

Council tables dental clinic approval

The Heppner City Council in session Monday night took steps to return the power of granting variances to the city planning commission, tabled until Thursday at 7 p.m. final approval on a building permit for a new dental clinic and reported, from a previous executive session, the acceptance of a resignation from the city utility foreman.

The two and one-half hour session included a lengthy review of complete alternate plans for a new dental clinic. The Council approved all aspects of the plan except a general plan for parking spaces.

A special session of the Council is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday to look at specific plans for the design of parking as it relates to adjacent parking at the medical clinic.

Following the Council session, at 7:30 p.m., a meeting of the city budget committee is scheduled to review all as-

pects of the budget for the coming year.

Mayor Jerry Sweeney reported on an executive session of the Council. Sweeney said the session resulted in the tendering and acceptance of the resignation of Ralph Marlatt, city utility foreman. Also coming from the executive session was an offer of a six per cent salary increase for city employees. Sweeney said the employees asked for 10 per cent and are being offered six per cent.

Following the announcement of results from the executive session, a source at city hall said that the city has also received the resignation of Harold Coulter, effective on or about Mar. 15. Coulter has worked as an attendant on city utilities including the city sewage system.

The City of Heppner this week advertised for a new city crew foreman at a salary of \$12,000 plus fringe benefits

with resume due by Mar. 15. Almost 20 persons attended the Council session to comment on resolutions, ordinances and requests put before the Council.

Among those attending was Dave Harrison, manager of Columbia Basin Electric Co-op. Harrison told the Council that terms of the new franchise between the electric cooperative and the city had been worked out to the satisfaction of all parties.

Specific wording in the proposed franchise has been under discussion since the first part of the year. The previous franchise agreement expired in late February.

A planning commission suggestion to make Thompson a two-way street was aired again in connection with discussion on the new dental clinic.

Ilene Wyman, hospital administrator, said that such action would be "A very big hardship at the present time."

She said that parking space at Pioneer Memorial Hospital was at a minimum now and noted that, in addition to being narrow, the street must also serve as an ambulance entrance.

She estimated that of the 43 existing parking spaces, 32 are utilized by employees, staff, and aides.

She went on to say that making Thompson a two-way street would eliminate about 11 parking spaces. "When the clinic came in, we lost parking against the bank," she said. She told the Council that Kinzua had promised to build a parking lot at one time. She added that even if such a parking lot were completed, the hospital is without funds to build steps necessary to accommodate parking lot users.

She also said that future building plans at the hospital could further compound the parking problem.

The hospital flatly opposes making Thompson a two-way

street, she concluded.

Dean Gilman, police chief, suggested that the city get a traffic engineer to investigate the problem. He said that traffic moving the wrong way on the one-way street is coming from the clinic.

The Council gave tacit agreement to the suggestion and will contact an engineer concerning the traffic problems on the hill.

The Council then moved to grant a building permit to Robb Rush for construction of a two story home in the housing addition on the hill near Heppner High School. Rush is the new manager of Les Schwab Tire Center in Heppner.

Dick Sargent requested and was granted a freight loading zone change along the west side of the new Coast-to-Coast Store location in the Gilliam-Bisbee Building. The Council also approved painting parking space stripes along the same section of curb.

In other action, the Council vacated Thorn Street from Highway 74 to Riverside. The city has never used the street which for all purposes exists only on the city map. There is no street there now. The request to vacate was made by Howard Pettyjohn.

The Council also approved an ordinance which would square up Morgan Street with Highway 74. The request, made by Larry F. Prock and Cornett Green, reduces the width of the street for 100 feet from a 60-foot width to a 40-foot width.

The city also approved a request by Pacific Northwest Bell to place underground cable along Main Street from Center to Baltimore to Church.

February bills amounting to \$13,722.62 were approved for payment. The figure includes \$10,081.50, the city share of a new mini-pumper fire truck to be jointly owned by Heppner and the rural fire protection district. A supplemental budget hearing was held Monday night where the special funding was approved. A fund has existed for equipment purchase, but the city elected to

borrow the money on short term, thereby saving about \$125.00 between interest on the short term loan and loss of maturity on the long-term fire equipment account.

Other action saw the Council approve purchase of chlorine from Pennwalt Corporation at .25 cents per pound, F.O.B. Heppner.

The city is expected to call for oral bids on the old Chevrolet fire truck and a jeep truck which has been used by the fire department for a number of years.

