

IN BRIEF

Cannon Beach approves new budget

CANNON BEACH — The City Council voted Tuesday night to adopt a \$42.6 million budget for the new fiscal year that starts in July.

The budget is an increase over the \$30.9 million spending plan for this fiscal year.

Initial recommendations by city staff were to increase water rates by 15% and wastewater rates by 9% in order to raise the contingencies for the water and wastewater reserve funds.

To minimize the impact on ratepayers, city councilors agreed to raise water rates by 2% and wastewater rates by 6%.

City staff said that most of the work being done on the water system is based on loans, so the need for contingency is less because the loan can be adjusted if issues arise.

The City Council approved a nearly \$51,000 transfer from the general fund to close the gap between the original recommendation for wastewater rates and what was adopted.

Water and wastewater rates have not increased over the past few years.

In light of rising fuel costs, the City Council also increased the overhead budget for the city-run RV park by adding \$202,655 from contingency. The RV park operates a fuel station.

Woman files lawsuit over dog attack

A woman who was staying at Awakenings by the Sea, a detox center in Seaside, is suing the facility's parent company, Coastal Breeze Recovery LLC.

The woman alleges that two employees brought a Rottweiler to work that attacked her.

Kyana Cook alleges that in June 2020 one of the Rottweiler's owners gave Cook permission to pet the dog. The owner told Cook the dog was friendly, the complaint said.

After Cook petted the dog without incident, the animal followed her. When she went to pet it again, the dog bit Cook's neck and face, sending her to the hospital, according to the complaint.

The woman alleges she has suffered physical pain and emotional distress, and that the attack left her disfigured and with a disability.

Cook is asking for \$950,000 in economic and non-economic damages.

College historic preservation program lands grant to preserve cemetery

Clatsop Community College's historic preservation program has acquired a grant which will go toward preservation work at Ocean View Cemetery in Warrenton.

The grant exceeds \$4,000 with the college matching over \$1,500.

Funded through the State Historic Preservation Office, the grant will allow the program to assess and restore grave markers, provide training to students and research cemetery history.

In partnership with the Astoria Parks and Recreation Department, the program will conduct a workshop at the cemetery for students and the community in spring 2023.

State Sen. Armitage to hold constituent coffee in Seaside

State Sen. Rachel Armitage will hold a constituent coffee at 9 a.m. on Saturday at Seaside City Hall.

Armitage, a Warren Democrat, was appointed to fill out Betsy Johnson's term.

— *The Astorian*

DEATH

June 17, 2022

TRASK, Donald Lee, 67, of Hammond, died in Hammond. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

MEMORIAL

Sunday, June 26

RITTER, William "Crow Man" — Celebration of life at 2 p.m., Cambium Gallery, 1030 Duane St. All are welcome. Bring your best stories and worst jokes.

ON THE RECORD

Robbery

Steven Christopher Turpin, 28, of Ilwaco, Washington, was arrested on Tuesday for third-degree robbery, second-degree theft, fourth-degree assault and resisting arrest. The crimes allegedly took place on W. Marine Drive

in Astoria.

DUII

John Allen Terlanova, 40, of Warrenton, was arrested on Saturday on U.S. Highway 101 near Camp Rilea Armed Forces Training Center for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

THURSDAY

Cannon Beach Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower Ave.

the Astorian

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LEFT: The Astoria Nordic Heritage Park features six friendly trolls. 'Margit' holds her cat in a secure grip while welcoming visitors. RIGHT: 'Leif' prefers hiding in the shade.



'Olle' spends his time playing with his toy ship.



'Sven' loves to entertain visitors entering the park.



Photos by Lydia Ely/The Astorian

GALLERY OF TROLLS



LEFT: 'Anetta' enjoys a good laugh from her shaded patch on the west side of the park. She was known as a grand opera singer and is dressed in her stage costume which features a Viking horn helmet. RIGHT: 'Viktor' watches over the entrance near the north end of the park. He brought a pipe with him to remember his beloved grandfather.



Biden signs new shipping law

Move could help reduce retailer costs

By WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden signed legislation Thursday meant to make shipping goods across oceans cheaper — a move the White House says will help lower retailer costs that have remained high since the start of the coronavirus pandemic and helped fuel record inflation.

The Ocean Shipping Reform Act passed the Senate unanimously via voice vote and garnered bipartisan House support. It empowers the Federal Maritime Commission to investigate late fees charged by carriers while prohibiting ocean carriers and marine terminals from refusing to fill available cargo space.

The president also stressed that a concentration of corporate shipping power in the hands of just nine, large and foreign-owned companies has fed higher shipping costs in ways that hurt businesses and exacerbate problems with inflation.

"These carriers made \$190 billion in profit in 2021, seven times higher than the year before," Biden said. "The cost got passed on, as you might guess, directly to consumers, sticking it to American families



Apu Gomes/AFP via Getty Images

Shipping containers stacked at the Port of Long Beach in California in November.

and businesses because they could."

He added that the new law would "bring down prices to give American families a bit more breathing room."

The Federal Reserve this week raised its key interest rate by three-quarters of a point, the largest bump since 1994, after data released last week showed U.S. inflation rose in May to a four-decade high of 8.6%.

"People know that prices are too high and we have to do something. And this

was one of the obvious culprits," said Sen. Amy Klobuchar, a Minnesota Democrat who cosponsored the law with Sen. John Thune, a South Dakota Republican. "There's a lot of things, but this was pretty glaring."

Klobuchar, who attended the law signing at the White House, said U.S. exporters saw their prices to access shipping containers increase by at least four times during the past two years of the pandemic.

The new measures should prompt shippers to

quickly lower costs, Klobuchar said. But if not, lawmakers could take further steps — including examining antitrust exemptions.

"If I were them, I would take great heed at the unanimous vote in the Senate, that we could act very soon if they don't start being fair," Klobuchar said. "If they keep their prices so high and don't respond to the needs in our country, I think you will see legislation, more legislation, in the mix."