

Banks City Council picks paving and lighting contracts

Banks City Council awarded two contracts at their October 11 meeting, with Council President Terry Branstre presiding while Mayor Mike Lyda was out of town.

One contract was let to Eagle Elsner, Inc. for paving Market Street, the library parking lot and for concrete work involved in finishing the Public Works building. The winning bid was \$68,580.50 and council had budgeted \$75,000. The city will continue negotiations with Dayspring Church to determine what portion may be paid by the church.

Another contract was awarded to Oregon Electrical Services (OES) for lighting the gazebo in Greenville Park. The bid was \$93 over the \$5000 budgeted. Councilor Chris Thackeray, who also serves on the Banks Parks Committee, suggested that the city start keeping a log of improvements it makes to Greenville Park because it is the city's responsibility to maintain these improvements. Council agreed and again discussed developing a Parks Master Plan. A master plan would be helpful in seeking grant money, and for addressing future park development.

Both projects will get underway shortly.

After hearing a recommendation from Deputy Berning and input from residents on Buckshire, council decided to make the intersection of Oak Way and Buckshire a four-way stop. Public Works will place traffic change signs, then install two additional stop signs within the next few weeks.

Doug Fritz, of Banks Lumber Mill, updated council on improvements the mill has made in order to be a better neighbor. The improvements have included paving a strip off of the road for loading so the street isn't blocked, repairing the street sweeper and sweeping regularly, paving the employee parking lot to cut down on dust, and removing beepers from forklifts and replacing them with flashing lights. The mill continues to look at a possible easement for access to the mill from Banks Road. Council commended Fritz for making so much progress and confirmed that there had been no new complaints.

Jean Lepschat appeared to inform council that she has taken over the Wilkes Street Apartments from her son and is well underway with required improvements. Lepschat said she would take care of the liens against the property, but seeks a waiver of the \$10,000 fine.

Council is considering deferring the fine for 12 months at which point it would be waived if there are no further nuisance issues with the property. The matter was tabled and no decision made.

As requested at the September council meeting, Boy Scout Dallon Hamilton brought a completed proposal for his Eagle Scout project of repairing the log cabin. The project includes rethinking the cabin and cleaning its roof. He presented a list of the materials and tools needed for the project, assured council that there would be adequate supervision, and described how the work would be performed. Council approved up to \$300 to pay for supplies and tools. Hamilton hopes to start work before winter sets in, but has until the end of June to complete it.

Council heard first readings of two ordinances. The Chronic Nuisance Ordinance will be amended for its second reading so the way infractions involving prostitution, gambling and drug charges are prosecuted is in line with state requirements.

The Business License ordinance would require non-profit businesses in the city to be licensed, although the fee would be waived. The ordinance also allows Banks law enforcement to seek civil penalties for violations of business license agreements, including that a business may be deemed a public nuisance and subjected to nuisance penalties.

sance penalties.

Council made appointments to two city committees. Jason Short joins the Banks Park Committee and Ann Witkowski joins the Banks Public Library Commission as a replacement for a member who moved out of the area.



Honor students are inducted

Pacific University President Phil Creighton, pictured at left, was guest speaker October 5 at the National Honor Society induction for 25 Banks High School scholars.

Creighton spoke on the four principles of the NHS: scholarship, leadership, service and character. He encouraged students to become lifelong learners, to explore different avenues of leadership, to fulfill the human responsibility of service to each other, and to balance it all with play and a sense of humor.

Membership in NHS requires a grade point average of 3.5 and a commitment to 10 hours of community service per year.

NAAVE to hold Community Sale

You can take advantage of the opportunity to find some great treasures at bargain basement prices at a Community Sale sponsored by NAAVE (Neighbors Against Apple Valley Expansion). The two-day sale will be held at Schlegel Hall in Sunset Park, Banks.

A "First Dibs Friday" sale will be 5-8:00 p.m. on November 4, followed by the Community Sale on Saturday, November 5, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The First Dibs Friday sale is a chance to buy items at twice the price listed on the tag – but still at a great bargain price. A

\$5 entrance fee – which includes refreshments – is required for First Dibs Friday. Whether you buy or not, it's a perfect opportunity to find the most wanted items and plan your 8:00 a.m. strategy before the community sale starts.

There will be no entrance fee for the Saturday Community Sale. Snacks and refreshments will be available for purchase.

Members of NAAVE are opposing an expansion of activity at the Apple Valley Airstrip. They are accepting donations of furniture, farm equipment, clothing, household goods, sporting goods, books, etc. They can also use extra help before and during the sale.

To donate items or assistance, call Michele and Claire at 503-324-9368, or go to <info@naave.org>.

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