

Business Notes

Council sets Dec. 18 budget workshop and Jan. 2 budget hearing

From page 1

fore final design begins.

Boy Scout Patrick Peets came before council to discuss his Eagle Scout project, a play structure at Airport Park. The parks committee has already seen and given approval to his plans. Next, Peets will be soliciting donations of money and materials, then volunteers for construction.

In other business, council;

- appointed Kevin Hudson to the planning commission to replace Sharon Parrow, who resigned.

- heard from Chief of Police Mat Workman that the Colum-

bia County Sheriff's Office expects to have reduced ability to answer calls as a result of their levy not passing in the recent election. A follow-up call from *The Independent* to Sheriff Phil Derby confirmed that though the deputies will be working 12 hour shifts to give 24 hour coverage, they will not be able to respond to all non-emergency calls (nor have they been able to even before the levy failed).

The December 4 City Council meeting saw council approve ordinances establishing a process for the formation of Local Improvement Districts and Reimbursement Districts.

FFA member scholarship chance

The American Farm Bureau (AFB) in partnership with Dodge Trucks is offering scholarships to support youth in pursuit of higher education. This is the eighth year of the scholarship program, a cooperative effort between AFB, Dodge and the national Future Farmers of America (FFA) organization.

To apply, a student must be an FFA member and a member of a Farm Bureau family. Students must complete the official National FFA Scholarship Application, including the parent financial analysis section, as financial need will be considered. Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2007. Scholarships are available to FFA members in all 50 states.

The scholarships are designed to recognize FFA members from Farm Bureau families throughout the U.S. for their supervised agricultural experience programs, academic achievements and other school

accomplishments.

AFB has continuously supported the national FFA organization in a variety of capacities to further promote agriculture and sustain its future. Providing scholarships is one of the many ways AFB rallies support for youth in agriculture.

FFA is a national organization of 495,046 members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture with more than 7,200 local chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. FFA strives to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education with support from AFB's "Young Farmers and Ranchers" program and many other AFBF efforts. To download a scholarship application, visit www.ffa.org.

Council set a date for a supplemental budget workshop for December 18, at 6:00 p.m., and a public hearing for the budget on January 2, at 7:00 p.m. A public hearing for the grant finals for the Learning Center

was also set for January 2.

Council unanimously certified the results of the November 7, 2006, General Election. Voters returned Mayor Sally Harrison and Councilors Shirlee Daughtry and Brett Costley

to office.

The next Vernonia City Council meeting will be January 2 (Monday, January 1 is a holiday and city hall will be closed), at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

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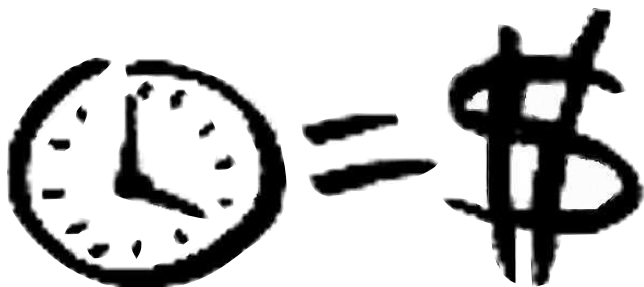
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