

Friday October 30, 2015

Good Friday afternoon everyone. As you can see, the Oak/Washington project is really taking shape. The majority of the intersection work on Washington has been completed and final street work is still scheduled to be completed before the Veterans Day Parade. Kiosks for the four primary intersections have been ordered and will be installed shortly after the parade. I am very impressed with the workmanship and diligence shown by the contractor. And speaking of parades, the Neewollah Parade will be Saturday beginning at 5:00 p.m. near City Hall and continuing up Jackson Street. This is a fun annual event that has had great community participation over the years – 2015 marks the 42nd anniversary of the event.



Earlier this week Gregg Timm attended an After Event debrief activity in Eugene that included Public Information Officers and media contacts from the area who responded to the events of October First. The purpose was to evaluate the information systems and transparency of the information shared as well as to evaluate how agencies responded from a communications standpoint. I attended a second debrief at the FBI offices in Portland on Thursday. While we hope we never have to respond to an emergency of this magnitude again, it is essential that we all learn from the event and make sure that in the event of any type of disaster we are better able to respond for our community and our organization. To that end, we held a debrief with those most directly impacted in our organization earlier this week as well.

This past week marks the second week of going live with the new accounting software. Since going live staff has been able to standup General Ledger, Cashiering, Accounts Payable, and Payroll. Last week the City ran its first check run on the new system and this week we are running the first payroll on the new system. The conversion has been going very smoothly and Finance staff is very pleased with the accuracy of the data conversion from our legacy system to Tyler Incode. A tremendous amount of extra work by Finance staff has been required, and will continue to be required as we proceed with the migration; special recognition needs to go out to all staff who have worked to facilitate the conversion and special kudos need to go out to

Debbie Keller and Della Mock who have really gone above and beyond the call of duty to see that the conversion goes smoothly.

Community Development will be working with the Planning Commission during the month of November to draft recreational marijuana regulations in the Land Use and Development Ordinance. We expect the proposal to be similar to the medical marijuana regulations approved by the council earlier this year with respect to retail operations. However, the City now has to address non-retail uses such as grow sites, processing plants, and wholesale operations. We expect the draft to come before the Council on December 14. And speaking of LUDO, CDD staff is nearing the completion of its multi-year update with Phase 3 almost complete. Phase 3 will be the nuts and bolts of the project and is likely to generate public attention and perhaps even some controversy. Staff will brief the Council at the November 9 meeting on Phase 3 as a primer for the public hearing which will take place in December or January. This will be separate from the LUDO changes regarding marijuana.

We will continue to be active in recruiting and hiring over the next few months. Chief Timm will hold screening interviews next week for the Battalion Chief position, talking with candidates from across the country and hoping to narrow the list down to a handful of finalists to be invited to Roseburg for assessments in December. The application process is currently open for a Police Officer and an Accountant position, and we plan to open an Engineering Technician position soon in Public Works. Finally, our Water Treatment Plant Superintendent has announced his retirement effective at the end of this year after more than 34 years of service to the City. Those will be tough shoes to fill, but we'll get to work on that process in the coming weeks.

I would like to thank Council for attending the early morning meeting Thursday to make sure that our public hearing requirements were met for the CDBG grant application for UCAN Head Start. The program is well worth the extra time, but it would have been nice to have clarity around the public notice requirements before the first hearing that we held last month. To be sure, early childhood education and kindergarten readiness are essential for our community's youth and I sincerely hope this grant application is funded. I am continuing to work with the Roseburg Public Schools administration to help secure additional resources to meet the needs of other youth in our community that are not eligible for Head Start, but also need access to early childhood educational opportunities.

Everyone have a great weekend and a Happy Halloween!