The City also granted permission to the State to install advance warning signs at railroad crossings in Heppner

at no cost to the city. The State asked for permission to install the signs in the next 24 months. According to discussion at the meeting, the request is based on legislation enacted in 1973.

The Council moved to request State funds to resurface Gale Street from Water Street to Center Street. The city has made similar requests before. The section in question was paved in 1972 but never completed, it was reported.

The city submitted the request under a \$250,000 fund allowed to the Oregon Transportation Commission for use in city street repair under special use conditions.

TO MORROW AND TOO TOMORROW
By Tom Franks

A number of people have asked me—"How do you like Heppner by now?" At one time in my life I would have spelled out all the bitter shortcomings I could think of, and I was capable of thinking of quite a few. I stopped doing that when I discovered that the shortcomings were mostly mine. I reasoned rightly that there just couldn't be that many rotten towns in the United States.

After this revelation, I found my mind still digging for a response suitable to the person who brought the question.

If a city official or chamber member would question me I would slap on a smile and manage to say the town was GREAT. The Tony Tiger response.

If some sweet young thing asked me, I would talk about far flung vacation spots of wine and roses—since it was apparent that her body was in town but her heart wasn't.

When the question came from someone deeply involved in the community, who admitted to being born in town, I quickly commented on all the wonderful history! "So rich in history," I'd say.

I still say the same things. While I gave up my basic dislike for life I didn't exactly fall in love with geography.

Behind all this I find that people who ask such a question often mean something else. Some of the real questions are: How do you like the town structure? How do you like the people? How do you like me? Are you going to stay? What is it like where you came from? How does this compare with where you came from? Will you take part in the community? Will you observe the rules of the community? Do you see something here that I don't see? Would you rather be somewhere else? I would like to tell you how I feel? Let me tell you my opinion? What are you doing? How are you today?

You can see the problem I have with this question "How do you like Heppner by now?"

About all I can really say is that I like it. My judgements are reserved for the ways that every small town operates. For example:

It upsets me to become known as the car I drive. It gives me great satisfaction to avoid, for as long as possible, becoming known as my car.

"Who is Mr. Smith?" I ask. I think Mr. Smith looks like an interesting character. "Oh, you know, he drives the blue Graf Zeppelin pickup," they explain, I cringe.

I often wonder why we don't include the make of car in every obituary as a positive means of identification.

In one community where I was not getting cooperation from a legal source I threatened to park my car in front of her house and walk home at night.

I changed cars in another town so many times that the people who talked to me started to stutter.

You can see the possibilities.

In the restaurant you become known as "Cheeseburger D" and just when you think you have made a hit with one of the local bartenders you find out that you are fondly known as "Bourbon and Coke."

"Who is she," I ask. "Her folks live out on Pumpkin Road," someone replies. "Just what I wanted to know," I say to myself. "Why do you ask," they say. "Always did want to know who lived out on Pumpkin Road," I say out loud.

Next week I will try to get serious.

The Gazette-Times
Editorially speaking

Letters

Restrictions asked

We need restriction on the state fish and wildlife! When the public argues with them about a certain area's safety because of roadways, smallness, homes or other reasons, they state there will be no hunting, they just want a game refuge. After they have control, they manage to come up with special permits for every other year or so. The general public has the right to decide what is a reasonably safe area. Here is a suggested law that would keep them out of areas that are unsuited for safety reasons.

Land, the state fish and wildlife control, must be one mile wide or within 50 ft. as long as the length is one mile or more, and homes, barns, other buildings 300 ft. or more from proposed line. Also a ban should be put on hunting within 1,000 ft. of populated areas (city limits, that is) and roadways. Clearance must be well posted.

Between the Federal Fish and Wildlife, the State Game Commission and our Planning Commissions, why do we need a state fish and wildlife? We don't; they should be absorbed by game commissions, which should not be part of police department.

O.K. people, get the lead out of your pants—put it in your hands and write your Senators and Reps. NOW! Not just once or one: make carbon copies. It saves time.

Lea Thompson
Umatilla, Ore.

Wheathearts plan to publish cookbook

Morrow County Wheathearts meeting Monday night at the Monica (Jim) Swanson home in Ione decided to publish a cookbook with the assistance of the Oregon Wheat Commission. The new cookbook will be compiled from favorite recipes of people from Morrow County, according to Mary Martin.

The Wheathearts issued a request today for wheat product recipes from any and all Morrow County cooks. The recipes should involve the use of wheat or wheat products. Recipes should be submitted to Birdine Tullis at the Extension Office in Heppner, or Mary Martin at Lexington.

