



# NEWSLETTER



**CITY OF YACHATS**

**May/June 2007**

Visit [www.ci.yachats.or.us](http://www.ci.yachats.or.us) for the minutes of City Council and Commission meetings

"There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it." Edith Wharton

Mayor's Message  
By Susanne Smith

This month I have elected to share a story with you that I received via e-mail. I found it to be one of the most powerful stories about motivation, determination and uncompromising commitment that I have ever read. Its origin is unknown to me. This event happened 12 years ago.

Itzhak Perlman, a world renowned violin virtuoso, was to give a concert at Lincoln Center in New York City. Mr. Perlman, stricken by polio as a child, uses braces on both legs as well as two crutches to move around. His entrances on and exits off stage are difficult but legend. Each time he reaches his chair, he releases the clasps on the braces, tucks one foot back and places the other forward; places his crutches on the floor; then picks up his violin, puts it under his chin, and nods to the conductor to proceed. On this particular evening, just as the first few bars were finished, one of his four strings broke; it snapped loudly and was heard throughout the room. When this happens to a violinist, he usually leaves the stage either to get another violin or a replacement string. For Mr. Perlman, this would have been, at best, a painfully arduous task. Instead, he sat quietly, closed his eyes, and signaled the conductor to begin anew.

The orchestra began and he played from where he had left off; with a passion and a

purity unheard before.

Musicians and others know that it is impossible to play a symphonic work with just three strings. However, Mr. Perlman refused to acknowledge that. He modulated, changed, and re-composed the piece in his head. It sounded as if he was "de-tuning" the strings to get new sounds that had not been heard before. When he finished the piece, the room was silent. Then applause from every corner of the room erupted, along with stamping and cheering. When the appreciative noise subsided, he is said to have wiped his brow and said to the audience, "You know, sometimes it is the artist's task to find out how much music he can still make with what he has left."

Perhaps that is a definition for life? Perhaps our task in this fast changing bewildering world in which we live is to make music, at first, with all we have, and then, to make music with what we have left.



## FOOD AND BEVERAGE TAX

By Mayor, Susanne Smith

The Food and Beverage tax was passed by the Yachats voters by a margin of 71% for and 28% against and will take effect on July 1, 2007, the beginning of the new fiscal year. Further discussions of how the loan repayment "picture" will look will begin again in earnest after the bids for construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant are opened in mid-June. Stay tuned!

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# Goals

By Mayor, Susanne Smith

City Council has adopted goals for 2007 and beyond with the inclusion of goals developed by the various City commissions. Council acknowledged that the process is "fluid" and, as such, is subject to change and modification.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2007

### **1. *Maintain a sustainable water supply, wastewater disposal system, storm drainage system, and efficiency rating.***

#### Public Works and Streets

- Periodic examination of the schedule set for sewage and treatment plant improvements outlined in the Mutual Agreement Order (MAO) and construction contracts.
- Monitor the extension of the City's water rights on the Yachats River.
- Review of the 1993 Storm Drain Plan for potential updates and budget figures.
- Annual review of water and wastewater rates and development of a future financial plan on the rate structures (water and sewer).

### **2. *Pursue stable long term funding.***

#### Public Works and Streets

- Annual review of water and wastewater rates and development of a future financial plan on the rate structures (water and sewer).

#### Parks and Commons

- Achieve greater energy efficiency in the Commons building

### **3. *Provide for resident and visitor safety.***

#### Public Works and Streets

- Monitor the Transportation Growth Management (TGM)/Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) Transportation/Parking/Circulation Plans/Traffic Control.
- Review of the street/maintenance budget and potential funding for future projects.
- Continue evaluation of the noxious weed ordinance.

#### Parks and Commons

- Develop and oversee a routine and long-term maintenance plan for the facilities in conjunction with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
- Oversee maintenance of the City Parks, the Commons Building, associated trails & grounds.
- Pursue methods and means to promote community responsibility for public grounds and facilities.

#### Library

- Provide emergency information to patrons. It was suggested that Betty Johnson be invited to a volunteer meeting to advise regarding emergency preparedness.

### **4. *Pursue effective communication.***

#### City Council

- Implement an annual City Services survey to measure community perceptions about City services and provide the Council with better data about community issues.

#### Planning

- Goal: Pursue effective communication
- Objectives: Provide written reports to City Council, participate in joint meetings with other city bodies, utilize the CCI process, and create documentation of the processes used in developing the Comprehensive Plan document.

#### Parks and Commons

- Improve communications with all organizations involved with the Commons.
- Encourage local groups and organizations to attend meetings.
- Support activities and programs of the Commons Coordinator.

