



NEWSLETTER



CITY OF YACHATS

November 2005



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

By Susanne Smith, Mayor

Unless you haven't been around for a while, you probably have noticed that there is a lot going on in Yachats! The two biggest.....and most noticeable.....and most expensive..... projects are, of course the upcoming new Waste Water Treatment Plant and the development on the "hill" on the east side of town including Sunset Heights, Blackstone I and II and Creekside which will someday have 69 new homes on their lots. Water (and sewer) rate discussions are continuing and the current "buzz" acronym is YEU (Yachats Equivalent Unit). Simply, it uses the EDU format but uses Yachats historical usage data to set base rates.

I share all of this in the hopes that you will decide that this is a good time to get involved in your community. There are positions available on our commissions currently and more at the end of each year when terms are up. Reappointment to a particular commission is not necessarily a given. New talent is always considered. Each commission tries to recruit and recommend whoever seems to be the best qualified and most interested in the issues. City Council then interviews applicants and ultimately appoints.

The following is a list of commissions, existing vacancies, and numbers of positions ending in December. If you are interested, stop by City Hall and pick up an application. You will be considered.



COMMISSION VACANCIES

3 - Planning Commission

- 1 - Term ending December 31, 2006
- 2 - Terms ending December 31, 2009

3 - Parks and Commons Commission

- 1 - Term ending December 31, 2007
- 2 - Terms ending December 31, 2008

4 - Public Works & Streets Commission

- 1 - Term ending December 31, 2007
- 3 - Terms ending December 31, 2008

2 - Library Commission

- 2 - Term ending December 31, 2008

2 - Budget Committee

- 2 - Term ending December 31, 2008

For a complete description of the duties and requirements, please ask at City Hall.

Those interested in serving on the Commissions or Committee can pick up a Volunteer

Application Form at City Hall, 441 N. Hwy 101, between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 p.m.

In order to provide the Commissions the opportunity to review the applications and make recommendations to City Council please submit as soon as possible.



GREEN COMMITTEE REPORT

By Susanne Smith, Mayor

The committee to investigate ways to fund repayment of the \$6 million DEQ loan for the new WasteWater Treatment Plant has begun meeting. The committee consists of Ed Pfanmuller (Lodging); Linda Hetzler (Restaurants); Wendy Smith (Small business); Max Glenn (Non-Profit); Carl Miller (Budget Committee); Walt Weyand (Chair of Public Works & Streets Commission); Yvonne Wulff (City Council); Keith Perkins and Burgundy Featherkile (Residents/Citizens at large); and Nancy Batchelder (Staff). They will report to Public Works and City Council monthly. Any suggestions from the public are welcome and can be dropped off or sent to City Hall addressed to the GREEN COMMITTEE. They will be considered. I know many of you have submitted suggestions in the past and they have not been forgotten; the Mayor will share that list after the Committee has done their brainstorming. We are leaving no idea unconsidered!



WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPDATE

By Susanne Smith, Mayor

On Wednesday, November 2, two engineers, Steve Majors and Jan Kerbo, of Dyer Partnership gave an update of the ongoing planning for the new Wastewater Treatment Plant. Twenty-five or so hearty individuals braved the elements to attend. We are right on schedule with the terms of the Mutual Agreement and Order signed with DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) in June of 2003. Thanks to the diligence of our Public Works crew, the current plant is meeting wastewater needs with lots of "baling wire and duct tape". It is anticipated that the pre-design report will be in DEQ's hands this December. The timeline still targets the end of 2007 or the beginning of 2008 for having the new plant and pump station upgrades in place.



BLUFF PROTECTION ORDINANCE FAILED

Last November City Council was scheduled to consider an ordinance referred to as the Bluff Protection Ordinance; however, that item was continued to the October 2005 meeting because it was agreed that more time was needed to understand the impact Measure 37 could have for the City and property owners. City Council also believed that there were key elements in the ordinance that could be moved to the nuisance section of the code. An ordinance to do that was adopted in July 2005.

