

Hermiston council approves Horizon Project annexation

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Another housing project took a step forward in Hermiston.

The Hermiston City Council at its meeting Monday night, Feb. 28, approved Horizon Project Inc.'s application to annex 1.02 acres at 80 N.E. Tracey Lane.

City Planning Director Clint Spencer told the council Horizon Project sought the annexation to connect to city services and further develop the site for multiuse housing.

Terri Silvis, CEO of Horizon Project, during the public hearing on the annexation explained the organization wants to use this property to develop a small, integrated housing complex to serve working families and others. She said this is a model of housing that has proved successful for Horizon Project.

No one spoke in opposition to the proposal, and after a brief discussion, the council unanimously approved the annexation.

Spencer also pointed out the planning commission found the access to Northeast Tracey Lane is inadequate for multi-family develop-

ment. That road is "basically (a) driveway," he said, that runs between Petsense and Big 5 Sporting Goods. The commission found East Theater Lane should be the primary point of access.

Mayor Dave Drotzmann said he agrees with that.

The council also approved two resolutions.

Resolution 2209 establishes an economic development incentive program that benefits very large industrial power users within the city. Those users would receive a rebate for any amount they spend in excess of \$750,000 in a calendar year in franchise fees and payments in-lieu of taxes per developed parcel.

According to Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, no power user in the city comes close to paying \$750,000 in electricity FF/PILT within a calendar year.

And the council approved a resolution for the expansion of the Greater Hermiston Enterprise Zone.

The move adds approximately 1.34 square miles to the zone outside the city limits and also requires the approval of the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners and the Port of Umatilla.

Freedom Convoy crosses the county



Supporters of the American Freedom Convoy stand atop an overpass at Exit 234 on Interstate 84 Wednesday, March 2, 2022, near Meacham. Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

Pendleton man jailed for stabbing multiple people

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — A Pendleton man is in jail on felony assault charges related to the stabbing of four people.

Pendleton police arrested Sterling Harrison Severe, 30, on two counts each of first-degree and second-degree assault, as well as a parole violation warrant.

Pendleton Police Chief Chuck Byram in a press release Wednesday, March 2, reported officers at 9:22 p.m. March 1 responded to

122 S.E. 19th St., after receiving a 911 report of a male at the residence stabbing multiple people.

Police at the scene heard and observed through the front window of the residence an "active disturbance," according to the press release.

Officers entered the residence and encountered a man straddling another male on the floor just inside the front door. Byram reported the victim on the floor was bleeding heavily from the head.

Officers quickly detained the suspect, and after gaining control of the situation medical personnel attended to the victims inside the residence. In total, according to the release, two ambulances and two personal vehicles took four adult victims to St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton, for "treatment related to stab injuries and blunt force trauma injuries."

While the injuries did not appear to be life threatening, Byram reported, they were quite serious in nature.

Severe also received treatment at the hospital for injuries he suffered during the altercation inside the residence. Police then booked Severe into the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton.

Byram reported the investigation showed drug use and mental health issues were contributing factors to the assaults.

The investigative material next goes to the Umatilla County District Attorney's Office for review of charges and prosecution.

Local candidate field stagnant ahead of March 8 deadline

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

UMATILLA COUNTY — With about a week left before the filing deadline for the May 17 local elections across Umatilla County, new candidates remain rare.

In Pendleton, five candidates are vying for five seats on the city council with no competitive races. Unless new candidates file by March 8, incumbents Carole Innes of Ward 1, McKennon McDonald of Ward 2, Linda Neuman of Ward 3 and Steve Campbell of an at-large seat will run unopposed and are all but guaranteed new terms. Newcomer Addison Schulberg, who is running for the other at-large seat unopposed, rounds out the field.

Across the county in Hermiston, the city council field is more competitive but uneven. As of Feb. 21, Ward 4 Councilor Phillip Spicerkuhn is facing a challenge from former Councilor David McCarthy, and Municipal Court Judge Thomas Creasing will need to beat Judge Pro Tem Cameron Bendixsen to secure a new term.

Ward 2 incumbent Roy Barron and Ward 1 candidate Jackie Linton are running unopposed, although Ward 1 Councilor Lori Davis has said she intends to run for reelection. Ward 3, which Councilor Jackie Myers holds, has no filed candidates.

After growing steadily over the past several months, the field for two seats on the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners is remaining static for now.

Five people have filed to run for the open Position 1 seat: Bob Barton of Hermiston, Jesse Bonifer

of Athena, Susan Bower of Pendleton, Cindy Timmons of Milton-Freewater and Alvin Young of Hermiston. For Position 2, Hollylo Beers of Pendleton is challenging incumbent Commissioner John Shafer.

Two seats on the Umatilla County Circuit Court bench also are up for election this year. Judge Jon Lieualden of Position 2 and Judge Daniel Hill of Position 3 are running unopposed. District 57 state Rep. Greg Smith and District 58 state Rep. Bobby Levy both filed for reelection and have yet to draw any opponents in the Republican primaries or the general election.

Any prospective candidates interested in state office will need to file with the Oregon Secretary of State's office, but local candidates need to submit their paperwork to the relevant city or county office on March 8 by 5 p.m. The primary elections, when most local candidates will run, is May 17. Some races will require a runoff election, which will take place on Nov. 8.

Semitrailer hauling windmill blade crashes in Morrow County

IONE — A semitrailer hauling a windmill blade crashed Monday afternoon, Feb. 28, in Morrow County.

Oregon State Police reported a Kenworth semitrailer was heading west at about 3:15 p.m. on Highway 74 when it took a curve too wide near milepost 15 about 12 miles from Ione. The rig went over the shoulder of the freeway and rolled.

The trailer itself was so long it had its own operator, OSP reported, and neither the truck's driver nor the trailer

LOCAL BRIEFING

operator reported they knew how the crash occurred.

The driver, a 56-year-old man from Wausau, Wisconsin, suffered injuries. An ambulance took him to a local hospital.

Oregon State Police also reported the windmill blade company arranged its own tow.

Local murder defendant has date for bail hearing

PENDLETON — The man facing a first-degree murder charge for a 2015 killing in Hermiston has a new court date for a bail hearing.

The state has charged Jose Maria Oseguera, 40, with unlawful use of a weapon, felon in possession of a weapon and first-degree murder related to the homicide of Alonso Madrigal.

Oseguera remains in the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton. According to state court records, the Umatilla County Circuit Court has set Oseguera's bail hearing for March 11.

Hermiston police Chief Jason Edmiston has stated Madrigal, 23, was "senselessly murdered" the evening of March 4, 2015, in the parking lot of a convenience store in the 400 block of Northwest 11th Street, Hermiston.

—EO Media Group

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extra 1:20p show 3/4-3/6

Dog (PG13)
3:40p 5:40p 8:40p
extra 12:40p show 3/4-3/6

Death on the Nile (PG13)
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