

City is seeking grants to help with cost of wastewater upgrades

From page 1
to fund the upgrades. The city is looking for grants and other funding to try to bring down the cost to the public of the needed upgrades. City Administrator Robyn Bassett said that there are grant requests out for \$3.4 million to apply to the sewer project.

Following the workshop, the council agreed to set a public hearing on the electrical building permit assumption for February 21, at 6:00 p.m. Council also approved water service requests from two property owners who have city water running by their properties but are not currently hooked up, and approved the budget calendar. Council directed staff to re-zone 20 acres of property near the lake from Low Density Residential to Public Recreation and rezone 20 acres by Second Ave. from Residential to Low Density Residential. Staff was also directed to in-

spect the Joy Theater and pursue purchase options on it. Finally, staff was instructed to do a lot line adjustment on property owned by Melvin Nice, in exchange for four wooded acres near the Airport being given to

the city. Police Chief Mathew Workman told council that Vernonia has partnered with the American Council of Criminal Justice Training to offer CEU training to 100 officers here on March 20.

Additional police training will be held here later this year, too. Mayor Sally Harrison told council that the city has acquired an energy efficient hybrid car that gets 42 mpg, for use by city employees. The use of this car should save \$300 to \$400 per month in expenses.

At the beginning of the council meeting, the city presented a

check to the Gateway Project to help build metal gateways to four small parks, like the one beside the Black Bear Coffee Co. Harrison, and Bassett will be going to Washington, D.C., in April and Harrison would like to hear from citizens what she should 'lobby' for when she meets members of the Legislature.



Mayor Sally Harrison, right, and Officer Kay presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Valley Veterinary Clinic representative Tara Bamburg for goods and services donated to the Vernonia Police Department's K-9 program.

Participants earn "sweat equity"

From page 1
participants will have earned a \$20,000 equity, and will have income-adjusted interest rates. Participants must pay about \$350 for builder course insurance to cover anything that may happen during construction. Their income must be 80 percent, or less, of the median income for Columbia County. For example, a single person making less than \$38,000 or a family of four making less than

\$54,300 could qualify. CAT provides the more expensive tools required for building and has a construction supervisor who trains the participants and supervises during construction. Self Help building programs have existed since the 1960s and have facilitated the building of more than 20,000 homes. For applications or more information, contact Casey Mitchell at 503-366-6550.

Community Calendar

FEBRUARY 2006							MARCH 2006							APRIL 2006							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
26	27	28											30								

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 Avenue
- Arts & Crafts Society 2nd Thursday 2:00 p.m., City Library
- Booster Club 2nd Wednesday 7:00 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
- CERT 4th Wednesday For Info Call 503-429-6033
- Chamber of Commerce 2nd Wednesday For Info Call 503-429-6081
- Community Coalition 2nd Monday 12:30 p.m. School District Ofc.
- Cub Scout Pack 201 Scout Cabin For Info Call 503-429-8133
- 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 1st & 3rd Thursdays 4:00 p.m., City Hall
- Izaak Walton League 3rd Thursday For location call 503-429-7193
- Lions Club 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 6:30 p.m., Buckhorn Restaurant
- Nehalem Valley Car Club 1st & 3rd Tuesdays For Info Call 503-429-4074
- Pioneer Museum For Info Call 503-429-3713
- Preschool Story Hour Mondays 10:30 a.m., City Library
- Upper Nehalem C.P.A.C. 2nd Tuesday 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- Venturing Crew 201 1st & 3rd Thursdays 5:30 p.m., Buckhorn Restaurant
- Vernonia Airport Committee 3rd Wednesday 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- Vernonia Cares Directors For Info call 503-429-1414
- Vernonia City Council 1st & 3rd Mondays 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- Vernonia Community PTA 3rd Thursday 7:00 p.m., WGS Library
- 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 & 3rd Thursdays 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- Vernonia Pride 3rd Thursday 1:00 p.m., City Hall
- Vernonia Ridge Riders Last Thursday 7:00 p.m., Senior Center
- Vernonia RFPD Board 2nd Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Fire Station
- Vernonia School Board 2nd Thursday 6:00 p.m., District Office
- Vernonia Sr. Center Board 3rd Friday 1:00 p.m., Senior Center
- Vernonia Transfer Station 2nd & 4th Saturdays 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Behind VHS
- 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 Drill 1st & 2nd Thursdays 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- M-B Fire Drill 1st & 2nd Wednesdays 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- M-B Helping Circle 2nd Monday 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- M-B SAR Drill 3rd Wednesday 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- M-B Volunteer Assoc. 1st Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- Natal Grange 2nd Wednesday 7:30 p.m., Natal Grange Hall
- T.O.P.S. Mondays 6:00 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 7:00 p.m., Methodist Church
- Alcoholics Anonymous Wednesdays 7:30 p.m., Methodist Church
- American Legion Post #90 2nd Tuesdays 7:30 p.m., Main Street Post
- Banks City Council 2nd Tuesday 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- Banks Fire District #13 2nd Wednesday 7:00 p.m., Station 13
- 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., Fire District Office
- 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., Brown Derby
- Sunset Park Assoc. 3rd Wednesday 8:00 p.m., Gun Club
- T.O.P.S. Wednesdays 7:00 p.m., Administration Bldg.

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., Sunset Park Church
- Columbia Soil & Water District 3rd Wednesday 7:30 p.m., NRCS, 2514 Sykes
- 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.
- Mental Health Advisory Comm. 3rd Tuesday 10 a.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse
- Comm. on Children & Families 3rd Thursday 5:30 p.m. OSU Ext., 550 N. Hwy. 30
- Local Alcohol & Drug Plann. Comm. 2nd Tuesday 3:00 p.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse

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.