

CITY OF JOHN DAY

NEWSLETTER

From the desk of Peggy Carey, City Manager

July 2006

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Water/Sewer Rates Increase

At the June 27, 2006 council meeting, the John Day City Council determined because of increased cost of installation, repair, operation and maintenance of the City's water and sewer systems, the City of John Day requires additional revenue for the these funds.

Effective July 1, 2006 the sewer rates for single family units, and multi-family units such as, but not limited to, duplex, triplex, fourplex, and apartments, mobile home parks and recreational vehicle parks will be \$28 per month for each living unit. This is a \$3 increase; the last sewer rate increase was July 2004. All commercial and industrial sewer charges will be either the calculated monthly incurred charge (winter monthly average water use) or the base charge whichever is greater as determined each year and is effective July 1st each year.

Water rates for single family units, and multi-family units such as, but not limited to, duplex, triplex, fourplex, and apartments, mobile home parks and recreational vehicle parks will be \$22 per month for the first 4,000 gallons. This is a one dollar increase; the last water rate increase was July 2004. Any water usage over the first 4,000 gallons will remain the same at \$1.90 per 1,000 gallons of water.

If you have any questions please call City Hall at 575-0028.

SE Dayton Street Project begins

Bids for the City of John Day SE Dayton Street Improvements Project were received on June 8, 2006, by the City of John Day. A total of three bids were received. The low bidder for the project was Winegar Excavating, Inc., of Prairie City, Oregon. The total bid amounts are summarized as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Winegar Excavating	\$297,346.10
Dice Construction	\$308,680.00
D.L. Edmondson	\$397,634.40

The total bid amount is about eight percent above the Engineer's Estimate of \$274,565. Market conditions in the last few years have shown significant increases in the cost of most all materials, particularly asphalt and concrete. Asphalt prices have increased about 70 percent and concrete prices about 40 percent since the North Canyon Boulevard project was completed just two years ago. The lack of asphalt suppliers in the Grant County area also contributes to higher asphalt prices for this project due to the long transport of asphalt to the project site.

On June 13, 2006, the John Day City Council awarded the bid for the SE Dayton Street Improvements Project to Winegar Excavating. A preconstruction meeting was held on Tuesday, July 25, 2006. Winegar Excavating is anticipating beginning the project the

first week in August. The contractor has 60 days to complete the project. This is a total reconstruction project; the overhead utilities will be placed underground with new sidewalks and pedestrian-style lighting installed.

The street will be closed for regular traffic; but be open for emergency vehicle traffic.

Fire Department Feasibility Study

The City of John Day received a \$15,000 Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) from USDA Rural Development to develop a Fire Department Feasibility Study. The RBEG funds will assist in paying for the hiring of a consultant to prepare and complete a feasibility study to determine if the formation of a new fire district is feasible and to determine the levels service and cost projections to the taxpayers. There will be three districts involved in this study; John Day Volunteer Fire Department, John Day Rural Fire Protection District, and the Canyon City Volunteer Fire Department.

The City has signed a contract with Emergency Services Consulting inc., (ESCi) of Wilsonville, Oregon to develop the feasibility study in the amount of \$20,000. The City of John Day and the John Day Rural Fire Protection District will pay \$2,500 each to help fund the project.

We are in the information gathering stage of the project. The first on-site visit has been tentatively set for the first week in September. The consultants will interview fire chiefs, training officers, elected officials, volunteer groups etc. The feasibility study is expected to take four to six months to complete.

Charolais Heights Intersection

The reconstruction of the Charolais Heights (Davis Creek) intersection is anticipated to begin construction in early to mid fall. The City and County are currently in the negotiation process of developing an Intergovernmental Agreement. Once an agreement is reached the project will be scheduled and property owners notified.

Bowling Alley Lift station

You may have notice a big hole in front of the Kountry Lanes Bowling Alley; the City and the County are working together to upgrade the lift station in an effort to receive the new Road Department's wastewater. With new users coming on line, the city needed to upgrade the old lift station to be compatible with the Patterson Bridge lift station. It is anticipated the new lift station will be on-line by the end of August.

Filing deadline

The filing deadline for persons wishing to run for the three Council member positions and the Mayor's position to be elected during the November 7, 2006 election is at the City Recorder's office by 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 18, 2006.

Nominating petitions may be picked up at City Hall during the working hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Nominating petitions shall contain at least twenty-five signatures of qualified electors residing in the city that are registered to vote.

If a nominating petition is not used and an individual wishes to declare his or her candidacy for office, a fee of \$50.00 must be paid to the City Recorder by the filing deadline.