



Mayor's Corner December 2017

December Council Meeting. The Council will not convene in December unless there is urgent business.

Police Officer hired! The hiring committee consisting of Judge William Martin, Police Chief Hank Hobart, Vice President of the Council Alvin Thompson, Councilor Stacey Equitz, citizen-at-large Jana Goodman and Mayor Linda Spencer interviewed applicants for the police vacancy on November 4. Josh Solenberger was chosen as the successful candidate and he accepted the position. Josh holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration and is also a Reserve Police Academy graduate. He currently works with the Oregon Youth Authority as a group life coordinator overseeing the tasks of the youth inmates, performing correctional duties and teaching skill-building classes like substance abuse and anger management.

Unfortunately, Josh will have to go through 16 weeks of Police Academy training and 16 weeks of internship before being certified as a police officer. He is scheduled to start the Police Academy on January 22, 2018. We have tried to build in what legal safeguards we can to ensure that we get good use of the training dollars. Josh has indicated that he is committed to working in Butte Falls for a long term.

Josh will be hired full-time. To be financially conservative, we will not be hiring a code enforcement officer, but will fold the duties of code enforcement into the police job description. We have done this because there will be unforeseen start-up costs for the police department. The vehicles and the office have been unused for several years—never a good thing-- and there may be additional training and equipment costs. We may be able to reinstitute the code enforcement position in future years.

Josh will be at our January 17th Council meeting to meet you, talk of his approach to law enforcement and to answer any questions.

Hundred Year Celebration for Cemetery. We will celebrate the 100 year anniversary of our cemetery in 2018. If you would like to participate in the planning of the event, please contact our Sexton Karen Davis or let us know at the town hall.

Butte Falls Addendum to the Jackson County Hazards Mitigation Plan. The Butte Falls Steering Committee met and made refinements to the Butte Falls Addendum. The addendum will be approved by FEMA and then come to the Council for adoption. Once it is adopted we become eligible for FEMA grants to mitigate hazard damage to the water and sewer plants.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Spencer, Mayor

The Town of Butte Falls