



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

May 24, 2002

CITY OF COOS BAY

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VACANCY ON CITY COUNCIL - The City Manager's Office will accept Letters of Interest for consideration of appointment to fill a vacancy on the City Council. Councilor Don Spangler's resignation was accepted by the City Council and the position formally declared vacant at the May 21, 2002 council meeting. Letters will be accepted from qualified citizens through 5 p.m. Friday, June 7, 2002 by the city manager's office. To qualify a citizen must be a registered voter and have resided within the City of Coos Bay for one year. Interviews will be scheduled with the City Council for June 11th or 12th and will be held at city hall. The appointment will be to fulfill the unexpired term which ends November 17, 2002, and will be made at the June 18, 2002 council meeting. For more information, contact the assistant city manager at 269-8920 during normal business hours.

VOLUNTEERS FOR BOARD OPENINGS -The City of Coos Bay is looking for volunteers to serve on the Library Board and the Building Codes Board of Appeals. Applications are available from the city manager's office during normal business hours, and will be accepted through 5 p.m. June 10, 2002. The Board of Appeals was established by Ordinance No. 239 and consists of five members who shall be qualified by experience and training to deliberate on matters pertaining to building construction. The appointments are made by the City Council and are for three-year terms. The Library Board is comprised of seven members. The term of office is four years. Up to three board members may, at any one time, reside in Coos County within the boundaries of School District 9, but outside the city limits of Coos Bay. Members shall be limited to serving no more than two full consecutive terms; however, any person may be reappointed after an interval of one year. Applicants will be notified when the interviews with the City Council will be scheduled. It is anticipated the interviews and appointments will be made at the June 18th Council meeting.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND - Memorial Day is an opportunity for us to remember those who have served our country protecting the freedom and life we enjoy every day. The Coos County United Veterans have worked diligently to prepare the Memorial Day parade which will be held in downtown Coos Bay on Saturday. Mark your calendars for **May 25th at 11 a.m.** to attend the parade and show your support for all citizens who have served and are currently serving in the military. City hall administrative offices will be closed on Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.

FUND RAISER FOR RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM - Dream Catchers Relay for Life Team - Crow/Clay and Associates and the City of Coos Bay Employees will hold a fund raising spaghetti dinner on Thursday, June 13th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Bay Area Convention Center. Cost of tickers is \$5 for an individual or \$15 for a family. Funds raised will be donated to Relay for Life for cancer research. To purchase your tickets contact Vicki Stake [Finance Department], Debbie Erler and Shanda Shribbs [Community Services Department] or Crow/Clay and Associates [125 West Central Avenue, Suite 400].

LOCAL OMI OFFICE UNDERGOES EVALUATION - Contracting with OMI for our sewer system operation gains us more than just local staff. The OMI organization is a multi-national firm that brings us an important back-up and support system for our needs. Regular corporate reviews of plants takes place everyone few years. When there is a change in Project Manager, corporate staff also visit to be sure the transition is meeting the needs of the community customer. This week the local OMI office underwent a review from their corporate staff to determine how the transition to a new Project Manager is going. Community Services Director Shanda Shribbs met with Daniel J. Stark from the Houston office of OMI to discuss what was going well, and where improvements could be made. A team consisting of Mr. Stark and two other individuals from OMI is reviewing procedures, interviewing staff, and providing feedback that helps our local Project Manager and staff continue to improve and serve the local community. It is wonderful to have this kind of support when there is a turnover in a key position like Project Manager. It is even more wonderful to know that we would get this kind of support without turnover, but just to be sure the relationship keeps improving and meeting our needs!

BAY AREA JUST MISSES ON E-COMMERCE ZONE - The 2001 Legislature created a pilot enhancement program for Enterprise Zones that allows for additional tax breaks for electronic commerce related business investment. Shirley Liberante, manager of the Bay Area Enterprise zone spent much time completing the application for the Bay Area to be considered for one of the four enhanced zones statewide. More than half of the 50 enterprise zones statewide applied for the enhancement. Bay Area was not among the successful applicants-but stands a very good chance of being among the zones selected in the future if the legislature broadens the program from the four pilot regions. Staff from the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department report that Shirley did a good job on her application (Congratulations, Shirley!) and if there had been just a few more zones to award, the Bay Area likely would have been successful. Zones selected for the program include Burns, N/NE Portland, Medford Urban Zone and Roberts Creek (Winston/SW Roseburg). If you have questions about the application, or about how the current Enterprise Zone can help your business, please contact Shirley Liberante at 269-0215.

WELCOME BOWLERS! - The City of Coos Bay extends a welcome to the visitors coming to the Bay Area to participate in the "Bowling Down Cancer" tournaments being held at North Bend Lanes. The tournaments were held May 17th through 19th and also May 24th through 27th. Welcome and enjoy your stay in Oregon's Bay Area!

COUNCIL GIVES TENTATIVE NOD TO PUBLIC TV PROPOSALS - Last Tuesday night the City Council reviewed proposals for expanding public television in Coos Bay, then gave tentative approval nods to PEG Broadcast Services and Public Access Local Supporters. Under the organizational leadership of Laurel Ashman, PEG Broadcast Services will be negotiating a contract with the City to expand and manage Channel 14 with government and education programming. Ashman currently manages Channel 14 under a contract with the City, but the services offered by PEG Broadcast Services are expected to be expanded and greatly improved under the auspices of the new non-profit corporation created for this purpose. New equipment will be purchased using a \$40,000 anonymous donation and, aided by grants to be sought by PEG Broadcast Services, the organization plans better broadcasting than is currently possible with the City of Coos Bay's worn equipment. Public Access Local Supporters, or "PALS," also will be seeking grants and plans on airing true public, uncensored community television over a new channel to be provided the City then offered to this new non-profit corporation under a separate contract with the City. PALS spokesman Mark Daily told the Council his group expects to be effective in restoring the public television capability in the area that has been missing for several years. These separate agreements should be in place by June 30th, according to city manager Bill Grile.

CITY ATTORNEY RANDALL TOSH ACCEPTS POSITION WITH SALEM - Coos Bay City Attorney C. Randall Tosh has accepted a position with the City of Salem and on July 1st will become that city's senior land use attorney. Tosh has served Coos Bay with distinction for seven years and will be sorely missed, said City Councilors and city manager Bill Grile at Tuesday night's City Council meeting. Under authority vested in him by the Coos Bay City Charter, Grile has appointed Nathan McClintock as "interim city attorney" for a 90-day period commencing July 1. Tosh and McClintock are law partners in private practice.

"PUBLIC SERVICE DAY" - Several Coos Bay Police officers and Firefighters, and U.S. Coast Guard representatives went back to elementary school at Blossom Gulch on Monday, May 20th, for "Public Service Day." Students were invited to visit booths to learn about the role police officers and Coast Guard members play in public safety. An especially popular guest was K-9 Officer "Rex," Coos Bay's four-footed officer on patrol.

THE EFFECT OF ALCOHOL ON THE BODY was the topic of a presentation made by Officer Rodger Craddock recently at a Southwestern Oregon Community College Personal Health class. Officer Craddock was also the invited speaker at the recent Oregon Logger's Association conference, where he spoke on the signs and symptoms of drug influence. Officer Rodger Craddock has received extensive specialized training in drug recognition and resulting behavior and receives numerous requests for presentations to local employer and public service groups on the topics of drug and alcohol issues.