



NEWSLETTER



CITY OF YACHATS

April/May 2006



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

By Susanne Smith, Mayor

URD - Urban Renewal District...You've heard it before and you'll hear a lot about it in the months ahead as the City of Yachats moves forward in its efforts to create an Urban Renewal District.

Be watching for notices of two public meetings to be held at which time boundaries, goals, projects, finances and impacts will be discussed. A committee to steer the process has been formed and the suggestion was made to ask the members of the Green Ribbon Committee if they would like to take it on. Many of the members, plus a couple of other citizens at large, have stepped up to the plate to coordinate the efforts on behalf of the City.

Probably at this point, for most of you, there are more questions than answers. Many of you may remember my Mayor's Message in February when I outlined the basics of Urban Renewal Districts, which are defined as areas within cities in which tax growth revenue is "captured" and used to finance projects identified in the Plan which may include infrastructure improvements such as water, sewer, roads, storm sewers, etc.; Public improvements such as parks, trails, etc.; Redevelopment assistance; and Planning and Administration including Traffic and Engineering studies.

A magic number to remember is 25%. Only 25% of the total acreage in a city may be used and the renewal area may not contain more than 25% of the total valuation of the city.



BUDGET

The 2006-2007 budget process is underway and the document is available to be looked over at Yachats City Hall. The Yachats Budget Committee meetings have been scheduled for May 1 at 5:30 P.M.; May 2 at 5:30 P.M. and May 8 and 9 at the same times if additional meetings are needed. These meetings are open to the public and the public, as always, is invited and encouraged to attend. The Yachats Budget Committee consists of the Mayor and four City Councilors as well as five citizens at large who are: John Toepfer, Keith Perkins, Ed Pfanmuller, Brad Webb and Carl Miller. City Council will hold their public hearing on the budget on June 8 at 2:00 p.m. A copy of the budget will be mailed to all boxholders with 97498 zip codes before that meeting.



SURVEYS

By Susanne Smith, Mayor

Thanks to those of you who returned your surveys. Results are being tallied now and will be available for public discussion on Monday, June 5 from 3-5 p.m. at the Commons. It will be exciting and enlightening to see what respondents have said about all things Yachats. Plan to attend this get-together.



PLANT STRIPS -

By Susanne Smith, Mayor

Almost all of the plant strips along Highway 101 have been planted, thanks to many people. Bev

Barmore and her committee of Mike Smith, Gerald Stanley, and Ray Meehan are to be thanked for coordinating the effort and doing some of the planting. Participation by Madelyn Elliott (76 Service Station); Sparky Williams (Yachats Baptist Church); Sharre Tommisc Smith (Coldwell Banker Real Estate); Ann and Daniel Klemp; and Jim and Janet Burley is also to be acknowledged and appreciated, along with Drew Roslund and the Overleaf. Special thanks go to June Ambrosek who, having read the Yachats Newsletter earlier encouraging participation, graciously donated a great many of the plants that were placed in the longest strip. Kudos to you all for a job well done.



YSP

By Susanne Smith, Mayor

The Yachats Safety Patrol has resumed patrolling after a winter hiatus. Look for them out and about in the evenings. A big thank you goes to Robin Link, coordinator and the citizens who give of their time to help us keep "eyes and ears open" for the safety of all.



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mark your calendars: the May City Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, May 10 at 2 P.M. instead of on the regular second Thursday date. That is primarily due to the joint Yachats City Council - Lincoln County Board of Commissioners meeting that evening at 6 P.M.



It's not too early to begin making plans for the one-of-a-kind Yachats Fourth of July celebration. Rumor has it that the world famous La-De-Da parade is going to be bigger and better than ever! Donations of any amount are being accepted now by the Yachats Fireworks Committee and can be sent to P.O. Box 940, Yachats, 97498. Katherine Guenther is once again spearheading this project with some helpers who are seeking volunteers willing to commit two hours on the 4th at the State Park to assist with safety in the areas where the fireworks will be staged. Coverage will begin at 1 p.m. and last until after the fireworks. For further information and to volunteer, please contact Katherine at Coldwell Banker Real Estate at 547-3171.



PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

John McClintock

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) recently released 55 additional sewer connections as a result of the inflow and infiltration rehabilitation work that has been done. There should be another 10 released when the final engineering designs are approved this fall. Those 65 will most likely be the only ones available until the plant goes on line and is tested. If further improvements are made in the system and the operations the City could ask the DEQ for more, but there is no guarantee that the DEQ would consider granting any additional hook-ups.

The sewer plant project will be costing more than originally anticipated. The projected cost increases for the sewer plant construction and added project components meant that the City needed to get more money. Mayor Smith, City Recorder Batchelder, engineers Jan Kerbo and Steve Mayors and I attended a one-stop financing meeting in Salem with the various lending agencies. As a result of that visit, the City received a \$500,000 grant and a \$500,000 loan from the Oregon Department of Economic Development; and, the DEQ added \$800,000 to their loan - at the original interest rate. The grant amount of that package is the largest amount the City is eligible to receive due to the median income.

Other items of note

- Timothy McFetridge from the DEQ recently toured the sewer plant and he was very pleased with what he saw.
- The Hall family is making additional land available for bio-solid disposal. Another property owner has indicated he would like to take some; so the DEQ will be making site visits to determine if those sites are acceptable.
- A major leak was found and fixed near Prospect and Hwy 101.
- ODOT has let the contract for the Hwy 101 overlay project. The major contractors appear to have a lot of experience.

- Russ Roberts has taken over the position of wastewater treatment plant operator.



GREEN RIBBON SUBMITS FINAL REPORT

Council received the final report from the Green Ribbon Task Force. In that report the Task Force recommended two possible scenarios for repaying the DEQ loan for the sewer project. Chair, Keith Perkins explained that in each it is recommended that a combination of sources be used rather than using only property tax.

Potential sources that are available or could be developed include an Urban Renewal District, a 5% prepared food tax, System Development Charges, transient room taxes, user fees and some property tax.

City Council held a special meeting on April 17 at which they decided to pursue the creation of an Urban Renewal District.

Further consideration of adopting a prepared food tax has not been scheduled at this time. Before City Council could adopt such a tax a public hearing would be required.

The Green Ribbon Task Force may meet again to talk about the increased project costs and the new loan repayment schedules as announced by the Public Works Director in his report. (See related article.)



OTHER CITY COUNCIL NEWS

- City Council approved a two hour street closure for a 5K walk/run to be held in September as a fund-raiser for the Yachats Health Clinic. Look for details to come.
- Mari Irvin was appointed to serve on the Parks and Commons Commission. Irvin is the new owner of the book store in the Clarks Market Center.
- City Council decided not to apply for a grant from the State Parks Department for a skateboard park at this time. However the Friends of the Skate Park and the children attending the meeting were encouraged to continue to raise the funds, and City Council reaffirmed the commitment to provide the space when it comes time to build.
- City Council recommended to the Oregon Liquor Control Commission that they renew the current licenses for all businesses inside the city limits.
- City Council approved the use of alcohol for an event at the Commons.
- City Council approved a recommendation from the Parks and Commons Commission for a surcharge on gross receipts for events at the Commons. The Parks and Commons Commission has since voted to ask Council to rescind that decision. The Commission will be presenting a different revenue plan in the near future based on public input.



"YACHATS CLEAN SWEEP"

BARGAIN HUNTERS TAKE NOTICE! BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21ST AND CONTINUING FOR 3 SPECTACULAR DAYS, YACHATS CITIZENS MAY DISPLAY THEIR UNWANTED ITEMS AT THE CURB FOR ANYONE TO TAKE "**FREE**". ON FRIDAY THE 23RD THROUGH SATURDAY THE 24TH YACHATS RESIDENTS MAY BRING THEIR REMAINING TREASURES TO THE COMMONS AREA BEHIND BANK OF THE WEST WHERE THE CITY WILL PLACE DUMPSTERS MARKED FOR DISPOSAL.

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- CLEAN WOOD - YARD DEBRIS, LUMBER,
- METAL - OLD APPLIANCES, BLINDS, CURTAIN RODS
- FURNITURE

WE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE OR HAZARDOUS WASTE!

