

Vernonia Council accomplishes little during raucous meeting

The audience participation portion of the October 5 Vernonia City Council meeting was quite a show. First, after hearing that a pinning ceremony for Sergeant Mike Kay's promotion to Captain and Officer Mike Conner's promotion to Sergeant would be postponed until the next meeting, audience member Colleen Posley took council to task, saying, "You are postponing someone's promotion and raise," after berating council by saying, "So...based on the meetings we've held for, like, eight months about this, you didn't remember all those facts. There were too many details for you?" Prior to the last statement, Posley took exception to what she perceived as Mayor Sally Harrison interrupting her, though Posley went on to interrupt the Mayor four times. Harrison told Posley that the promotions were not being delayed, just the pinning ceremony and Councilor Kevin

Hudson agreed with the Mayor when she said that the council had expected more information before a Captain was named.

Audience member Ed Johnson was then given the floor and said, "Now that we're on the subject of the police department, I'd like to discuss changes. First of all, I have a handout for everyone." At that point, the Mayor interrupted Johnson, saying "We're not going to be discussing anything about personnel here at this meeting." She then told Johnson that if he had problems with the police department to take it the chief or city administrator. When Johnson said he already had done that, Hudson said, "if you have an issue and you're not getting your satisfaction from those two gentlemen, you'll have to go some place else." When Johnson asked, "Kevin, where do you suggest I go." Hudson suggested an attorney, before City Administra-

tor Bob Young broke in to say this is not an issue for the council. Johnson then said, "The public has a right to know," before three or four voices rode right over him, with Hudson's the loudest as he exclaimed, "Council doesn't deal with employee issues. You've been told that a number of times, I would suggest you stop now or we'll ask that you be removed from the room." Johnson responded by saying, "Well, you know, Kevin, you're not doing your job then." When the end of that sentence was drowned out by Councilor Cindy Ball and Hudson both shouting at once, Johnson said, "Both of you should resign." Young then finished the mess by suggesting Johnson take it to the District Attorney.

At that point, Clark McGaugh was given the floor and said, "I'm appalled...you should at least let him be heard." So many loud, angry voices re-

sponded then that it was impossible to tell who said what. Then McGaugh said, "Point of order," a request to acknowledge that he was still speaking. Hudson stood and loomed over the council dais shouting, "No, I'm calling a point of order, I have the floor, I'm the one sitting on the bench up here. I'm saying it's a public meeting attendance law, not a public participation law." McGaugh's response was, "...I had the floor, you took it from me. You don't want to hear what I have to say, good night." He then left the meeting.

At that point, Posley jumped back in to give council her recollection of the city attorney's comments about public participation a few months ago. Later in the meeting, Ball (Posley's mother) gave the finger across the throat sign and no more was heard from Posley.

Before all the excitement, Brian Cole, a representative

from MacKay & Sposito, Inc. engineering firm, gave a presentation on their plan for the Bicycle Skills Park. They will do the engineering on the bathroom, bike wash, road, water and sewer portion of the park. Public Works Director Bob Ruhl asked Cole for information on maintenance and upkeep costs for these additions. The expectation is that surveying and conceptual plans will be completed in time for an early spring bid process, followed by summer construction.

In other business, council;

- approved Synda Allen missing cemetery meetings while she's in night school.

- approved Res. 21-09 using county grant funds for building demolitions in the city.

- approved Res. 21-10 declaring the 1984 public works truck surplus.

The next council meeting will be held October 19, starting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Community Calendar

VERNONIA

Alcoholics Anonymous	Mondays	6:30 p.m., 410 North Street
Alcoholics Anonymous	Thursdays (Big Book Study)	7:00 p.m., 410 North Street
American Legion Post #119	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., 627 Adams Avenue
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
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	2nd Wednesday	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	6:00 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	2nd Thursday	1:00 p.m., City Hall
Vernonia Ridge Riders	Last Thursday	7:00 p.m., Senior Center
Vernonia RFPD Board	2nd Tuesday	6:00 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, 3rd & 4th Tuesday	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	9:00 a.m., Main Fire Station
Upr Nehalem Watershed Council	For date call 429-0869	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	1:00 p.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	6:00 p.m., Fairgrounds 4-H Bldg.
County Parks Commission	3rd Tuesday	Times vary, 1054 Oregon St.
Mental Health Advisory Comm.	Quarterly	For Info call 503-397-7211
Comm. on Children & Families	3rd Thursday	5:30 p.m. OSU Ext., 505 N. Hwy. 30
Local Alcohol & Drug Plann. Comm.	Quarterly	For Info call 503-397-7211