

Banks City Council gets update on City Manager hiring process

Council President Pete Edison presided over the Banks City Council meeting on July 10, in the absence of Mayor Teri Branstitre.

Raymond Deeth reported on the successful turnout for the grand opening celebration at L.L. "Stub" Stewart State Park. He estimated that 500 people toured the park during the day and he counted 50 more cars driving through while sitting in his campsite after dusk. Deeth commented that Councilor Brian Biehl was present for the grand opening and "worked his tail off," while Jim's Thriftway provided fruit trays and Elements Café donated pastries, adding a nice touch to the festivities.

Deeth also noted that the City has a kiosk in the park but that it doesn't have anything formal in it at this time. The Banks Historical Society has a nice display of artifacts in the visitor's center.

City Attorney Jim Lucas commented that the Banks-Vernonia Trail project is moving forward. At this time, the county is working on boundary

changes and completing the buyer's agreement.

Councilor Ron Kemper attended the Friends of the Library "New Hours" celebration and reported that it was well attended. Seventy-three people enjoyed light refreshments and balloon art.

Councilor Jason Short was not present at the meeting, but sent an update on the Greenville Park movie night scheduled for July 27. The rental agreement has been approved, a flier advertising the event will be sent out in City water bills, and Mayor Branstitre is checking the cost of a port-a-potty for the one-night event. If all goes well, the Park Committee hopes to have another movie-in-the-park night in August. The seating is bring your own blanket or chairs.

Stephen Kiss, president of Banks Youth Soccer Association requested conditional approval for the association's rental agreement for quadrants 2 and 3 in Greenville Park for Monday, July 30th, and continuing for 15 weeks. The association is requesting use of the

selected areas Mondays–Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. until dusk, and on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until noon. The association had 116 children register and they do not have enough space. Biehl commented that he thought this was good use of the park. Council gave conditional approval and referred the proposal to the Park Committee for expedited review.

June's police activity report was relayed by Washington County Deputy Scott Bernardi. Deputy Bernardi, who sat in for Deputy Tran, noted that he only occasionally works in the City of Banks and was unable to provide information about the investigation of the vandalism to the gazebo in Greenville Park. He read through the report, which indicated that police activity for the City in the month of June was light.

Background checks are being run on five applicants for the city manager position, Edison told council. Consultants at the League of Oregon Cities said that one background check is complete and the other four will be completed by the July 21 target date, or sooner. All five applicants are from Ore-

gon or Washington. Edison hopes to run two interview panels and complete the hiring process as soon as possible.

Public Works Supervisor Fred Evers told council that parts needed to repair drinking fountains in Greenville Park and Log Cabin Park have been ordered and the fountains will be working soon. He also reported that all park benches have been bolted down and that maintenance at the springs and dam has been completed. The dam was completely drained and all leaves and debris were removed; it was mucky, he added. Responding to a question from Councilor Brian Biehl on whether the city may run short on water this year, Evers said the water situation is looking good.

Edison updated council on the water rights application process. Previously, council approved an expenditure for Golder Associates to compose a letter supporting the City's pending ground water applications. The City has now received the Oregon Water Resources Department's (OWRD) reimbursement estimate of \$1,860, which must be paid in full prior to commencement of

work on the the application for an extension of time. If the application is allowed to expire, the City would need to reapply and the process could take years. Council unanimously approved a motion by Councilor Craig Stewart to approve the expenditure.

Council also had to decide how much they will spend to examine the possibility of "proving up" the use from the City's existing well. The City needs to demonstrate the beneficial use of 0.613 cubic feet per second (cfs) from the well. The expenditure is for dropping a better pump into the well for a four-hour period and putting that water to beneficial use. This must be done before OWRD issues a proposed final order on the extension application, which could be within 30 days of the date they begin processing the application. Councilor Dan Keller moved to approve up to \$3,000 for the pump and a contractor to complete the task, adding that council should reconvene if the costs exceed the budgeted amount; all council were in agreement.

Please see page 13



Stuck's Diner

Tuesday to Saturday 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed Mondays
Main Street, Banks PH.503-324-2424



Super Quiet Portable Power

EU2000i

- 2000 Watts (16.7A) of Honda Inverter 120V AC Power
- Eco-Throttle™ - Runs Up to 15 Hours on 1 gal. of Fuel
- Advanced Inverter Technology Provides Reliable Power to Computers and Other Sensitive Equipment
- Power for Microwave, Refrigerators, Hair Dryers and Small AC Units



REAL VALUE

Forest Grove Honda
3619 Pacific Ave.,
Forest Grove, OR
887-500-7300 or 503-357-7300



Tough tools for tough jobs

MS170

\$179⁹⁵

Chainsaw



Are you Ready?

FS 45

\$129⁹⁵

Trimmer



BG 55

\$149⁹⁵

Blower



PRECISION OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT

Banks Hardware

503-324-5221 • 150 N. Main Street, Banks

- Mon - Fri 8am to 6pm
- Saturday 8am to 5pm
- Sunday 10am to 4pm



Connection of a generator to house power requires a transfer device to avoid possible injury to power company personnel. Consult a qualified electrician. For optimum performance and safety, we recommend you read the owner's manual before operating your Honda Power Equipment. © 2007 American Honda Motor Co., Inc.