

City of John Day Newsletter

June 2012

John Day Council appoints new Mayor

At their May 22, 2012 council meeting, the John Day City Council appointed Ron Lundbom to succeed Bob Quinton as John Day City Mayor, who recently moved outside of the city limits. Ron Lundbom was among three candidates interviewed for the position.

Ron Lundbom was sworn in as Mayor at the June 12, 2012 John Day City Council meeting. Please join us in welcoming our new Mayor.

Water and Sewer Rates will increase in July

Effective July 1, 2012, the base rate for water service will increase \$2 from \$27 per month to \$29 per month. The base rate for sewer service will increase \$3 per month from \$34 per month to \$37 per month.

The last time the City raised utility rates was in fiscal year 2011 (year ending June 2011); it was the decision of the John Day Budget Committee not to raise utility rates in the current year due to the state of the economy. This means the City did not keep up with the cost of inflation or provide for adequate reserve funding and it reflected in the proposed budget for fiscal year 2012 (year ending June, 2012).

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Visit our website at www.cityofjohnday.com; send us

your comments at grayp@grantcounty-or.gov.

**Would you like to become a volunteer fire fighter?
Please contact Fire Chief Ron Smith for more
information at 541-575-0028.**

We forget inflation is cumulative in that this year's inflation carries over to the next year and so on.

The decision was fundamentally based on comments made by the City's auditor Kent Bailey of Guyer & Associates, who stated it is very important that the City keep up with the cost of inflation by raising water and sewer rates accordingly each year while keeping expenses down. It was the consensus of the John Day Budget Committee to raise water and sewer rates beginning July 1, 2012 and revisit the rates again in January 2013.

The budget message, minutes of the Budget Committee meeting, the approved budget and the auditor's report can be found on the City of John Day's website at <http://www.cityofjohnday.com/BudgetandFinancialInformation/tabid/6112/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

Fire Station Update

The John Day City Council had previously stated its intention to place on the November 2012 ballot a bond levy proposition in the amount of \$1.6 million for the purpose of constructing a new fire station to house the John Day Volunteer Fire Department and the John Day Rural Fire Department. The Council has decided to slow the process down recognizing that actively seeking funding for a capital project such as this in a small rural distressed community constitutes a challenge of significant proportions. To that end the John Day City Council and the John Day Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors, upon recommendation from the Citizens Advisory Committee, would like to contract with a fundraising firm/capital campaign consultant to provide professional consultation on fundraising and capital campaign administration.

In April the City of John Day released a Request for Proposals and received responses from four qualified consultants. A Selection Panel from the Advisory Committee interviewed the top three candidates on June 13, 2012. *(article continues on back)*

Fire station update *continued from front page*

At their June 26, 2012 city council meeting the John Day City Council selected Stan Foster of PARC Resources upon recommendation from the Citizens Advisory Committee. The Council directed City Manager Gray to begin contract negotiations with Mr. Foster for fundraising and capital campaign advisory services for the construction of a new fire station.

The cost for PARC services will be split between the City of John Day and the John Day Rural Fire Protection District. Mr. Foster's proposed schedule of work outlines the activities, timeframe and costs. He has proposed a twenty-four (24) month process with extensive local meetings, monthly conference calls, written reports, and an aggressive grant strategy that would result in 8-10 actual grant applications submitted on behalf of the project. In addition, PARC Resources offers capital campaign services for a local fund-raising effort by the community to seek private donations as part of this campaign strategy. This support includes development of a feasibility study, a capital campaign plan, development of a "case for support", local campaign strategy, and training for volunteer fund-raisers in the John Day region. Their not-to-exceed price for completing this work as described is \$41,658; their hourly billable rate is \$99 per hour. The current bid includes all associated travel and printing costs for interim reports and grant application submittals. Their bid includes providing electronic versions of all materials provided under the contract as well as a hard copy of each grant submitted on behalf of the project. All meetings and presentations are included in the budget, so no additional costs are expected unless the City of John Day requests additional services from PARC Resources.



Conceptual design for new John Day Fire Station

For further information please contact John Day Fire Chief Ron Smith or City Manager Peggy Gray at 541-575-0028.

Notice of Filing Deadline for 2012 Election for Council Positions

Notice is hereby given that under the provisions of Ordinance 94-79-5, adopted June 28, 1994, the filing deadline for persons wishing to run for the three Council member positions to be elected during the November 6, 2012 general election is at the City Recorder's office by 5:00 p.m. Friday, August 17, 2012.

Nominating petitions may be picked up in City Hall during working hours, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday or downloaded from the city website at [cityofjohnday.com](http://www.cityofjohnday.com/Elections/tabid/6111/language/en-US/Default.aspx) at <http://www.cityofjohnday.com/Elections/tabid/6111/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

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

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

Ken Stevens retiring after 20 years of service

Many of you have seen his familiar face around town working on projects for the City of John Day's Public Works Department for the past twenty years. Ken Stevens has been an employee of the City of John Day since February 4, 1992. Since then he has become a valuable member of the Public Works Department using his expertise on the City's backhoe and snowplow.

Ken's last official day with the City was June 29, 2012. We'll miss his company but know that there will be a lot of fishing and photography in his future.

Ken, the City of John Day wishes you all the joy a happy retirement can bring.

Downtown Flowers

Community pride is evident in Downtown this summer. Thank you to everyone who planted flowers in their planters. When you see flowers everywhere it's very welcoming and it shows that the town cares.