner Lelo Kerivan. (Right) Padgett and chamber President Pat Dees enjoy a light-hearted moment. The next Chamber of Commerce mixer will be held at the Chateau at Oregon Caves National Monument on Friday, July 9 from 5 to 7 p.m. RSVP by phoning the chamber office at 541-592-3326.

(I.V. News photos)



Medicare plans info available

Oregonians with Medicare should be careful and ask lots of questions if they are considering switching supplemental insurance plans.

Several changes to Medicare supplement plans took effect June 1: some plans are no longer for sale and two new plans were introduced.

But that does not mean senior citizens need to act, according to the Dept. of Consumer & Business Services' Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance (SHIBA) program.

Medicare supplement insurance policies, also called Medigap policies, are sold by private insurance companies. Medicare does not pay all the costs of a person's medical care, so this insurance fills some of the "gaps" in coverage. The plans are named by letter, A through N.

All plans with the same letter offer the same benefits

nationwide. A standard Plan F in Oregon offers the same benefits as Plan F in New York state. However, the price varies by insurance company.

Although recent changes added two new options, seniors should carefully consider their situation before attempting to switch plans, SHIBA said. Depending on their plan, they may not be able to switch, and switching plans could result in higher prices due to health conditions.

Oregonians can phone

the SHIBA hotline at 1-800-722-4134 for free counseling.

When you phone SHIBA, depending on where you live, your call will be routed to a counselor in your area or returned by one of the state SHIBA staff. Visit www.oregonshiba.org for more information regarding this program.

For more information on Medigap policies, including the recent changes, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/medigapguide>.

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Campus Achievers

Community Christian Academy

The following Honor Roll students for the 2009-2010 school year, with their grade-point averages, were announced.

Elementary:

Tyi-Berious Brummett, 3.4; Nathan Drake, 3.9; Sierra Geohring, 3.9; Joshua Guerra-Lange, 3.7; Taylor Hruska, 3.8; Joseph Martinson, 3.7; Steven Martinson, 3.8; Grace Natelborg, 3.8; Zack Orndoff, 3.9.

Middle & High School:

Boaz Dillon, 3.5; Kori Krauss, 3.1; Keith Lewis, 3.5; David Perata, 3.3; Gino Perata, 3.4; Haili Richardson, 3.6; Matthew Rugg, 3.4; Benjamin Steers, 3.3.

Paid advertisement

Not just another coat of paint

Yes, Oregon Builders Guild paints houses, inside or out! And although painting might seem like something anyone can do, we like to think in terms of "a building make-over."

We look at the overall picture of what would bring a structure to that tidy, well-manicured finish that makes a building look ... well, new. We check for rotten or missing trim, loose gutters, windows or doors that need to be replaced.

Then we talk about surface prep, scraping or pres-

sure washing, filling of cracks, looking for loose nails and what needs caulking. We pay attention to what needs protection with drop cloth or masking, what type of paint will work best and can even discuss color pros and cons.

But we at Oregon Builders Guild don't stop there. We can also redo tile work, add a deck landing, porch or pathway, and replace siding. We can inspect your roof and repair or replace it, erect outbuildings of any type, remove hazard-

ous trees, AND since Good Neighbors Fence Company is our other name, we can install any kind of fence, including gates and automated openers.

Don't forget, for all of June, 4-foot field fence is only \$4 a foot plus braces, and a fence cut line can also be a fire break. For all your home improvement needs call Jack or Bruce at Good Neighbors Fence Company, home of Oregon Builders Guild at 541-592-6014 or e-mail from www.OregonBuildersGuild.com (CCB #183296)

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Jill Lary, FNP is the newest member of Siskiyou Community Health Center. She will be working as a Family Nurse Practitioner at our Cave Junction site. Jill is originally from Midland Texas. She attended Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center where she received her Master's of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner in 2009. While in college she was a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

Jill is looking forward to exploring Oregon and says, "A friend told me how wonderful Southern Oregon was. It has scenery, activities, and culture, without a big city to get overwhelmed by. I chose Siskiyou Community Health Center because I believe in the community health care concept, helping people who need it most. I like making a difference in people's lives."

Siskiyou Community Health Center