#### Library

- Task – continue to provide regular articles in the City Newsletter
- Task – coordinate with other agencies in the City to assure communication so that the Library Commission is "in the loop"

### **5. *Maintain oversight of publicly owned property.***

#### Public Works and Streets

- Periodic examination of the schedule set for sewage and treatment plant improvements outlined in the Mutual Agreement Order (MAO) and construction contracts.

#### Parks and Commons

- Develop and oversee a routine and long-term maintenance plan for the facilities in conjunction with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
- Develop and monitor a budget that meets the needs of the Commons.
- Support activities and programs of the Commons Coordinator.
- Develop appropriate signage for the Commons property trails and activities.
- Achieve greater energy efficiency in the Commons building.

### **6. *Maintain and enhance the livability of Yachats.***

#### Public Works and Streets

- Monitor the Transportation Growth Management (TGM)/Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) Transportation/Parking/Circulation Plans/Traffic Control.
- Continue evaluation of the noxious weed ordinance.
- Continued participation in the Yachats Clean Sweep Program.
- Citywide conversion to underground of all utilities and cable.
- Develop Code for City Council consideration and adoption to ensure the esthetics of all aboveground communication and energy related facilities.

#### Planning

- Goal: Monitor the Comprehensive Plan to ensure that it remains current and meets the needs of the Citizens.
- Objective: Complete the update including the policy statements, provide the DLCDD notice hold the public hearings and submit the final draft to City Council for adoption.
- Goal: Monitor the Municipal Code to ensure that it remains current and meets the needs of the citizens.
- Objective: Identify inconsistencies in the code and prepare amendments for public hearing.

#### Parks and Commons

- Develop and oversee a routine and long-term maintenance plan for the facilities in conjunction with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
- Oversee maintenance of the City Parks, the Commons Building, associated trails & grounds.
- Improve communications with all organizations involved with the

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The City of Yachats is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

Commons.

- Encourage local groups and organizations to attend meetings.
- Pursue methods and means to promote community responsibility for public grounds and facilities.
- Support activities and programs of the Commons Coordinator.

#### Library

- Continue the computerized data entry of the library collections and patrons.
- Design and implement a specialized training program for volunteers.
- Develop a program to encourage younger residents to visit the library.



### **PARKING PROJECT CONSIDERED**

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At their meeting on May 9, 2007 Council considered a recommendation from the Public Works & Streets Commission and the Capital Improvement Plan Committee (CIP) to enter into a public/private partnership with a business owner to develop the rights-of-way on parts of East 2nd and Prospect Streets to provide improved parking.

The project was proposed by Linda Hetzler, owner of the Drift Inn. Hetzler approached the Public Works & Streets Commission with drawings and an estimate prepared by a local contractor. The total project cost is estimated as \$43,500. Hetzler said that she would pay half.

The Public Works & Streets Commission approved the project and forwarded it on to the CIP committee for consideration.

In discussing the project with Hetzler and members of the Public Works & Streets Commission, the CIP Committee determined that the additional parking would benefit the City and visitors, and they voted to recommend that the project be added to the CIP plan for the 2007-2008 budget year. There was a majority vote to use visitor amenities funds for 100% of the City share, with one member voting in the minority.

Council voted to proceed with the next steps. Those steps include having the City Attorney draft an agreement between the property owner and the City for review by the Public Works and Streets Commission for future Council approval; and, authorizing the Public Works Director to have the City's engineers review the drawings and get their

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“stamp of approval” to ensure that the work will be done to City standards.

Council also voted to adopt the project as recommended by the Public Works and Streets Commission and the CIP Committee including the listed conditions and the use of Visitor Amenities Funds. The project will be added to budget and CIP plan for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, subject to the adopted agreement.

City Council will have the item on their agenda once again when the agreement and the engineer's review have been completed.



### **CITY COUNCIL NEWS**

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At their May 9, 2007 meeting the Council acted on various ordinances, resolutions and other action items.

- Council read the following proclamations:
  - *Proclamation - Older Americans Month - May 2007*
  - *Proclamation - Oregon Coast Community College Week - May 13-19, 2007*
  - *Proclamation - Emergency Medical Services Week - May 20-26, 2007*
- Council adopted Ordinance No. 271 - Pioneer Telephone Franchise Agreement, which extended the agreement for 10 years.
- Council accepted Peggy Fulkerson's resignation from the Public Works & Streets Commission. Fulkerson has expressed interest in serving in another capacity in the future.
- City Council heard the annual Yachats River Quality Monitoring report in which Andrea Scharf explained that portions of the river are much too warm, there seems to be more silt in the water and apparently the beaver population has all but disappeared. However, the salmon smolt count was encouraging.
- Council heard from Library Commission Chair, Marie Green that the Library received a grant from Trust Management. This will be used to purchase large print books, additions to the Northwest Collection, and some furniture for the computer area.

