Seaside considers changes to cemetery rules

Amendment would raise price per plot to \$500

By Katherine Lacaze Seaside Signal

The price to buy a plot at the Evergreen Cemetery, managed by the city of Seaside, may more than double to help offset administrative costs.

The Seaside City Council is contemplating an amendment to the city's ordinance regarding Evergreen Cemetery regulations. The amendment was read Monday and seeks to modify some language and update the cost for each plot at the cemetery, located off Beerman Creek south of Seaside.

If the amendment is adopted at the council's next meeting Jan. 25, the city will charge \$500 instead of \$200 for each plot. Public Works Director Dale McDowell said the increase will help

cover costs the city incurs by managing the cemetery.

"It's nice that the city looks over and maintains the property, but, for however many years it's been doing that, it's cost quite a bit," City Councilor Randy Frank said. "Even with this price increase, it's still very reasonable and will help offset some of the costs we got."

At \$500, the fee still is less than those associated with other cemeteries in Clatsop County, according to McDowell.

Additionally, if the owner of a plot decides not to use it, the plot may be sold back to the city at 80 percent, rather than 90 percent, of the purchase price, according to the amendment.

The proposed language changes to the ordinance are minor and simply update what is an old ordinance, McDowell said. City Attorney Dan Van Thiel also suggested language changes to correct spelling and grammatical errors.

New gym stations

The City Council also approved a request from Seaside High School senior Berkley Posalski to add three new stations to the outdoor gym at Cartwright Park. Posalski designed and installed the three existing stations at the park, with guidance from the Public Works Department, last May for his Eagle Scout Project. For his senior Pacifica Project, he plans to design and add three more stations. Additionally, the project will include expanding the concrete borders of the current stations to make the area around them safer. McDowell said Parks Advisory Committee members indicated interest in finding out how much the outdoor park is being used. City Councilor Dana Phillips said she believes the park is something that is used and she appreciates Posalski's "interest in moving forward with this."

Plans for former church building

An ad hoc committee gave a report on the former church building purchased by the city in 2014. The building on Broadway is centrally located, with close access to Broadway Middle School, the Sunset Empire Park & Recreation District, Broadway Park and the Seaside Public Library. The committee is suggesting the council take a three-phase approach to use the building for a variety of purposes. For the first phase, they suggested the city rent out the two office spaces, which would help protect the city's investment by generating revenue and keeping the building in use and monitored.

The council will hold a work session at a later date to discuss the site.



R.J. MARX PHO

The entrance to Evergreen Cemetery on Beerman Creek

Awards acknowledge accomplishments of fire and rescue personnel

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"You're all vital to make this system work," he said.

Chief Joey Daniels —who was honored with the fire officer of the year award — agreed with Larson's sentiment.

"Without them, we wouldn't have the volunteer department we have," he added.

Awards given out

The highlight of the event was a number of awards distributed to acknowledge the accomplishments, small and large, achieved by department personnel throughout the year.

Cpt. Gordon Houston and Div. Chief David Rankin presented special recognition awards, a set of humorous, light-hearted recognitions such as "the tuckered bear award," "the apparatus destruction award" and the "got to go award." The awards

were presented along with gag gifts and amusing stories illustrating the sense of companionship fostered within the department.

The department holds drills for about two to three hours each Wednesday night. Considering all volunteers cannot make it to each drill, Genessee Dennis, president of the Seaside Fire and Rescue Association in 2015, estimated the department's 38 volunteers still contributed nearly 2,000 cumulative training hours. The department also responded to more than 1,000 calls throughout the year; a majority of the calls were for emergency medical services, followed by false calls, motor vehicle accidents, fires, public assistance incidents and hazardous conditions.

"There is a lot of time we will invest to serve our community," Dennis said.

Those with the best attendance at drills received service awards. They included Evan

CEX CIDE

Cpt. Gordon Houston gives a special recognition award to Mark Burke at the Seaside Volunteer Fire & Rescue awards banquet at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

Edwards, who attended 43 of 52 drills; Matt Keefer, who attended 44 drills; Shane Mergel, who attended 48 drills; Roy Dague, who attended 49 drills; and Katie Bulletset, who attended 51 drills.

The top five call responders also received service awards. With 521 calls, Edwards was the top responder, followed by Shane Mergel with 507 calls, Lisa Talamantez with 476 calls, Colin Houston with 453 calls and Noble Hutchinson with 380 calls.

"There are so many people who offer so much to our agency," Daniels said.

Dennis was recognized as the EMS provider of the year and Bulletset received firefighter of the year. The officers noted Dennis' growth as an emergency medical technician and his willingness to show up, even for late-night calls. Bulletset not only is a dedicated responder, but she also offers to help others and with tasks around the facility, like painting.

Fire officer of the year, presented by Dennis, went to Daniels. During the selection process, the firefighters made nominations and discussed the options. One of the most important aspects of being a leader, they determined, is the "ability to provide inspiration" and "translate vision into reality," Dennis said.

"Once you adopt this attitude, people will follow suit," he said.

Those were among the main reasons Daniels was selected for the award.

Retiring volunteers recognized

The department, which has three full-time staff members and a part-time paid

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position, depends on volunteers, like many other departments in Clatsop County.

During the ceremony, Daniels recognized volunteers who are retiring this year, noting the department is losing "a lot of years of experience." Among those retiring are volunteers Lt. David Oxley, Richard Nofield, Susan Oxley and Doug Barker.

Barker, who volunteered for 38 years, said it has been "a privilege and an honor" to serve the community as a volunteer firefighter.

"Really, at the bottom, it's been a whole hell of a lot of fun," he said. "So thank you for 38 years of fun."

An empty table at the banquet, with a single place setting, served as a reminder Glenn Bard, a former volunteer who died in 2012, as well as a remembrance of other members since the department was established in 1904.

Local lawyer to run for Circuit Court judge

EO Media Group

Clatsop County lawyer Dawn McIntosh has filed to run for Circuit Court judge in the May election to replace Judge Philip Nelson, who will retire this year.

McIntosh, who works for McIntosh and Long in Gearhart, primarily handles domestic relations, juvenile and criminal cases in Clatsop and Tillamook counties.

She moved to Clatsop County in 1998, when District Attorney Josh Marquis hired her as chief deputy district attorney. She supervised all child abuse and major sex crimes prosecutions in Clatsop County from 1998 to 2003. She chaired the county multidisciplinary team for investigation of child abuse cases.

In 1999, she was named the Oregon District Attorneys Association's Child Abuse Prosecutor of the Year.

In 2001, she received an FBI award for her outstanding record in the prosecution of offenders. In addition, she





was a founding member of Clatsop County's Lighthouse for Kids, an assessment center for abused children.



M c I n - tosh taught lawyers at the National District Attorneys Association National Advocacy Center in 2001 on rural domestic violence issues and trial advocacy. As an instructor at Clatsop Community College, she received the college's Meritorious Service Award.

McIntosh graduated from Lewis and Clark Law School in 1992. She interned at the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office throughout law school and was hired as an assistant district attorney upon graduation. She worked in the juvenile and child abuse units and received a citation for her work on the Multnomah County District Attorney's child abuse team.

McIntosh is married and has one child, one stepchild, and two grandchildren. She served on the Cannon Beach PTA, and she is a former coach and sponsor of Seaside Kids and Lower Columbia Youth Soccer Association.



