

Weather forces Banks City Council to schedule a second meeting

The regular meeting of the Banks City Council on Jan. 11 was impacted by bad weather, requiring a special meeting last night, Jan. 18, to complete previously scheduled business.

Banks approves yard debris pickup

The annual Audit Report, presented last night by auditor Dennis Connor of Clatskanie, revealed over-expenditures of \$25,000 in last year's general fund, a trend that is likely to continue because of the City's accounting procedure. Connor recommended that the city change from the currently used accrual basis to a cash basis. Following lengthy discussion, the council agreed to change to a cash basis for the 2000-2001 budget year.

Jerry Adamowitz, a resident of Arbor Village, was appointed to the Planning Commission. In

Starting in March, Banks residents will be able to get rid of yard debris for an additional \$1.50 per month under the terms of a new contract approved by the Banks City Council with SWATCO. The total monthly bill will be \$18.30. Debris pickup will be on every other Thursday, though the beginning week hasn't been chosen as yet. Regular garbage collection will remain on Tuesday/Wednesday.

The yard debris must be placed in a 32-gallon can or in special "yard debris paper bags", and may weigh no more than 60 pounds. The special bags are available at Banks Hardware, according to SWATCO John Trout.

Agreement for the program followed a four month pilot program this past summer.

A Family Bingo Night will be held Friday, Jan. 28, in the Banks Junior High School cafeteria. Sponsored by the Banks Junior High Parents Club, proceeds from the event will benefit Banks Junior High extracurricular activities.

Bingo Nite benefits Banks Junior High

The event starts at 6:30 with pizza. The bingo games will begin at 7:00 p.m. Bingo cards will be \$1.00 each with free exchange throughout the evening. There will be four "Goodie Walks," at 50 cents per walk. A snack bar will be open and pizza will be sold by the slice.

For more information call Banks Junior High School at 324-3111.

A public interview prior to his appointment, Adamowitz said he is a proponent of managed growth. He is services manager for TekSystems of Portland.

Another planning commission appointment will be considered at the next council meeting, Feb. 8.

Two expenditures were approved for the water department: A "bare bones" upgrade of the water telemetry system will cost \$43,470 and, according to city engineer Dale Merrill, it will satisfy state regulations. Purchase of a Sportsman ATV will cost \$6,350. Funds for

FFA meeting slated

The next meeting of the Banks FFA Alumni will be Thursday, Jan. 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the Vo-Ag classroom at Banks High School. Everyone is welcome and you don't have to be a past member of any FFA Chapter to join.

these will derive from System Development Charges and water user fees.

Don Bake was approved as chairman of the city's Watershed Committee. The committee, which has been dormant recently, serves in an advisory capacity to the council. Bake will try to recruit people to form a new committee.

Ione Piklate reported that the Washington County Department of Land Use and Transportation has a fund or senior/handicapped transportation which might be used to implement a bus route from the communities of Banks, Gaston and North Plains to the Hillsboro light rail stop. Feasibility studies are underway, including information gathering in Banks. Area senior citizens who would use the service are asked to call Pilate at 324-5460, or city hall, 324-5112.

A long-debated fence ordi-

nance dealing with visibility and safety was adopted. A permit must be obtained before new construction or modification of an existing fence. Contact city hall for information.

Optometry grant for equipment

Optometry students and patients, especially children, will benefit from new equipment provided by a \$28,379 grant from the Northwest Health Foundation, the first grant Pacific University has received from this funding agency.

"The Foundation has a strong emphasis in healthcare, the education of healthcare professionals, and the care of children, which matches our mission in many ways," said project director and Associate Dean for Academic Programs in Optometry Linda Casser. "This grant truly will make a difference in our program by sup-

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