

John Day Newsletter

City of John Day
450 East Main Street
John Day, OR 97845

Volume I, Issue I

March 31, 2007

NW Bridge Street Sidewalk Project Public Hearing Date Set

At their February 13, 2007 John Day City Council meeting, the John Day City Council signed the Inter-governmental Agreement with the State of Oregon, through its Department of Transportation for construction of sidewalks and a pedestrian bridge on the East side of NW Bridge Street between NW 2nd St. and NW 7th Street. We now have received the signed agreement back from the State of Oregon and we are ready to proceed with the project.

The John Day City Council has set April 24, 2007, 7:00 p.m. for the Public Hearing date to hear public testimony regarding the sidewalk project. All benefited

property owners will be sent a letter and public notice will be advertised in the Blue Mountain Eagle.

A design for this project by Sisul Engineering will be presented, estimates of the project cost and property owner assessments will be given out at this public hearing

In November the City of John Day received a \$256,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation to help fund this project. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$284,867. The City is responsible for any portion of the project which is not covered by State funding.

The City will work cooperatively with the Grant County Fair Manager in an effort to not interfere with the annual County Fair.



A public hearing was held on March 13, 2007, to address the OTEC Pole Project. PUC has identified utility poles that need to be relocated to the back of the sidewalks. The City, OTEC, and property owners will collaborate to construct new sidewalks after the poles are relocated on NW Bridge St. (west side), NW 2nd, N. Canyon Blvd. & S Canyon Blvd.

Fire Consolidation Feasibility Study

The John Day City Council, the Town of Canyon City, and the John Day Rural Fire Protection District heard from Bruce Caldwell and Conrad Kristensen of Emergency Services Consulting inc. (ESCi) on March 13, 2007. The findings of the study show that it is clear that John Day, John Day Rural and Canyon City Fire Departments should be one entity. However, politics, circumstance and laws make it difficult to accomplish this option. ESCi recommended in the report that the City and the Rural District annex together. It was the consensus of the John Day City Council to have the Public Safety Committee and the Rural Fire District Board meet to discuss the options available.

Transportation Enhancement Grant (TE)

The City of John Day received word from ODOT that we were not successful in our grant application for the Downtown Main Street Project; however, we made the reserve list. We have budgeted the match in the proposed budget and we will reapply in the next application round.

Charolais Heights Intersection

The City of John Day and Grant County Road Department have reached an agreement to move forward with the reconstruction of the Charolais Heights Intersection. The City will be responsible for the engineering, asphalt, and

fill; the County will supply the 3/4"-0 and provide labor and equipment for the excavation.

The City of John Day is currently in the process of meeting with the Oregon Department of Forestry to address con-

cerns and questions before proceeding. It is our intention to move forward with the reconstruction of the intersection depending the outcome of these discussions. For more information or questions, please contact Terry Eccles.

Spring is here time to read water meters

Just a reminder that next month's (April) water bill reflects any overage you have used since November 2006 when the meters were not read.

City of John Day will credit all customers 2,000 gallons per account as compensation for allowing water to

run during the cold winter months.

If you feel your water bill is incorrect, please contact Dawn or Anna, John Day City Hall at 575-0028.

Burn Permits

Burn permits are re-

quired for all outside burning; burn barrels and open burning.

You may pick up permits at John Day City Hall 8 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday through Friday or John Day Dispatch Center after hours or on weekends. Please call 575-0028 for more information.



John Day City Hall

"It is our intention to install the new water meters and have them pay for themselves in reduced labor costs and water loss."

Terry Eccles, Public Works Director

Automated Water Meters

Public Works Director Terry Eccles and Water Systems Operator Monte Legg have completed a cost analysis of new water meters versus old water meters. Approximately 85% of the City's current water meters are over twenty years old. According to the cost analysis, it is predicted new automated water me-

ters will pay for themselves in approximately 5 1/2 years in regards to time saved, revenue and water loss. It is proven that the older a water meter is the less accurate it reads.

The City currently has 828 water meters; it is estimated to cost approxi-

mately \$185,000 to replace all the meters with radio read meters. The City is interested in the Radio Read System. This is a drive-by system that enables the meter to be read while driving a vehicle. It is estimated these new radio meters will reduce labor cost by \$10,000 per year; water loss by \$23,500/year.

Welcome to John Day Signs—Elk Sculptures

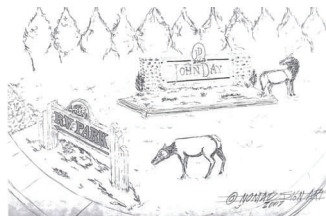
At their February 13, 2007 John Day City Council meeting, the City Council heard a proposal from Nomad Sign Art regarding a community project consisting of "Welcome to John Day" signs and metal elk sculptures.

The proposal includes one 8' x 5' dimensional sign to be placed across from Les Schwab at the entrance of NW 3rd St.; three 2.5' x 4'x3" dimensional

signs to be placed at each of the city's entrances into John Day; and three full size metal elk sculptures are proposed to be placed by the 8'x5' dimensional sign across from Les Schwab. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$35,170.

The City Council and JD/CC Parks & Recreation are excited about the project and believes it will attract tourists, enhance economic development

and most importantly community pride. However, due to the cost of the total project, we are seeking members of the community for assistance. Your contribution will be truly appreciated and all the names of donors will be displayed at the main site at the corner of NW 3rd St. and Main Street. If you would like to contribute to this project, please contact City Hall at 575-0028.



New Welcome to John Day signs designed by Nomad Sign Art.