



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

July 28, 2000

CITY OF COOS BAY

500 Central Avenue, Coos Bay OR 97420

(541) 269-8912

See us at <http://www.coosbay.org>

Email the city manager at bgrile@ucinet.com

CITY COUNCIL HOLDS UNPRECEDENTED MEETING WITH TRIBAL COUNCIL - It was unprecedented. Never happened before! Monday night the City Council met in a joint session with the Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians. It was a very constructive and positive dialogue, hosted by the Tribe at its Tribal Hall on Wallace in Empire.

Congratulations to Mayor Verger and the City Council, and to Tribal Chair Williford and the Tribal Council for accomplishing this great feat. Common threads and interests were identified. Economic development, responsibilities to constituent groups, concerns for the economic and social health of the community, public safety and mutual concern for the preservation of archaeological and cultural resources were some of these. Concerns centered about ways for the Tribe to achieve self-sufficiency and for the City to maintain a tax base that allowed the continued delivery of quality services.

On closing, clear consensus emerged to hold periodic meetings such as this one, perhaps quarterly. Stay tuned.

SECURITY BANK OFFERS TO HELP IMPORVE THE MINGUS PARK STAGE – City manager Bill Grile welcomed great news this week when he received a call from Security Bank offering help improving the Mingus Park Stage by assisting with brush removal and seating construction! Details need to be worked out, but in short, the Bank is offering to make a donation to help accomplish the improvements while challenging others in the community to follow suit. “Security Bank is demonstrating its commitment to our local community by coming forward with this very generous proposal,” said Grile. “We would be thrilled to see others step forward in like manner and join in this worthwhile effort,” he continued. Thank you Security Bank!!

OFFICER LANCE BJORNERUD CELEBRATES 20 YEARS – Coos Bay Police Officer Lance Bjornerud recently completed twenty years of service to the citizens of Coos Bay. Officer Bjornerud began his law enforcement career in the City of Eastside on July 23, 1980. Coos Bay and Eastside consolidated into the present City of Coos Bay in 1983. Officer Bjornerud and his wife, Faye, live in the Eastside area of Coos Bay. Officer Bjornerud is currently working in the investigations unit at the police department. Congratulation Lance on your twenty years of service!

POLICE JOIN FORCES WITH LANDLORDS – The following summary was taken from the Rental Owners Association July newsletter: “The Coos Bay Police have joined forces with Rental Owners. Sergeant Doug Hill has agreed to be liaison person to work with landlords and tenants. You can contact Doug at 269-1181 ext 404. Sgt. Hill was at the June 29 general meeting and gave us an update on some of the problems the police department is having with underage drinking and domestic violence problems in our area. All landlords who want to be notified when police are called to their rental properties will be asked to fill out a form at the next meeting...” Note: The Coos Bay Police Department is excited about this partnership with the Rental Owners, together we can make a difference in our community.

PAM GRANSTROM MARKS FIFTEENTH YEAR AT THE LIBRARY – Library staffer Pam Granstrom celebrates her fifteenth anniversary with the City this month. She came to the library as a Library Assistant and is now Librarian in charge of cataloging. Pam was a major contributor towards success of the library's entry into the world of automation; in 1988, when it became apparent that the library's methodical efforts to convert all book information into electronic form would not be done in time for installation of the automated system, Pam took on the conversion project and met the deadline. Today she catalogs 400 to 600 new books and other items every month. She is also a very kind and friendly face at the reference and circulation desks, one of the city's most positive imagemakers. She has special arts talent, too, and is responsible for a lot of the creative signs you see around the library. Library staff hopes she will be with us for many more years!

FIRE SEASON IN EFFECT – Fire season is in effect throughout the county. Outdoor burning is still allowed in the city limits of Coos Bay and does not require written permit. Yard debris may be burned in an open fire on the ground and paper/cardboard can be burned in a burn barrel with a screen on top. Any commercial business or land clearing burns must go through DEQ first. Due to the strong summer winds and increasing dryness of grass and other fuels the Fire Department urges that everyone exercise caution when doing any outdoor burning. For a copy of the burning regulations or further information please call the Coos Bay Fire Department at 269-1191.

FARMER'S MARKET – Interested in being a vendor in the Farmer's Market in downtown Coos Bay? For a mere \$10 per table fee with the Coos Bay Downtown Association (396-6043) and a \$10 City of Coos Bay business license (269-8918), you too can have a spot. Stop by the parking lot south of the Chamber of Commerce in downtown Coos Bay on Wednesday's to shop in the "Farmer's Market". This will continue every Wednesday throughout the summer from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

FRONT STREET PUBLIC WORKSHOP – Thanks to everyone who attended the Wednesday evening workshop on the proposed Front Street redevelopment project. It is fair to say that both the landowners and city staff gained a better understanding of the project and the concerns of property owners.

MENASHA LOG DEDICATION – The Menasha log round was dedicated on July 18, 2000 at the site. Glen Holcomb and Barbara Bauder from Menasha Corporation were at dedication that was attended by about forty Joe Benetti and Judy Weeks were in attendance representing the Council along with the Bay Area Ambassadors. All of the plaques are in place on the log representing important dates in history.

LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS – The City of Coos Bay has set aside funds for loans to establish local improvement districts, such as paving streets. If you and your neighbors are interested in having your street paved but low on funds now, we can help. The deadline for submission is September 1st. Call the Dept. of Community Services at 269-8918 for more information.