

# Council okays possible sale of property

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 fees. I don't think there was a promise to always have the same fees as Columbia County." Kline added that TBD sends monthly statements, while the county just now sent a final 2006 statement, and that he is satisfied that the service is better now. "I think they are doing a wonderful job," he said.  
 Council unanimously approved the new rates.  
 At the beginning of the budget hearing, Kline said, "The Community Development Fund and loan reserves were spent down and not in compliance, which added up to about \$500,000. Someone is spreading rumors that we are taking money from the Library Memorial Fund. It's not being used as a memorial fund. Those dollars are not going into the General Fund." He went on to say, "The intent is to streamline, not to play a shell game with the money."

Kline made changes to the budget approved by the Budget Committee and handed out the newest numbers at the meeting. "The reasons for the transfers is the Community Development Fund was overspent and interfund loan transfers were needed to balance, and on Friday I found we would not get the \$175,000 from ODOT until the next fiscal year, so I had to make changes to avoid negative fund balances," Kline said. He finished his comments with, "Sorry for the confusion and the number of transfers but it was necessary."  
 There were no comments in favor of the budget, but two spoke in opposition to cutting funds for new police cars and equipment (\$16,600).  
 During the rebuttal portion of the hearing, Kline said, "The budget is horribly, horribly tight. I already mentioned there will be a supplemental budget next

fiscal year (2007-08). Once that's resolved, I will put it (the police equipment) back into the budget in the form of a budget resolution early on in the fiscal year. I'm looking forward to writing a resolution to put that money back in the budget." With the exception of Randy Parrow, who was absent, the council unanimously approved both the resolution transferring funds within the budget, and the budget itself.  
 (See Council article on page 5 for update on Police Fund.)  
 Council was also unanimous in declaring the city-owned 20 acres as surplus so that they have the option to sell them. The declaration is the first step. A public hearing will take place before a sale; Council set July 16, at 7:00 p.m. for a public hearing on this item.  
 Council also approved an increase in park fees.

# Electrician training programs open

Applications are being accepted from July 9-14, and July 16-21 for the Inside Electrician Program and the Limited Energy Technician Program through the NECA-IBEW Electrical Training Center. Application hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday evening hours open at 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, July 14 and 21, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Apply at the Training Center, 16021 NE Airport Way, Portland.  
 Inside Electrician work includes wiring of residences, duplexes, and small apartment buildings, public buildings, industrial buildings, and sound, data transmission, telephone, fire alarm and other wiring jobs.  
 Limited Energy Technician work includes preparation, layout from prints, installation and repair of low energy systems, such as communications, alarms and intercoms.  
 If accepted into the appren-

tice programs, apprentices are assigned to an electrical contractor for a minimum of 8,000 hours, plus 8-10 terms of school.  
 See [www.nietc.org](http://www.nietc.org) for possible date or time changes. For more information, call 503-262-9991.  
**Employment unchanged**  
 Columbia County's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was essentially unchanged at 5.6 percent in May, about the same as the year before (5.7%). The rate was a little higher than the statewide rate (5.0%) and higher than the national rate (4.5%). Total employment edged up by 15 from March to 22,746 and the number of unemployed people dropped by 56 to 1,257. Total employment this May was 380 more than one year before but the number of people unemployed was about the same.

# Community Calendar

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

VERNONIA		
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	7:30 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.