

Salary reductions help balance reduced resources

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Bassett have recommended against an increase in sewer rates that were previously planned for this year. That may have to be reviewed later in the fiscal year because of the agreement between the city and DEQ, which will require expensive modifications to pre-

vent future spills of raw sewage into the Nehalem River during periods of high rainfall.

While the city will strive to maintain services at the present level, some positions within the current budget are proposed at lower salaries, with a corresponding reduction in hours of work.

Total resources for the General Fund, which pays for most of the General Operations, Buildings & Grounds, Administration, Police and Library, is expected to decrease by about \$45,000, from \$789,726 in the current fiscal year to \$745,507 for FY2003-04.

Sykes, Bassett and city attorney/planner Julie Coontz have all voluntarily taken reductions in salaries and hours. One police officer position has been eliminated, as has a half-time clerical position in administration. Most capital expenditures have been eliminated, and payment for materials and services frozen.

The next budget meeting will be May 20, at 7:00 p.m.

Schedule of lane closures for deck work on Lewis & Clark Bridge

Because deck replacement on the Lewis & Clark Bridge (the Longview/Rainier Bridge) requires some single lane closures, The INDEPENDENT will publish the dates and times of scheduled closures. In order to minimize impacts to motorists

using the bridge, Washington State Department of Transportation will make every effort to avoid having to close a lane on the bridge whenever possible.

SCHEDULED SINGLE LANE CLOSURES*

- Sunday, May 18, 9:30 p.m. 'til 5:30 a.m. Monday
- Monday, May 19, 9:30 p.m. 'til 5:30 a.m. Tuesday
- Tuesday, May 20, 9:30 p.m. 'til 5:30 a.m. Wednesday
- Wednesday, May 21, 9:30 p.m. 'til 5:30 a.m. on Thursday

*Scheduled single lane closures may be cancelled if it is determined that it won't be necessary to close a lane in order to complete scheduled work activities.

All bridge closures are weather dependent and may have to be cancelled and immediately rescheduled. Notification of weather-related cancellations and rescheduled closures will be released as soon as the information is available

- Toll Free Project Hotline: 1-866-427-4630
- Project Web Page: www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/lewis-clarkbridge
- Project E-mail: lewisclarkbridge@wsdot.wa.gov

BRIDGE STREET ESPRESSO

1010 Bridge Street, Vernonia
M-F 4:30 AM-4:30 PM SAT-SUN 8 AM-3 PM

It's our 1st Anniversary!

We want to thank our loyal customers for making our business successful! We appreciate you!

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Customer Appreciation Day
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Call in your order: 503-429-0103

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Community Calendar

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

VERNONIA

Alcoholics Anonymous	Mondays	6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Alcoholics Anonymous	Saturdays	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
American Legion Post #119	2nd Thursday	627 Adams Ave./ 503-429-4000
Arts & Crafts Society	2nd Thursday	2:00 p.m., City Library
Boosters	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., VHS Library
Boy Scout Troop 201	Tuesdays	7:00 p.m., Scout Cabin
Boy Scout Troop 860	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., LDS Church
Cemetery Beautification Comm.	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., Leonetti's Grill
Chamber of Commerce	2nd Wednesday	Noon, Lew's Place
Cub Scout Pack 201	Scout Cabin	For Info Call 503-429-0188
Doll Club	4th Tuesday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center
Friends of the Library	1st Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Vernonia Library
Hands On Art Committee	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Izaak Walton League	3rd Thursday	For location call 503-429-7193
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Tuesdays	6:30 p.m., Lew's Place
Nehalem Valley Car Club		For Info Call 503-429-4074
Preschool Story Hour	Mondays	10:30 a.m., City Library
Vernonia Airport Committee	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Vernonia Cares Directors		For location call 503-429-1414
Vernonia City Council	1st & 3rd Mondays	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Vernonia Comm. Dev. Corp.	2nd Tuesday	Noon, City Hall
Vernonia Garden Group	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m., Pioneer Museum
Vernonia Grange	4th Saturday	10:30 a.m., Grange Hall
Vernonia Health Center	2nd Monday	6:00 p.m., 510 Bridge St.
Vernonia Planning Comm.	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Vernonia Pride		For Info Call, 503-429-5201
Vernonia Ridge Riders	Last Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Vernonia RFPD Board	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
Vernonia School Board	2nd Thursday	8:00 p.m., District Office
Vernonia Sr. Center Board	1st Friday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center
Vern. Volunteer Ambulance Assoc.	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
Vernonia Volunteer Firefighters	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
WOEC Directors	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., WOEC

MIST-BIRKENFELD

M-BRFPD Board Business Mtg.	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-BRFPD Board Workshop	4th Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Ambulance Assoc.	1st & 2nd Thurs.	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Firefighters Assoc.	1st & 2nd Wed.	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Rescue	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Helping Circle	2nd Wednesday	10:00 am, 755-2346 for info.
Natal Grange	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., Grange Hall
T.O.P.S.	Sundays	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Upr Nehalem Watershed Council	For date call 429-2401	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station

BANKS

Alcoholics Anonymous	Fridays	8:00 p.m., Methodist Church
Banks City Council	2nd Tuesday	7:30 p.m., City Hall
Banks Planning Commission	Last Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Banks School Board	2nd Monday	7:30 p.m., Jr. High Library
Banks Youth Group	Sundays, Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., UMC Youth Bldg.
Chamber of Commerce	1st Thursday	12:30 p.m., Brown Derby
CPO 14	3rd Monday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Friends of the Library	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Mondays	7:00 p.m., Schlegel Hall
Sunset Park Assoc.	3rd Wednesday	8:00 p.m., Gun Club
T.O.P.S.	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., Administration Bldg.
Tri-City RFPD Board	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Station 13
Women's Aglow	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Library

COLUMBIA COUNTY (All meet in St. Helens unless otherwise noted.)

Board of Commissioners	Wednesdays	10 a.m., Courthouse
Citizens for Senior Justice	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Sunsei Park Church
COLCO Transportation	2nd Friday	10:30 a.m., Courthouse
County Council of Seniors	2nd Friday	1:00 p.m., Courthouse
County Fair Board	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds 4-H Bldg.
County Parks Commission	3rd Monday	6:00 p.m., 1054 Oregon St.
Historical Society	4th Wednesday	Noon, location call 429-3713

Organizations and meeting dates not listed may be included by calling 429-9410 or by mail to The INDEPENDENT, 725 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064.