

# Council: 'We're going to be civil and respectful'

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Moore and others who attended the standing-room-only meeting were pleased with the turnout and the quality of the applicants for the vacancy.

Once the Ward 4 selection process was over, the new council's first meeting was taken up primarily with routine business.

West's appointment involved a lengthy public process, but other appointments happened more swiftly. Jones announced his choices for a variety of other city boards, decisions he had discussed with the other councilors, he said.

There were 17 applications alone for open seats on the Planning Commission — one of them belonged to Price. Jones appointed her to fill one of the seats.

The end of the meeting involved a tense exchange between Jones and Sarah Jane Bardy, a downtown business owner and member of the city's Design Review Committee, over testimony she gave against a hotel project Jones had voted to approve. But, overall, Jones said it was a successful — if difficult — first meeting.

Jones looks forward to working with the new council, saying his fellow councilors are passionate and knowledgeable about the city with great reputations for working collaboratively.

"Given the national political climate, I feel very strongly that it's import-



Joan Herman, right, takes the oath of office as Astoria city councilor.

ant for us at the local level to really set the example for how political discourse should take place," he said. "I know that all of us, even though we will disagree and have split votes on things, we're going to be civil and respectful."

"I couldn't be more happy about the character of my colleagues because I know that that will be the case and I do want people to be able to look to Astoria City Council and say there's where local government is happening right, and that's what it should be at the national level as well."



Roger Rocka is sworn in as city councilor by former Mayor Arline LaMear.

Portland doesn't have any scheduled service, and sometimes it's up to two and a half hours driving time."

Kobes will bring the association's proposal before the Port Commission. The grant application is due this month and needs the formal support of at least one entity with an air-

port, Jacobs said.

Getting support for the grant is not a high probability, and the state could decide to use the fuel tax money elsewhere, Jacobs said.

"I think if the right things come together," he said, "it could provide a useful service that has worked in other parts of the country."

# Trump, Democrats taking border wall fight to prime-time TV

By CATHERINE LUCEY, LISA MASCARO and JILL COLVIN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Making his case on prime-time TV, President Donald Trump is stressing humanitarian concerns at the U.S.-Mexico border as he tries to convince the American people he must get funding for his long-promised border wall before ending a partial government shutdown that has hundreds of thousands of federal workers facing missed paychecks.

Trump is delivering his first Oval Office address tonight, and then visiting the southern border on Thursday, as he tries to put pressure on resistant Democrats. His administration is also discussing the idea of declaring a national emergency to allow him to move forward with the wall without Congress approving the more than \$5 billion he wants.

Trump's evening remarks will be followed by a rebuttal from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, who have strongly opposed the wall and have repeatedly called on Trump to reopen the rest of government while border negotiations continue. Television networks airing Trump's remarks have committed to sharing the response.

Trump and other administration officials have said the situation at the border has reached a crisis point, both on security and humanitarian grounds. But critics say the security risks are overblown and the administration is at least partly to blame for the humanitarian situation. While the number of illegal border crossings is down from 1.6 million in 2000 to less than 400,000 last year, the number of families coming over

the border has risen sharply. Many are seeking asylum, which is greatly straining the system.

The partial government closure, now in its 18th day, is the second-longest in history. With no end in sight, Trump's self-proclaimed deal-making skills are coming under scrutiny. Trying to increase the heat on opponents, the administration has emphasized the humanitarian issues in recent days, with Vice President Mike Pence and top aides making the case on television.

"The passion you hear from President Trump, his determination to take this case to the American people, as he will tonight in his national broadcast from the Oval Office, comes from this president's deep desire to do his job to protect the American people," Pence said Tuesday on ABC's "Good Morning America." He also appeared on CBS and NBC.

Pence also said the idea of an emergency declaration remains a possibility. Such a move would certainly draw legal challenges, and Trump — who told lawmakers he would be willing to keep the government closed for months or even years — has said he would like to continue negotiations for now.

No. 2 House Democratic leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland said Tuesday that he believes Trump does not have legal authority to declare a national emergency and unilaterally build a Southwest border wall. Doing so "certainly could" be an abuse of power, he said.

Leaders of the nonpartisan National Governors Association made public a letter Tuesday sent to Trump and congressional leaders a day earlier, calling on them to reopen the government, saying "shutdown should not be a negotiating tactic as disagreements are resolved."

# Port: Service 'has worked in other parts of the country'

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SeaPort Airlines had previously operated a passenger service from Astoria Regional Airport to Portland and Seattle. But the carrier ended service once state subsidies went away and passenger fares couldn't support the flights. The airport still receives

calls periodically from people wanting to get to and from Portland, but interest often cools once they hear the price, said Gary Kobes, the airport manager.

"That's the reality for most rural locations," he said. "If you look at the area around Portland, anything that's within an hour and a half driving time of

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