

School board approves reservoir land transfer at new campus

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

A deal will transfer reservoir property above the new school campus. The Seaside School District will transfer land ownership at the site of a reservoir on the new campus to the city.

"We have a signed agreement between the superintendent, Susan Penrod, as well as the city manager, Mark Winstanley," project manager Jim Henry said at last Tuesday's school board meeting. "We are in the process of getting the property line adjustment made between our two proper-

ties to designate the reservoir area as well as the rest of the property, which will be one single lot."

The 3.28-acre reservoir site, part of 130 acres donated to the school district by Weyerhaeuser Co. in 2016 prior to the bond vote, was annexed by the city in October. Ownership will be transferred to the city.

Budgeted at \$5.56 million, the 5-million gallon reservoir project totaled \$5.84 million after change orders. The reservoir provides water to the new middle school and high school building as well as Pacific Ridge Elementary. It also serves portions of Seaside.

In August, the city authorized \$831,000 in cost sharing to be delivered to the school district, about half of that for utility work including water, sewer, roads and conduit. About \$284,000 of the distribution funded a redesign of the waterline system.

"We are in the process of evaluating getting the property line adjustment made between our two properties to designate the reservoir area and rest of property as a single lot," Henry said.

The school board unanimously authorized Penrod to complete the reservoir agreement and property transfer.



City seeks land title from county to preserve former school fields



Seaside is interested in assuming title for properties here shaded in orange, with the intent of continued use for recreational and athletic field purposes.

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Clatsop County plans to turn three tax lots over to Seaside. The property, at the northern part of the former high school campus on U.S. Highway 101, comprises playing fields and recreation space.

The lots are part of five parcels deeded to the county from the Seaside School District based on a reversionary clause linked to the properties use for school purposes. They encompass the northern part of the property and have been used for athletic and recreational fields. The reversionary clause kicked in when the district closed the former high school to move schools to a new location out of the tsunami inundation zone.

City Manager Mark Winstanley said he wants to pre-

serve the fields for recreational purposes.

"The community feels that it would be very important that those sports fields continue to be able to be used by youth of this area," he told the county Board of Commissioners at a February meeting. "We are asking that the county commission deed that property over to the city of Seaside so it can continue to be used in the manner it has been used over the last 60 years."

The city will continue to take care of the property, which has a "couple of baseball fields and a couple of soccer fields right now," Winstanley said.

Seaside Kids and the school district are among local users.

The move to preserve the property for playing fields comes at a time when recreation areas are in short supply, said Commissioner John

Toyooka, who represents Seaside.

"In South County, there's insufficient fields and areas for the youth to play at this time," Toyooka said. "Losing the high school, losing some of those playing fields, it's going to make it a challenge. We do need those available fields for the youth of the county. We don't have viable alternatives at this time."

The properties have been sent to the county's categorization committee for discussion as to the appropriate category for each parcel per the county's property management policy.

Staff will present those findings to the county commission for their formal adoption, Sirpa Duoos, the county's property management specialist, said after the meeting.

After the formal adoption, staff will present the request from Seaside for the board's consideration.

Park district: Three candidates declared so far

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since December 2019, when she was appointed to fill the vacancy left by Lindsey Morrison.

Position 1 board member Su Coddington has lived in Seaside for 24 years. A nurse, she heads the Community Emergency Response Team in Seaside.

Coddington was appointed to the seat in April

2020, formerly held by Rodney Roberts, who announced his resignation in February.

In August, Celeste Bodner and Erika Marshall won appointments to the board after the July resignations of former board president Jeremy Mills and board member John Chapman.

Bodner assumed Position 2 and Marshall Position 4.

Bodner is the founder and executive director of the

Seaside-based FosterClub, a national nonprofit with a mission to improve the lives of young people in foster care.

Marshall, a Seaside resident, is global human resources for Mercy Corps, working with the organization's vice president to guide overall vision and strategic direction.

Positions 1, 2 and 3 are for four-year terms. The Posi-

tion 4 and Position 5 races are for the remainder of the two-year unexpired terms of former board members Chapman and Morrison.

Park district board meetings, currently held via livestream, are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 5:15 pm.

Candidate filings can be found at sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/SEL190.pdf.



Exterior remediation at the middle and high school building.

Seaside School District

Construction: Weather barrier, drainage among fixes

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the west side," Henry said. "We're really happy to see that move on."

Ahead, crews will replace door thresholds at

the high school and middle school, and exterior work anticipated to be complete before March.

Site concerns include field drainage issues. "We've been trying to get

to the bottom of that for a few months," Henry said. "For some reason the field isn't draining as designed, so Hoffman (Construction Co.) has dug up some areas and we're working

on a solution."

Landscaping repairs will take place after remediation is over. "They'll be looking at that for six to eight weeks once we get into spring weather," Henry said.

Small business committee seeks members

Seaside Signal

The Gearhart Small Business Committee is seeking applications for the appointment of new members.

The committee is made up of residents and small business owners within Gearhart. Citizen members

hold a one-year term and must be at least 18 years of age and reside within the city limits or urban growth boundary of Gearhart.

The committee meets once a month, usually the third Tuesday of the month.

The mission committee is to educate existing and potential business and commercial property owners on

Gearhart commercial zoning, available small business resources, and Gearhart Comprehensive Plan commercial development goals.

Visit www.cityofgearhart.com for more information and application.

Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on March 31.

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