

Banks Council approves a garbage rate increase of 3 percent

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garbage collection, refuse disposal, and recycling services at the requested 3% rate increase. Rich Weitzel petitioned to adjust the fee schedule per the franchise agreement; this is the first rate increase since March 2000 to cover increased costs of operation. The rates were

last changed in May 2008 for the addition of a 95 gallon roll cart recycling/yard debris program, and in August 2006 with the expansion of a customer-provided 32 gallon pickup of yard debris every other week.

Planning Commission Liaison Teresa Lyda reported that the commission reviewed the

traffic analysis presented by CH2M Hill. The commission also took time to discuss the educational experience of bringing a local business into compliance with city ordinances. The board had no idea what was entailed in that, Lyda explained, but "we learned"; she described the experience as "harsh". Lyda also told council that her term will be expiring in December, and that John Deegan will be leaving the Planning Commission because he is moving out the city.

City Manager Jim Hough reported the following:

- The city received word from PGE that their Asset Review Committee approved the transfer of ownership of the city's Option B street lights, making them Option A, except one, when the transfer occurs. The city will continue to work with PGE lighting services division to improve and upgrade the street light system, and is considering shifting to LED street lighting.

- PGE is working with the county on the upgrade of street lighting on Banks Road, a coun-

ty road located within the city.

- Behrman Well #1 experienced another problem in the automatic pump start/stop mechanism. Public Works shifted to manual start for a number of days until the city could get assistance from its SCADA engineering specialist. The issue is a corroded wiring connection in the electric line running between Behrman Well #1 and the Carstens Reservoir. The connections have been cleaned and the pump start/ stop has been restored.

- The Sellers Road Realignment project is on track for completion in mid-October. The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is planning a trail-head ribbon cutting ceremony at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, October 29.

- CH2M Hill and city engineer K.J. Won have produced a new timeline for completion of the UGB Expansion Study Reanalysis, and are looking at the legislative process timeline. The goal is to have the first evidentiary hearing for the UGB expansion on December 15 at the Banks Planning Commis-

sion meeting.

- The UGB expansion study process is nearing completion. City Council and the Planning Commission will hold a joint meeting on October 26. CH2M Hill will present Technical Memoranda 5.1 and 5.2 and recommend that the Planning Commission forward and incorporate them in the Transportation System Plan work as a Statewide Planning Goal 12 transportation plan amendment.

- The NW Bicycle Safety Council inaugural fund raising event on August 28, Beaverton, Banks and Beyond, went well. The Banks Chamber did a superior job welcoming bicyclists from all around the state. The NW Bicycle Safety Council intends to make this an annual event, and it falls in line with the Banks Council Strategic Plan to make Banks a recreational hub centered on the Banks-Vernonia State Trail and the Council Creek Regional Trail.

The next Banks City Council meeting will be held Tuesday, October 12, at 7:30 p.m. in Banks City Hall.



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Saturday, September 4, 2010

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