ON FRIDAY, JUNE 23RD BEFORE NOON, SENIORS OR HANDICAPPED/DISABLED YACHATS CITIZENS WITH ITEMS THAT ARE TOO HEAVY OR BULKY SHOULD CALL CITY HALL AT (541) 547-3565 AND A PUBLIC WORKS CREW MEMBER WILL COME BY TO ASSIST YOU IN DISPOSING OF THE ITEMS.

REMEMBER THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO RID YOURSELF OF UNUSED ITEMS WHILE BEAUFITYING THE CITY.



PARKING

City Council and City Hall staff regularly receive complaints about vehicles parked in violation of the code. Those vehicles inconvenience residents and business owners alike. Vehicles are not supposed to be parked on the public right-of-way for more than 72 hours, nor are they to be parked on a street for the principal purpose of displaying the vehicle for sale; repairing or servicing the vehicle except for repairs necessitated by an emergency; or to sell merchandise from the vehicle, except when authorized.

City Council and the Planning Commission will continue to work on resolutions for the parking problems in the city, and citizens can help out by being thoughtful and courteous of their neighbors.



HOUSE NUMBERS

Making sure your house number is clearly visible could mean the difference between life and death. Emergency vehicles need to be able to see the number when responding to a call. The UPS or Fed-X driver would probably thank you as well.

A City ordinance requires that all house numbers be posted, and they should be visible from the street **at night**, and in all kinds of weather.



CITIZENS ENCOURAGED TO REMOVE NOXIOUS WEEDS FROM THEIR PROPERTY

Tansy ragwort, scotch broom and purple loosestrite are all among the list of noxious weeds that are quite a problem on empty lots, in ditches beside the road, and on local hillsides. City Code requires property owners to eradicate the pests, and City Council has noted that it is important that the proper methods be used to ensure that more damage is not done.

The wet weather in late winter and early spring makes it easy to pull scotch broom. A weed-puller made especially for scotch broom can be checked out from City Hall.

Please contact the OSU Extension office at 574-6534 or Lincoln County Weed Control District at 574-1248 for more information about identification and removal of the weeds.

Further questions regarding vegetation identification and methods for the control or eradication of noxious vegetation should be referred to the Lincoln County Vegetation Management Committee or to the Oregon State Department of Agriculture weed control division.

Budget Comparison - Fiscal Year July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006		
<i>Reporting Through April 30, 2006</i>		
Program	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Administration	\$668,528	\$536,694
Library	\$17,571	\$12,243
Little Log Church & Museum	\$10,038	\$7,411
Parks & Commons*	\$141,078	\$127,670
Streets	\$110,545	\$77,052
Water	\$431,658	\$318,458
Sewer	\$963,572	\$448,726
In Reserve for Future Uses	\$1,616,162	\$1,399,660
Debt	<u>\$147,355</u>	<u>\$106,866</u>
	<u>\$4,106,507</u>	<u>\$3,034,780</u>



Commons News

By Susan Garner - Commons Coordinator

I think I should begin with a couple of thank you's. Alvin Ohls, one of our stalwart volunteers around town and a great bartender, paid for a new thermostat for the stove in the kitchen and hired someone to do a professional cleaning job on the two stoves. They are gleaming now and work so much better. Thank you, Alvin.

Another person who deserves a great deal of thanks is Greg Scott. He and his wife Nan donated the projector and the large screen that make movie nights possible and he is always willing to come down and set the screen and projector up for community groups. Greg, thanks for all your help.

The big news is that the Commons now has its own web site, you can reach it by going to www.yachatscommons.org. It boasts a complete calendar, some great photos of the building and events, and a description of what we have to offer. Should you have events photos that you would like to contribute, send them to me or bring them to my office.

Here is a brief calendar of upcoming events at the Commons:

May 4, 7 pm – Yachats Big Band Dance
May 11, 6:30 pm – movie night
May 12, 7 pm – Oregon Coast Chamber Orchestra
May 13, 9 am – Community Emergency Response Training
May 27 & 28 – Arts and Crafts Fair
June 1, 7 pm – Big Band Dance
June 3, 7 pm – Jubilate Choir
June 8, 7:30 pm – Jamie Laval concert
June 10, 7 pm – Chautauqua "Food for Thought"
June 15, 6:30 pm – movie night
June 16, 6 pm – community potluck
June 17, 7:30 pm – Lis Harvey concert

[City of Yachats](http://www.ci.yachats.or.us)