



## WEEKLY DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

MAY 29, 2015

### ADMINISTRATION / UTILITY BILLING

- As of May 29, 2015 the outstanding balances on active accounts are as follows:
  - 90 days \$25.49
  - 60 days \$150.01
  - 30 days \$1,541.81
- Door hangers (a reminder that water will be shut off in 48 hours if bill is not paid) will be posted on June 29, 2015
- Shut offs will on June 1, 2015
- 1 electrical permit was issued this week.
- Updating cemetery records from Memorial Day.
- Business License renewal will be sent out June 1, 2015.

### POLICE DEPARTMENT – VPD

- **May 21, 2015 – May 28, 2015:** The total number of Calls for Service and Officer initiated activity was “53”.
- **Vernonia Area Traffic Complaints:** VPD has received numerous traffic complaints over the past few weeks. Some of the suspected drivers have been stopped and warned about their conduct. Please be aware that Officers cannot issue citations on Traffic Violations that they did not witness themselves. Citizens can sign a complaint and have the citation issued. In the event that does occur and a court hearing is scheduled, the citizen that had the citation issued will have to appear and present their evidence in court.

### FINANCE

- The posting for the Public Works position closes on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May. So far we have received several applications. Staff will review them next week and begin scheduling interviews.
- Finance Director met with the City's Senior Life Guard this week to discuss creating a formal job description and policies for the life guards. While they only work a couple of months a year, they are a very important and much appreciated part of our staff.
- The bid opening for the WWTP was held on Thursday afternoon. There were seven bids submitted with a range of prices. Our project manager will be reviewing the apparent low bid to ensure all requirements have been met. We will announce once the Council has approved it.

- Finance Director is still working on getting quotes for financing a new tractor for Public Works. We have received a quote from Wauna FCU and are waiting to see if John Deere financing can compete. We should have it wrapped up next week.

## PUBLIC WORKS.

- Public Works crew performed some maintenance at the Water Plant this week including a couple of check valves at the raw water pumps that had gotten small sticks in them. The pumps would lose prime while sitting overnight and have to be re-primed every morning.
- Staff removed some of the temporary fencing at new Spencer Park and worked on installation of new permanent posts and cables.

## LIBRARY

- A BIG “thank you” to Barbara Ward for her many years of service at the Vernonia Public Library, as a staff member, a volunteer, and a member of the Friends of the Library. Barbara’s last day at the library is Friday, May 29. She will be missed both at the library and in Vernonia. Best of luck to you Barbara!
- The library will be partnering with the Summer Meals Program this year. A snack will be served at the library Monday – Friday, 3:00 pm for children under 18 starting Monday, June 15. Along with a snack, kids are welcome to play board games, do an activity or coloring sheet, or a craft. We are looking for some volunteer help to serve snacks and set out / prepare activities for this program. Please contact Shannon Romtvedt at the library 429-1818 or shannonr@vernonia-or.gov if you are interested in volunteering.
- Just a reminder, the last Preschool “*Storytime for the Summer*” is Friday, June 12. We will resume again in September. Baby and Toddler Time will continue on its normal schedule, every Monday, 10:30 am.

## PARKS

- Parks staff removed temporary fencing along the Bridge Street side of the New Spencer Park in order to continue installing bollards and cable for the park.
- The faucet next to the primitive campground at the Lake was repaired as that area has seen, and continues to have, large groups of campers.
- Park staff and Human Resources Manager interviewed several candidates for the park host vacancies at Anderson Park and Airport Park.
- Together with City Administrator staff attended the Parks Committee meeting. Several projects and problems were addressed. Among them were: cattails and water lilies (lily pads) removal and control at the Lake, Anderson and Airport Park Hosts situation; New Spencer Park Restroom construction project.
- Mowing, weeding and regular maintenance is ongoing at all the parks.

- The Parks Department received an appreciated help from the Boy Scouts (Eagle Project) in repairing some of the playground/play structures at the New Spencer Park. The Eagle Project (day 2) was a great success: Scouts repaired all the rotten/broken roof boards, and many of the roof supports. The supports for the straight slide were replaced since they were damaged due to standing water and rot.



**CITY RECORDER / ADMINISTRATION**

- A hearty thanks to all that helped with the Vernonia Memorial Cemetery Memorial Day ceremony; Aloha American Legion Post #104 Honor Guard, Boy Scout Troop #860, Vernonia Lions Club, Vernonia Freewheelers, and all Citizens who volunteered. The ceremony was beautiful... thank you all for your help.



- At the May 18<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting the Vernonia City Council adopted Resolution 07-15 A Resolution Declaring the City of Vernonia's Concerns and Opposition to the Proposed Oregon LNG Project Liquid Natural Gas Pipeline. The City Recorder sent copies of the Adopted Resolution to Oregon Governor Kate Brown, US Senators Wyden and Merkley, US Representative Suzanne Bonamici, Oregon State Senator Betsy Johnson, Oregon State Representative Brad Witt, and Columbia County Commissioners Tony Hyde, Henry Heimuller, and Earl Fisher.
- The City Council will hold a Public Hearing regarding the City Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 prior to adopting the budget, Monday June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 at 7:00pm.

## CITY ADMINISTRATOR

- The City Administrator and Councilor Jill Hult attended the City / County Quarterly Dinner. The Dinner was hosted in St. Helens. This is an informal quarterly meeting between Mayors, City Administrators/Managers, Councilors and Commissioners of Columbia County, and other local, state and federal representatives (and agencies) to discuss common concerns...and to establish a regional approach to solutions. Among others, presentations were given by the "Crisis Intervention Team" (St. Helens Police Chief Terry Moss), and "Community Action Team" (Bev Danner and Dan Brown).
- Together with Parks Superintendent, the City Administrator attended the Parks Committee meeting.
- The City Administrator, Police Staff and HR Manager met to discuss, and review the Collective Bargain Agreement (CBA) established between the City of Vernonia and the Vernonia Police Association. Because of previous conversations with Council, and a prior meeting with representatives of the Vernonia Police Association, some new language was introduced in the CBA. It is anticipated that the agreed upon language will be presented to the City Council (Executive Session) for review and approval.
- Among other news, just a reminder that this Saturday there is the "Twelve Bridges Relay"

### **"TWELVE BRIDGES" ONE DAY RELAY on MAY 30, 2015**

**Start / Finish:** North Plains. Some Teams may start as early as 5:00 am until 8:00 am

This "One Day Relay" 65 mile, 12 leg running event incorporates the full length of the Banks-Vernonia State Trail (Exchange 6 is at the Vernonia Lake) as well as the surrounding area of rural Washington County

The Race Benefits Oregon Area High Schools



