

Friday March 4, 2016

Good Friday afternoon everyone. Budget work continues at a faster pace as departmental budgets were due to Finance and the City Manager's office this week. We will now evaluate the overall impact of the budget submittals and update our forecast model to ensure that we can provide sustainable services within



the guidelines that were provided to department heads. I would once again like to thank our department heads for their dedication to the organizational mission and for the willingness to consider the strengths of the entire organization when considering budgetary issues. In an effort to carry out Council's goals, I have instructed departments to add .5 FTE in CDD to bring the compliance officer position to full-time and to add 1 FTE in Public Works Engineering to ensure that we can deliver the project load necessary to carry out the final three years of Urban Renewal and the increased project workload in water, storm and transportation. The Compliance position will be a direct impact on the General Fund, however the PW position will be directly offset by contributions from other funds. We look forward to sharing the proposed budget with Council and Budget Committee on May 3rd.

I spent a good portion of my week working with folks from the Partnership, NeighborWorks Umpqua, CCD and the Industrial Development Board trying to identify potential projects that might fit into some of the major federal funding streams to help our community move forward both from an economic development standpoint and as tourist destination. As you are aware, the Partnership recently completed phase I of a wine tourism/destination lodging study. A number of locations were identified and we are pursuing the next phase of that project. At the same time, we are moving ahead with the Med Ed project and trying to identify potential investors/investment opportunities in some of our underutilized buildings in downtown and around the community.

Chief Burge and I attended the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council quarterly meeting this week. The group has been tasked with identifying best practices related to dealing with a number of activities related to folks who are incarcerated and eventually released at the local level. Issues including jail capacity, in and out patient drug treatment, mental health issues and transitional housing as well as victim's assistance have been discussed. Douglas County Commissioner Boice is the chair of the LPSCC and we have participants from the general public, the court system, law enforcement, parole and probation and the health/mental health care systems.

Last Friday, three Roseburg Police Officers were honored as Officers of the Year for the Roseburg Police Department. Each year the Optimist Club recognizes Officers, Deputies, State Troopers and Dispatchers from Douglas County law enforcement agencies as outstanding employees for their respective agencies. The nomination for the three Roseburg Police Officers was made by a consensus of their co-workers and supervisors. Detective Sergeant Joe Kaney, Detective Todd Spingath and Officer/K9 Handler Tyler Goode were chosen as this year's award recipients based on their outstanding work during the past year and their contributions to the positive image of the Roseburg Police Department and the community of Roseburg. Thank you to these exceptional officers for their service!

Public Works staff is continuing to work with consultants to complete designs for Stewart Parkway, Spruce and Parrot, the parking structure and annual street resurfacing projects. These major projects take a great deal of time to develop, design and eventually construct. In addition, staff is constantly working on smaller projects that have a great deal of impact on our citizens. ADA accessibility is an important component of our transportation system, and construction started on the ADA ramps at the intersection of Fred Meyer and Garden Valley this week. That particular intersection is one of the least accessible parts of Garden Valley, and also a very difficult fix. We are looking forward to completion of the three additional corners in the near future. The northwest corner was reconstructed as part of the Cascade Community Credit Union project, but the other three corners also needed upgraded.

Ron Harker and I worked on a public records request that was presented to Douglas County this week to try and determine how we might evaluate the impacts of changes in the assessment process at the County. We asked for a number of different reports, documents, and processes that will hopefully provide us some insight into the current process and potential long-term implications of what appears to be a drop in the market value for many properties in Roseburg and the impacts of those reductions in assessed value and on our overall ability to collect lawfully imposed taxes. As I indicated last week, compression within our taxing authority now exceeds \$300,000 and the reductions in market and assessment value will be exacerbated over time. We will keep you posted as we receive responses to the public records request.

The Parks and Planning Commissions have both had an opportunity to review our proposed Tree Ordinance and the overall Capital Improvement Plan and have recommended they move forward for Council approval. The Tree Ordinance is dramatically different from the one presented three years ago, and we believe it has addressed the primary concerns that were expressed at the time. Each of the commissions, including Public Works, provided suggestions for modifications that have

been included in the final document. As outlined previously, adoption of a Tree Ordinance is one of the action steps under Council's beautification goal. We hope once an ordinance is adopted that we can move forward with an application for Tree City USA status. The Tree Ordinance and the CIP will be presented to Council in the near future.

Have a great weekend everyone! We have a break until March 14th for Council, so enjoy your week off!