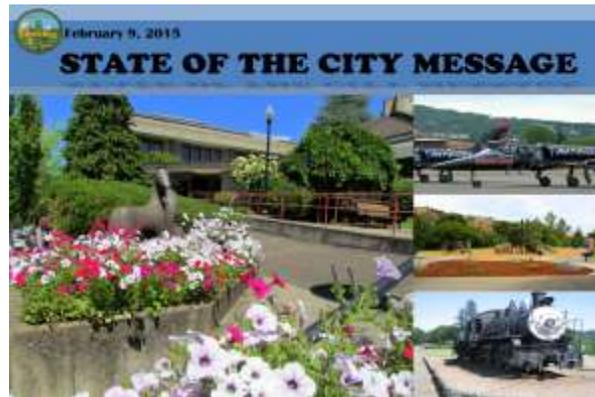


Friday January 9, 2015

Good Friday afternoon and a belated Happy New Year to all of you. I hope you had a good holiday season and are looking forward to a great new year. As you might imagine, it has been a pretty hectic week of catching up after many staff and Council members took a little needed time off towards the end of the year. I had the opportunity to attend the 101st Rose Bowl and watch the Ducks win their “playoff” to go on to the National Championship game next Monday. Thank you for allowing us to postpone next week’s meeting until Tuesday to allow those of us who do care about college football to watch the game Monday night. While I will not get to attend this round, John VanWinkle is attending to cheer the team on for all of us!

Welcome to Alison Eggers who has taken her oath of office and will be attending her first official Roseburg City Council meeting next Tuesday! We are all looking forward to working with Alison. We are also looking forward to the Mayor’s State of the City presentation at our meeting Tuesday evening. This is an opportunity for the Mayor to recap the highlights of the last year and outline some of the exciting things that we are working together to accomplish in the upcoming year. This is a great communication tool and the Mayor, Council President and I will be attending the Chamber lunch forum to provide the Chamber membership with a summary version of the State of the City on February 9th. We hope all of you can attend the lunch from 11:30 to 1:00 that day. You will receive an invitation from staff as we get closer to the event, but please put it on your calendar.



The Public Works Commission, chaired by Councilor Kaser, met on Thursday and discussed the Highway 138 waterline project as well as engineering task orders relating to the waterline project and our first pavement management services (PMS) task order. The PMS task order is on your consent agenda for Tuesday night and the other projects will be in front of you at a future meeting. The Commission also heard and approved a variance request from a rental property owner which related to a property just north of Diamond Lake Blvd. which currently has two homes on a single water meter. The property owner will be required to bring the properties into compliance with the RMC, but was granted a time extension to provide for the necessary upgrades.

Staff has been working with representatives from SERVICE, NeighborWorks Umpqua and the DRA on their “branding” project and received an update on their progress this week. They are close to finalizing a new theme and are evaluating some logo options that would allow them to expand their areas of influence and collaboration from the individual entities to the larger area while still maintaining their identities. Their goal is to instill pride in the area and work together to see public

and private improvements that provide some consistency from a thematic standpoint and to provide opportunities to ensure this area of the community thrives economically and socially. The team will likely be providing an update on their progress to Council in the next month or so. While the general consultant for the initial work is from out of the area, they have hired local marketing/media consultants to receive public input and help put together the themes and potential logos. I hope you had an opportunity to stop by and chat with them during their community open house a few weeks ago or to be involved through their interview process. They are definitely trying to get as much input into the process as possible in an effort to make this project successful.

As part of Finance Director Ron Harker's policy evaluation process, we identified some deficiencies in our "Red Flags" utility account credit policy requirements. The Federal Government requires that we receive some very specific information from our customers prior to providing service. Ron has developed some new protocols to allow us to bring this process into compliance with the rules and staff was trained this week on the privacy and credit protocols involved. Much of the protocol is designed to protect the individual customers from fraudulent use of information obtained for utility accounts. I appreciate Ron and his staff's due diligence in moving us in the right direction to protect the City and our customers.

Staff is working with DRA on a comprehensive evaluation of the parking in the Central Business District. We will look at areas of concern surrounding the ground level parking lots, the parking structure and free parking in the core area as well as the areas that are metered. We will be getting input from downtown businesses, shoppers and citizens about their opinions on what works and what may not work well for various reasons. Once we identify the strengths and weakness of the parking and enforcement programs, we will attempt to develop some options for Council consideration. At this point we are just getting the conversation started, but we do look forward to improving the parking situation for shoppers, employees, employers and residents of downtown. More to come.



Have a great weekend everyone. See you all on Tuesday. Go Ducks!