

Answers will be in "next year's budget" **Fish board needs people**

From page 1
 plete review and discussion of the City's financial condition will be an important part of the budget process starting next week.

7. Please indicate which services the citizens of Vernonia expect to receive that they should not expect to receive (based on your comment that "the citizens of Vernonia have too high of expectations for services").

The Admin Department has reduced staff by 25%, the Police Department has been operating at an 80% staffing level, and Public Works staffing has been at an 83% level all year. It has been very difficult to achieve historic service levels in light of these staff reductions and the City's tight financial state. Historic levels of service may be unattainable next year if we are required to operate at

reduced staffing levels or under even tighter financial constraints. One of the most important outputs of this year's budget process will be the allocation of scarce resources in a way that ensures measurable goals are attained and the community is adequately served. Services that will or won't be provided in the coming fiscal year will be determined in the public budget process that starts next week. Hopefully the community will become engaged in this process, continue to become informed during it, and will comprehend the complexities and financial constraints surrounding this year's budget. If this occurs, the citizenry won't have too high of expectations for services.

8. Why aren't your city administrator reports to council provided in writing?

My City Administrator re-

ports are not provided in writing because I deliver them verbally in public session which then becomes part of the public record. The Council does not require me to submit this report in writing.

Kline concluded his response letter by saying;

I hope these answers are satisfactory and that this year's budget process provides more insight and information for you. We are currently working on a workshop to improve media relations in the community, and perhaps some improved policies and processes will be developed from it. It is our hope that information flow will be improved in the City and we all can become better informed citizens.

See related information on page 2 in the Opinion column.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is seeking people interested in representing public and fishing or fish conservation interests on the state Fish Screening Task Force.

One public interest position is open, and one fishing or fish conservation position is open. Individuals interested in serving on the Task Force have until May 25 to contact Bernie Kepshire, ODFW Fish Screening State Coordinator, at 503-947-6229. Kepshire can also be reached by fax at 503-947-6203 or via e-mail: bernard.m.kepshire@state.or.us

The ODFW Fish Screening Program implements the installation and maintenance of fish screens to prevent fish losses in ditch and pump water diversions. The Task Force advises ODFW on fish screening program development, implementation, monitoring, technology,

funding and reporting.

The seven members of the Task Force are appointed by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission. Three members represent agriculture interests, three represent fishing or fish conservation interests, and one member represents the public at large. Members serve for two-year terms and may be reappointed for a maximum of three terms. The Task Force generally meets quarterly at various locations throughout the state.

The mission of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations. Headquartered in Salem, ODFW has regional and district offices located throughout the state. For additional information, go to <www.dfw.state.or.us>.

Community Calendar

MAY 2007							JUNE 2007							JULY 2007						
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	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31										29	30	31				

VERNONIA

Al-Anon	Fridays	7:00 p.m. Grange Hall
Alcoholics Anonymous	Mondays & Thursdays	6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
American Legion Post #119	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., 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	6:30 p.m., City Hall
CERT	4th Wednesday	For Info Call 503-429-3018
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 503-429-4250
Friends of the Library	1st Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Vernonia Library
Girl Scouts, Neighborhood 4-2		For Info Call 503-819-0143
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
Municipal Airport Committee	4th Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Narcotics Anonymous	Saturdays	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Pioneer Museum		For Info Call 503-429-3713
Public Works Committee	4th Tuesday	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	3rd Monday	7:00 p.m., Grange Hall
Vernonia Health Center	2nd Monday	6:00 p.m., 510 Bridge St.
Vernonia Learning Center	1st Wednesday	7:00 p.m., VLC
Vernonia Parks Committee	3rd Wednesday	6:30 p.m., City Hall
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	2nd 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.