The recipes must be submitted by Monday, Mar. 21, so that the book may be prepared by Apr. 4 when the Wheathearts will hold a Bake-a-rama at the Heppner Elks' Club. A time for the evening

Bake-a-rama will be announced later.

At the Bake-a-rama, there will be demonstrations, nutrition and economic information along with the gift of free cookbooks and other activities.

Children return 28 items
A campaign to recover school district playground equipment, which took place during the last two weeks of February at Heppner Elementary School, resulted in 28 items being returned to use. Mrs. Lucile Peck's third grade recovered 12 items such as jump ropes, footballs, basketballs and baseballs. Because their efforts made them the winning room, these third-graders won 30 minutes to use as they chose.

"They are having lots of fun deciding just what to do with this unscheduled time," the school principal said. All rooms that located and brought back five or more pieces of equipment got to keep an extra playground item for their own room's use. Principal Don Cole estimates that the returned items are worth an average of \$4 each, and thus the children's efforts brought back about \$112 worth of usable school district equipment.

Planners set Monday meeting

The Morrow County Planning Commission is scheduled to meet Monday, Mar. 14, 7:30 p.m. in the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner to consider five applications ranging from a permit for a church in Boardman to a setback for a farm building near Lexington.

Wayne Hodson of Boardman has made application for a zone change from Qualified Farm to Farm. The request involves 20 acres about one mile east of Boardman on Wilson Road.

Roy D. Plant of Boardman has made application for a conditional use permit for construction of a church in a Farm Residential Zone. The property in question is 2.41 acres on Olson and Wilson Road near Boardman.

L.W. Vail and Company has applied for a conditional use permit to operate a rock crusher and asphalt plant in a Farm Zone at the west end of

Kunze Road adjacent to the Boeing tract. The property consists of about 39 acres owned by Arnold Hoffman.

Umatilla Ready-Mix, Inc., has applied for a conditional use permit to operate a concrete batch plant in an Industrial Zone. The property in question is owned by Morrow County and is adjacent to Interstate 80N. The location is southeast of the Port of Morrow.

Gary Grieb of Lexington has applied for a variance to setbacks in a Qualified Farm Zone. The request involves construction of a farm building closer than the required 60-foot setback from a county road.

CBEC taxes to increase

The counties served by the Columbia Basin Electric Co-op will be receiving an increasing amount of taxes in 1977. The Co-op will pay Morrow County \$30,856.00, Gilliam County \$18,008.00, Wheeler County \$5,697.00, Umatilla County \$918.00 and Sherman County \$266.00. In addition to the excise and property tax payments to the counties, the local utility pays nearly \$10,000.00 in annual city franchise taxes to the cities of Heppner, Ione, Lexington, Condon, and Fossil.

The Columbia Basin Electric Co-op serves an area of 3,010 square miles and provides electric service to 3,427 member accounts.

Creative Arts meeting set

The next meeting of the Morrow County Creative Arts Group will be Thursday, Mar. 17, at the West of Willow restaurant.

All persons interested in arts and crafts are welcome to attend. The group will be making plans for county fair exhibits and an oil painting class to follow up on the recently completed sketching class.

FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL
The Gift of Luxury

Anson 360

AT A COMPACT PRICE!

NYLON TIP or BALL POINT PENS

ONLY \$5.00

Quality that speaks for itself in handsome durable chrome

Backed by ANSON'S respected guarantee

Peterson's Jewelry
676-9200 Heppner

THE GAZETTE-TIMES
HEPPNER

Published every Thursday and entered as a second-class matter at the post office at Heppner, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879. Second-class postage paid at Heppner, Oregon.

Wil C. Phinney, Advertising Manager
Tom Franks, Editor

The official newspaper of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow.

G.M. Reed, Publisher
Dolores Reed, Co-publisher

Open everyday at 8 am for breakfast

A Heppner First
From 8-11 am, Mon. - Sun.,
West of Willow will feature a self-serving fruit breakfast bar!

Breakfast Bar

Quantity & Quality guaranteed.
Personally supervised by J.R.
"I guarantee it."

Breakfast Menu

Eggs-any style ham, bacon, or steak, hash browns, toast

with ham or bacon \$2.50
with steak \$3.00

For pizza to go, call 676-5551
For sandwiches to go, call 676-5149

Package orders to go as always

- Seafood
- Steak
- Pizza

Sunday Luncheon Buffet 12-4