

Banks council approves change to five digit addresses for all

by Jodi Boylan

Banks City Council held a Public Hearing, during the April 10th council meeting, on the proposed ordinance for a uniform house numbering system. City Planner K.J. Won spoke on behalf of the city. Several citizens asked questions and made comments, and Washington County Sheriff Pat Garrett submitted a letter in support of the proposed uniform house numbering system.

Won explained that properties in the City of Banks have addresses that are based on two different numbering systems – a three digit historical system and a five digit county addressing system. Properties located in the northerly half of town have addresses based on the historical numbering system, except for lots on Banks Road that have already been converted to the county system. Properties located in the Arbor Village development were assigned addresses under the county system, and some addresses in the older part of town do not even follow a consistent pattern of odd/even numbering.

To eliminate confusion regarding local street addresses, especially for emergency response purposes, city staff prepared a uniform addressing system that will conform with the county addressing system

and should be in place to serve future development in the expanded Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) area, following annexation into Banks.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Mayor John Kinsky held a first reading of the draft ordinance by title only.

Washington County Sheriff Pat Garrett and Sergeant Dave Thompson attended the meeting while contract Deputy Todd Hanlon briefed council on the incidents in the city during the month of March. Hanlon reported that there were 20 public requests, no arrests, one Police Officer Hold (POH), and nine reports. There were 37 traffic stops, and 10 citations were issued. Hanlon reported that it was a quiet month and a quiet Spring Break. Council and staff complimented Hanlon's "good police work" to the Sheriff.

Tammy Stempel of Adapt Engineering briefed council on a pilot project for the Community Energy Savings Outreach Program. The program's goal is to educate communities on economic savings, environmental conservation, and social energy development. All businesses, including home businesses, qualify to participate in this energy saving educational project. Banks and North Plains were selected for the pilot program because they share the same general loca-

tion and are communities of approximately the same size. Any business in Banks or North Plains that would like to participate in this community energy saving program should contact their city manager.

Planning Commission Liaison Janet Towne reported that there was no Planning Commission meeting in March. A work session was held, instead, to discuss the street renaming project, and to review an application from a prospective planning commissioner.

City Manager Jim Hough reported that, at the request of the mayor, city staff is coordinating efforts with Banks Fire District and the City of Banks police services to educate the public about hazards associated with the use of illegal fireworks inside the city limits. Some fireworks, such as sparklers, flower pots, and Roman candles, etc., are legal, however most fireworks are not. State law bans the use of explosive fireworks on the basis that they are generally unsafe and are prone to start fires in built-up neighborhoods.

The city and the fire district will coordinate educational outreach efforts through the use of flyers in the water bills and the two reader boards in town. Cit-

izens also need to know that illegal materials will be confiscated, and that enforcement patrols will be coordinated on the 4th of July in an attempt to dissuade citizens who may be tempted to use illegal fireworks. In order to have a safe 4th of July, citizens should enjoy the free fireworks display put on by the Sunset Speedway.

The City Manager's Report also included the following:

- The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has installed new park directional signage on Main Street, at the city's request.

- The city conducted an open house on April 5th to present the proposed Banks Readdressing Plan Ordinance to city residents.

- The city is planning to conduct a review of all nine budget reserve funds during the November 13th Council meeting. Reserve funds must be reviewed and renewed at least every 10 years. By conducting a review of all of them at the same time, the city can note that in the following budget, and can schedule the review of all reserve funds at a later date.

- Washington County Coordinating Committee (WCCC) approved the city's request to


use Traffic Impact Fees (TIF) to redesign the Main Street/Oak Way intersection. City staff is in contact with ODOT to continue the discussion of the intersection, but is not optimistic that ODOT will be receptive to continuing the project.

- The city is continuing to upgrade and expand its traffic and street signage throughout the city. The new High Intensity Prismatic traffic signage is quite noticeable, especially at night. This upgrade is required for all municipalities by 2015. Banks will be in compliance three years early.

- The city is working to get all of its transportation projects onto the Major Streets Transportation Improvement Program - Phase 3d (MSTIP 3d) project list. Hough does not anticipate any of the projects being funded, but the city's project requests will be documented with the Washington County Transportation Planning section for future reference and potential funding. There are no Banks projects on the "short list" of projects being reviewed for approval at WCCC's May meeting. The city also needs to get the projects onto the Northwest Area Commission on Transportation (NWACT) project list.

See Banks on page 19

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