

# Banks Council considers police levy, water ordinance changes

During audience comment time at the Banks City Council meeting on Oct. 21, resident Franklin Smith said that people were registering their opposition to both the parks and po-

lice levies by not voting and, therefore, not meeting the 50 percent of registered voters needed to approve a money measure.

When he also protested hiring reserve officers if the levy passed, Mayor Bob Orłowski again explained that the police levy is not an increase, but a continuation of funding for police coverage. Levy passage would not allow an increased police force, he added, and that reserve officers pay their own expenses.

Smith also complained that proposed use of a North Plains

well permit would lead to contamination of the Banks aquifer, since it is part of the North Plains aquifer which is, or is becoming, contaminated. Orłowski said that the North Plains well permit would allow Banks to increase future water use. He added that the well permit and the water master plan would be discussed at a November 12 workshop.

Another resident, Marian Steinbach, notified council that the wigwag sign at the railroad crossing on Banks Road was not functioning. City recorder Debra Deegan contacted the Port of Tillamook and was told that they were aware of the sign failure but had not specified when the sign would be repaired.

Orłowski told the council that discontinuing police services was not an option, but said the city could delay hiring a police chief and continue operations with two officers and four reserves through June, 2004. According to Orłowski, this level of funding could be continued

through the 2004-2005 fiscal year with support from the general fund. The levy could then be placed on the November, 2004, general election ballot, which will not require a double majority. Council agreed to adopt this strategy and directed Orłowski to notify applicants for the chief's position of the delay.

The first reading was held for proposed ordinance changes that would allow the city to set a water service application fee and to assess a fee for checks returned for insufficient funds. The ordinance currently allows the city to charge

a fee for restoration of service, though the city has never established such a fee. Council will vote on the changes next month and they would take effect thirty days later, if approved. Accompanying the changes were draft resolutions that would establish a \$25 application fee, \$40 fee for returned checks, and a \$25 re-connect fee during regular business hours, which would increase to \$50 for nights, weekends and holidays. The resolutions establishing fees will probably not be voted on until December.

## City of Banks logo design contest

Want to win \$50 spending money just before the holidays? If you live, work, or go to school in Banks (and are not directly affiliated with the city government) — and are lucky and talented — you may win \$50!

Banks City Council established a contest, which began October 22, to design a logo for the city. The winning design should be versatile enough to look good in a variety of applications, including letterhead and envelopes, business cards, web site, banners and promotional materials. The design must contain the words "City of Banks" and may also

include a slogan. Entries must be submitted in 8-1/2" x 11" format, preferably in both color and black and white. Entry forms and additional information are available at City Hall, Banks Public Library and Banks High School.

Deadline for entries is Monday, December 1, 2003. Entries will be on display at city hall, December 2 to December 5. A panel of judges will recommend a winner for approval by council at their December 9 meeting. The winning logo artist will receive a cash prize of \$50 and become a part of the city's history.

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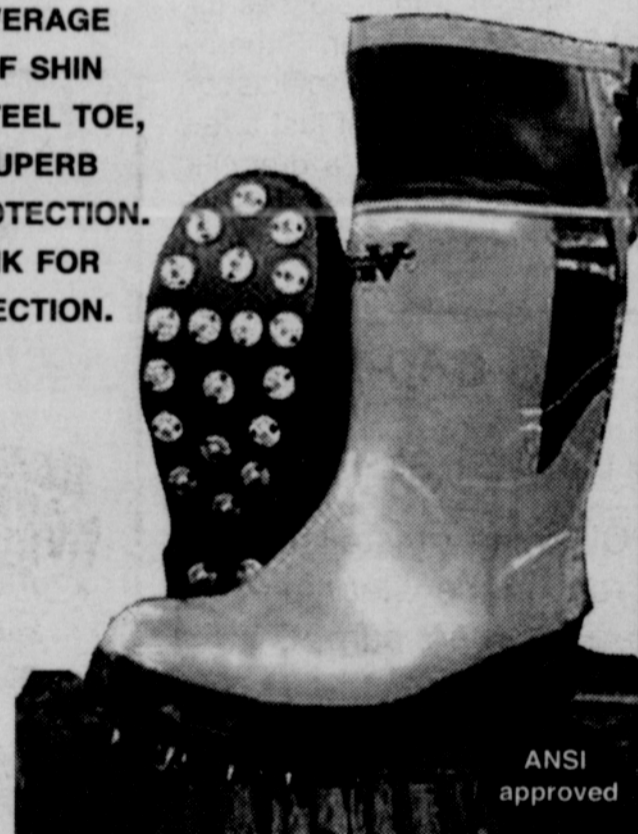
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