

Changes made in eligibility for members of planning commission

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 agement Agency to the city's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. If the city did not adopt the changes, FEMA would discontinue the sale of coverage for the National Flood Insurance Program and cancel existing policies. Council unanimously approved the first and second readings.

Also considered at both meetings was an ordinance on the composition of the Vernonia Planning Commission, the only city commission required by state law. The ordinance now requires seven members; six of them must live within the Vernonia City limits, the seventh may be a person who lives in the surrounding area. The proposed change would allow the appointment of two members who live within five miles of Vernonia.

Because the work of the

planning commission may affect City taxes or fees, the ordinance was accepted with a change requiring members who live outside the city to be "stakeholders" in Vernonia. In other words, they must pay taxes within the City. This would still allow the appointment of nonresidents who live outside Vernonia but own property in the city. A second nonresident member will be allowed only if a vacant position is unfilled for more than three months.

Scott Laird told council that the Bicycle Skills Park committee plans to use \$2,800 in grant money to hire a crew from the Columbia River Youth Corps to work on the bike trails for eight days. When asked if this indicated a lack of volunteers for the project, Laird replied, "Kind of, a little bit. We have been disappointed in the turnout."

Kline said council can say no to

this outlay of grant money. They had no objections.

Chief of Police Mat Workman told council that ODOT has now recommended reducing the speed limit in the downtown business area to 20 mph. Council directed staff to send a letter approving the change.

In other business, council:

- approved a resolution that extends workers compensation coverage to volunteers if they are injured while serving the city. This will add \$87.95 to the city's annual premium;
- Roxana Sherman-Heath was appointed to the Learning Center Committee;
- heard from Cindy Ball that the paving on Riverside Drive was poorly done. Councilor Shirlee Daughtry agreed;
- presented a certificate of thanks to Randy Hare and Gina Stringer, of Alphak9 Training, for bringing their dog training

(including police dog training) program to Vernonia;

- approved the second reading of a state-required ordinance on the submission of explanatory statements in the county voter pamphlet;
- approved the 1st, 2nd and emergency declaration on an ordinance amending the Mist Drive Local Improvement District to allow property owners an additional 10 years (20 years total) to repay the cost of improvements;
- approved the 1st, 2nd and emergency declaration of an ordinance allowing the city to hire outside engineers or consultants as needed;
- asked Kline to work with the developer and owners of properties on 4th, 5th, and Nehalem on drainage and infrastructure problems, rather than forcing the formation of a Local Improvement District to work

on these issues.

The next council meeting is Sept. 17, 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Small Business Fair Saturday

The Oregon Small Business Fair, for small-business owners and those thinking about becoming small-business owners, will be Saturday, September 8, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., in Portland.

The free event, sponsored by local, state, and federal agencies and nonprofit organizations, offers 45-minute workshops and more, taught by agency and business experts, attorneys, and CPAs.

For more information about the Oregon Small Business Fair, call 503-329-4260 or visit www.oregonbizfair.or

Community Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2007							OCTOBER 2007							NOVEMBER 2007						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29	30	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31										
30																				

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 Library Commission	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Library
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.