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- Council gave first approval to Ordinance No. 272 – Amending Section 7.06.050 – Permit Fee for Street Excavation, and scheduled a public hearing for the fee amount to be considered at the June 14, 2007 meeting. The Council will also give final approval to the Ordinance at that meeting.
- Council adopted Resolution No. 2007-05-02 authorizing the Public Works Director to apply for an Oregon Department of Transportation Small City Allocation Grant for Street Improvements. The grant will be matched by an equal amount from the City and a local developer and used to rehabilitate the northern portion of Horizon Hill Road.
- Council recommended that the Oregon Liquor Control Commission grant licenses to the two new restaurants in town.
- Council gave the Health Clinic permission to close down some City streets for a fund raising walk/run in September. Look for further details regarding the closure in a future newsletter.
- Council voted to have Dyer Partnerships update the Storm Drain Study as soon as possible.
- Council authorized the Public Works Director to install catch basins, culverts and gravel along the rights-of-way on parts of West 4<sup>th</sup> and Pontiac Streets to provide for additional parking where feasible. A local resident expressed concerns about having cars parked and dripping oil into a ditch that would flow into the newly created ponds in the wetlands. It was agreed that that all of the water flowing over the parking lot at the Commons and along 4<sup>th</sup> Street already flows into that area; however, the gravel and the catch basins will act as a partial bio-filter for the petroleum products. Council agreed that the situation will be monitored.
- Council voted to declare a vacant seat on the Budget Committee, explaining that a budget committee member, who was appointed before the meeting last year did not attend either the meeting last year or this year. The seat was declared vacant to allow another citizen to serve.
- The City Council agreed to accept the gift of a peace pole from Sylvan Simmons; and, asked the Parks and Commons Commission to discuss the location for installation.




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### COMMISSION OPENINGS

By Mayor, Susanne Smith

Serving on a City commission is one way to give back to this community where we all are privileged to live. Currently there are openings on:

#### 1 - Parks and Commons Commission

Term ending December 31, 2009

#### 2 – Public Works & Streets Commission

Terms ending December 31, 2008

#### 1 - Budget Committee

Term ending December 31, 2008

Having a voice in the operations of the City of Yachats is one way to make a difference. Currently, for one to serve on a City commission, one must be a full-time resident of Yachats.




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### PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By John McClintock

- The Department of Environmental Quality signed off on the sewer project and it has gone to bid. Those bids will be opened on June 13, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. in an open meeting.
- The engineers are discussing the possibility of using an alternative method for the sequential batch reactor tank stabilization system. If the option is doable, it may save as much as \$200,000.
- I am still pursuing the water rights on the Yachats River. A site for the monitoring device has been identified and I am working to get the permit from the Forest Service to cross their land for access to the Yachats River and for placement of the device.
- I have been meeting with the engineers for Blackstone I and II to finalize plans for their water system. They will be required to have two water-storage tanks on-site. By working with

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the developer, the City may be able to eliminate the current pump station on Horizon Hill.

- Additional markings have been added to the “no-parking” area on Beach Street.



### **YACHATS CLEAN SWEEP**

Bargain Hunters take notice! Beginning Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and continuing for 3 spectacular days, Yachats Citizens may display their unwanted items at the curb for anyone to take “FREE”. On Friday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>

through Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> Yachats residents may bring their remaining treasures to the Commons area behind the Bank of the West where the City will place dumpsters marked for disposal.

**\*\*Wednesday, June 20th:** Yachats residents place any unwanted items (no household trash or hazardous materials) at the **edge of the street next to the curb.**

**\*\*Thursday, June 21st:** "one person's trash is another's treasure." Yachats' citizens and friends are invited to "cruise" the city streets in search of treasures and take what they want from along the edge of the street.

**\*\*Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>:** shoppers and treasure hunters continue to "cruise" the city streets in search of treasures they may have missed the day before. Residents may bring any remaining unwanted items to the back commons parking lot where there will be dumpsters marked for disposal. 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.

**\*\*Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>:** residents may continue bringing unwanted items to dumpsters until 5 p.m.

Acceptable Items: Clean wood , lumber & yard debris (no lawn clippings); Metal – old appliances, blinds, curtain rods; Furniture

***We will not be accepting household garbage or hazardous waste.***

Proof of residence (physical address within the city limits) will need to be shown when items are disposed of at the commons.

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### **YARD DEBRIS PICKUP SERVICE AVAILABLE**

Did you know that if you have yard debris you can call Dahl Disposal for a pickup? Charges will apply. Dahl can also supply customers with drop boxes for yard debris and other large clean-ups. Call 563-3888 for details.



