



## WEEKLY DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

MAY 15, 2015

### ADMINISTRATION / UTILITY BILLING

- As of May 15, 2015 the outstanding balances on active accounts are as follows:
  - 90 days \$17.59
  - 60 days \$88.95
  - 30 days \$650.03
- Late fees will be applied and shut off notices will go out May 18, 2015
- Door hangers will be on May 26, 2015
- Shut offs will on May 28, 2015
- 3 electrical permits and 1 building permit were issued this week.

### POLICE DEPARTMENT - VPD

- The following is brief synopsis of the recent activities, events, and accomplishments for the Vernonia Police Department.
- Statistics; The total number of calls for service and officer initiated activity in **April 2015** was **221**. This includes the following;

1- Abandon 911	1- Abandon Vehicle	2- Alarms	3 - Animal Calls
1- Assault	11- Agency Assist	12- Area Patrol	18- Assist Public
2- Attempt to Locate	2- Burglary	10- Civil Situations	8-Criminal Mischief
1- Disabled Vehicle	4- Disturbance	1- Death Inv.	1- Domestic-Hot
0- Domestic-Cold	0- Drug Activity	0- DUII Info.	0- Endangering
1- Foot Patrol	1- Fraud Activity	1- Game Violation	1- Harassment
0- Hazard	0- Hit & Run	0- Information	2- Intox. Subject(s)
5- Juvenile Issues	0- LEDS Activity	33- Miscellaneous	0- MIP
0- Missing Person	0- Noise Complaints	6- Nuisance	0- Open Door
7- Phone Messages	2- Premise Check	1- Prowler.	1- Property Found
0- Pursuit	1- PIO Request	29- Report Follow-up	8- Misc. Radio Calls
0- Repossession	1- Sex Crime	2- Suicide Threat	4- Suspicious Circ.
7- Suspicious Person	6- Suspicious Vehicle	0- Stolen Vehicle	3- Thefts
0- Threats	3- Traffic Acc. No/Inj	1- Traffic Acc. Inj	5-Traffic Complaint

6- Traffic Stops  
1- Welfare Check

3- Trespassing  
1- Warrant Service

2- Unwanted Subject

1- Violation of R.O.

- **April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015** – The total number of Calls for Service and Officer initiated activity was “108”. Details of the weekly activities are outlined “as above” in a monthly report. Statistics are compiled at the end of the month and the official data is not available until the following month. Therefore, the monthly reporting will always be for the previous month.
- **S.K.I.D (Stop Kids Impaired Driving):** VPD participated in the SKID event on May 06, 2015. **Stop Kids Impaired Driving (SKID)** is a traffic safety and underage drinking prevention program used to educate young people about the tragic consequences of teen drinking and driving. SKID is a very graphic and realistic dramatization involving wrecked vehicles and injured "victims" who are portrayed by students from the host school. The presentation is so dramatic that people often get caught up in the emotions of the moment—many are even moved to tears, forgetting that the scene is not real. As a result, SKID presentations leave a lasting impression on the hearts and minds of students who will, at some point, face their own very real life-and-death choices about underage drinking and driving.



## FINANCE

- The Budget committee met on Tuesday evening for the final meeting of the year. They approved the budget for fiscal year 2015-2016 and have recommended it to Council for Adoption. A public hearing is scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup> at City Hall and will be held as part of the Council Meeting to adopt the budget.
- Staff attended a pre-bid meeting on Tuesday for the WWTP project. It was a full house and we are optimistic that we will get many competitive bids for the project.

- Finance Director reviewed plans for another new house at Nickerson Loop. There have been several new homes built already this year. This is good news for Vernonia's economy.
- Staff received a quote from our IT consultant for offsite back up of the City's servers. While this is something that we need to plan for, the quotes came after the budget was written and so it was not included. Staff will review the financial state of the City after the end of this year to assess if we can afford the upgrade. If not, we will plan for it in the 2016-2017 budget. Our current backup system is onsite and while it protects against server failure, it would not eliminate the loss of data in the case of a fire.
- Public Works submitted a quote for a new tractor. The finance director is currently exploring financing options that would best benefit the City. The cost would be shared with several departments that would utilize the tractor.
- The City has posted an ad for a Public Works Utility Worker position. This is a full time position and once filled, there will be 3 full time staff and on ½ staff dedicated to Public Works. For details regarding the position visit the city website for to see the posting.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS.**

- Public works assisted Parks staff with installation of new fence at new Spencer Park. This project will continue into next week, with final completion after the temporary fence is removed next month.
- Lagoon pumping is almost complete. Staff had to perform some major repairs on the temporary pump. The driveshaft connecting the engine to the pump sheared off. Staff was able to make temporary repairs but more permanent repairs will be needed when pump is pulled out of service at the end of this week.
- Public works Foreman met with ODFW at the water plant to discuss a possible cost share improvement to the intake screen. This project would include the installation of an automatic valve that would flush the intake screen when leaves or debris begin clogging it. This currently happens on a regular basis in the fall using up extra staff time to manually unclog it.

#### **LIBRARY**

- Library Director went to a Grant Writing workshop "Fundamentals of Grant Writing" in St. Helens on Tuesday, May 12, sponsored by the Columbia County Cultural Coalition. After the workshop, took the opportunity to visit the St. Helens Library and meet the Library Director, Margaret Jeffries.
- Circulation Statistics: 1,574 items were checked out the month of April 2015. By comparison, 1,566 items were checked out March 2015 and 1,969 items were checked out in April 2014.
- Coming up next week: Guns in America: Exploring the Second Amendment. Wednesday, May 20, 6:30 – 8 pm at the Vernonia Public Library. A free conversation with Reed College professor Pancho Savery. An Oregon Humanities Conversation Project program hosted by the Friends of the Vernonia Public Library and the Vernonia Library Board.

#### **PARKS**

- Parks and recreation department worked at Spencer Park putting in the posts around the perimeter of the park as well as stretching the cable between the posts.



Jeff (PW Foreman) digging holes at New Spencer Park for posts installation.

- Also Parks staff provided assistance with materials required in regular maintenance to the Vernonia Lake and Anderson Park.
- Additional work (which included mowing and weed eating) was performed at the vacated lot where West Oregon Electric was formerly located.

#### CITY RECORDER / ADMINISTRATION

- *No report this week.*

#### CITY ADMINISTRATOR

- City Administrator met with Steve Calhoun (Oregon Realty Co.) to review draft for Resolution pertaining to City opposition to LNG Oregon pipeline Project. City Administrator and City Attorney worked on final draft incorporating comments from citizens' recommendation. The Resolution will be presented to City Council at the next Council meeting.
- City Administrator attended final Budget Committee Meeting. The Budget Committee was able to adopt the budget in 3 meetings (excluding the one meeting where the Budget document and the Budget Message were presented).
- City Administrator has been contacted about concerns on subdivision development complaints at Knickerson Loop. The concerns are based on infrastructure breakdown (sidewalks) and potential lack of final inspection/oversight that is developing in outstanding issues (undersized culvert / drainage / flooding) for some residents. City Administrator, Building Inspector and PW Foreman visited recently the site to identify outstanding issues as notified by resident. City Administrator has contacted the engineering company that was involved in the development (in 2000) and is in the process of collecting and reviewing City and County documents to assess full compliance with any and all rules, regulations and final inspection.