### **Commons News**

By Susan Garner - Commons Coordinator

We are very lucky here in south county to have the opportunity to see the amazing abilities of our friends and neighbors. Right now the One of Us Company is rehearsing for a new production of “Plaza Suite,” by Neil Simon. The play, which will run for three weekends in June, is a comedy not to be missed. Tickets are only \$12 per adult, \$10 for seniors and students. The show will run Fridays and Saturdays, starting on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June at 8 pm. Sunday matinees are at 2 pm. Don't miss this chance to see some good theater and support our local actors.

The boardwalk behind the Commons continues to get better and better. You now have several paths to choose from when you are strolling around the park. The wetlands area is looking really great right now, with wildflowers and many birds to enjoy. Look for the tadpoles in the water.

The Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program is gearing up for an exciting summer again and if you have children or grandchildren for the summer, call 547-4599 to hook them up with fun things to do.

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The summer is filling up with all sorts of exciting events. Besides the Fourth of July La De Da Parade, we are having a concert here featuring George Shrub and David Lippman. There will be an arts and music festival at the Commons on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July. The annual Lions Club Smelt Fry will be going on again on Saturday, July 14. And of course, all the usual activities will continue through the summer – the Yachats Big Band Dance on the first Thursday of the month, free movie night on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, senior luncheon on the last Thursday and all sorts of classes and meetings.

No reason to stay home alone in your room this summer – head down to the Commons and see what is going on. Or call me at 547-4734.

Program	Budget	Year to Date
General Administration	\$707,453	\$606,450
Library	\$17,603	\$13,722
Little Log Church & Museum	\$12,175	\$9,075
Parks & Commons*	\$97,093	\$85,906
Streets	\$129,234	\$74,962
Water	\$473,507	\$347,845
Sewer	\$6,219,536	\$530,817
In Reserve for Future Uses	\$2,056,246	\$1,852,619
Debt	\$134,855	\$90,621
	<u>\$9,847,702</u>	<u>\$3,612,016</u>



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**  
**Budget and Revenue Sharing**

The City Council will hold two public hearings on June 14, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. in the Civic Meeting Room of the Yachats Commons. The purpose of these hearings is to receive public comment on the proposed uses of State Revenue Sharing Funds and the Approved 2007-2008 budget. Interested persons are invited to attend. Written testimony will be taken at the City Office, PO Box 345, Yachats, 97498. The meeting place is handicapped accessible. Those needing assistance please contact the City Recorder at 547-3565 before the meeting. The City of Yachats is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

The Yachats Urban Renewal Agency will also hold a public hearing on June 14, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. (just prior to the City Council meeting) to receive public comment on the Approved 2007-2008 Budget for the Urban Renewal District.

For the Budget Year 07-01-06 to 06-30-07
<i>Reporting Through February 28, 2007</i>



**FIREWORKS COMMITTEE NEEDS HELP**

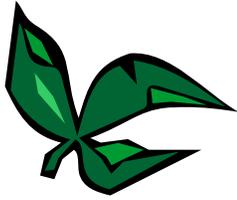
The Yachats Fireworks Committee will, once again, bring a high-quality Fireworks display to our small piece of the Oregon Coast on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The Fireworks event will be conducted in the State Park, along Ocean View Drive.

The Yachats Fireworks display is an all-volunteer event. Volunteers contract for a company to conduct the shoot, solicit contributions to pay for the fireworks, maintain the the non-profit status, arrange for site security and traffic control, coordinate with a variety of government agencies and perform the physical tasks, such as sand placement and removal required for launching, temporary protection for the State Park viewing platform and installing and removing traffic barricades and yellow tape.

If you wish to volunteer to staff a barricade for a couple of hours call Fritz Barmore at 547-3826 or Jim Burley at 547-4061. The Committee has a post office box: P O Box 940, Yachats, OR 97498.

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**CITIZENS ENCOURAGED TO REMOVE NOXIOUS WEEDS FROM THEIR PROPERTY**

Tansy ragwort, scotch broom and purple loosestrife 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.



**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.

The City works with the County to ensure that all addresses are appropriate, and

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that those in use are correct. If you have any questions about your address, or if you would like to know more about the ordinance requirements, please call City Hall.

The Fire District may be able to assist you if you can not hang the numbers!



**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.



**VISIT THE CITY OF YACHATS ON THE INTERNET!**

The City web page is the place to check out information about:

- *City Council and Commission Members, Minutes, and General Government*
- *The City Code, Comprehensive Plan, and Land Use*
- *The Commons, Little Log Church, and Library*
- *News*
- *History*
- *Emergency Information*
- *Links to other County and State Government Internet Sites*

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