Last month the City Attorney, Mike Dowsett asked Council to continue the item to the November agenda to provide time for staff to make changes in the pending ordinance that were a result of the actions taken in July.

In his November report to the Council Dowsett explained that Measure 37 was declared unconstitutional by a Judge in Marion County. Technically that decision applies only to the parties involved in the lawsuit in question. Dowsett explained that some of the items in the pending ordinance could be considered Measure 37 issues, and it is unclear how the Marion County decision affects Lincoln County and Yachats. Dowsett said that the Oregon Supreme Court would be making their decision in the next 8 to 24 months.

City Council decided to proceed with the vote anyway; and, when they voted, the ordinance was defeated.



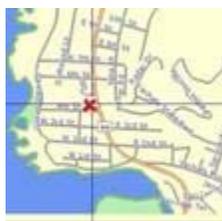
OTHER CITY COUNCIL NEWS

- City Council acknowledged a grant from the State of Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation for the Yachats Community Park.
- City Council approved sending the League of Oregon Cities a donation to support for litigation costs related to franchise fees.
- City Council acknowledged a grant from the State of Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development for Technical Assistance. This grant will pay for a consultant to help the Planning Commission complete the Comprehensive Plan review. At a special meeting on November 15 City Council hired that consultant.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By John McClintock

- The water efficiency was 89% last month.
- The electronics at the water plant failed recently. There is no way to by-pass the programmable control and run on manual mode, so that is something that needs to be changed.
- The crew will be flushing the water lines in December.
- Some repair work is being done up at the reservoir.
- The engineers from The Dyer Partnership were in town for a public informational meeting to give the citizens an update on the sewer plant project. That meeting was well attended, and everyone was asking good questions.
- The hydraulic loading in the sewer system has been significantly reduced due to the inflow and infiltration rehabilitation work that has been done. A letter requesting additional EDU allocations has been forwarded to the DEQ.
- Power monitors are being installed at the old sewer plant. When the new plant is on-line the energy requirements will be monitored again and if the electric use is less for the new plant the City will get a refund check from Bonneville Power.
- The ODOT representative in charge of the pavement project next summer was in town recently to meet with City officials to discuss the project. He will forward the city's concerns to the planning team.
- There have been complaints about the new sidewalk between the bank and the gas station getting slick when it is wet. ODOT will be fixing the surface.



URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY ELECTION IN MARCH

City Attorney, Mike Dowsett reported to City Council that the ballot title for the urban growth boundary (UGB) changes requested by Steve and Robert Hamilton will be on the December agenda for Council approval, in order to meet the deadline for getting it on the ballot for the March election.

Dowsett explained that an election is required because the City Charter says that any change in the boundary must be voted on by the citizens. The proposed change would not result in any additional acreage being within the UGB because it is an "exchange" of one section of one lot for another section of the same lot, owned by the same owners.

Public hearings were held before the Planning Commission and City Council earlier.



VOLUNTEER NEEDED

*The Little Log Church By The Sea
Museum*

The Little Log Church and Museum is in need of a volunteer who would be responsible for labeling and recording the new acquisitions. This process may be done in the Museum or at home and is an opportunity to learn more about our community's history. For more information please contact Karl Christianson at 547-4350.

Budget Comparison - Fiscal Year July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006		
<i>Reporting Through 10-31-05</i>		
Program	Budget	Year to Date
General Administration	\$643,528	\$396,129
Library	\$17,571	\$7,753
Little Log Church & Museum	\$10,038	\$4,121
Parks & Commons*	\$141,078	\$98,223
Streets	\$110,545	\$39,935
Water	\$431,658	\$146,251
Sewer	\$963,572	\$195,948
In Reserve for Future Uses	\$1,541,162	\$1,432,018
Debt	\$131,943	\$4,335
	<u>\$3,991,095</u>	<u>\$2,324,713</u>



PASSPORT APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT YACHATS CITY HALL.

Please call Yachats City Hall to make an appointment at 547-3565

Applications are available at Yachats City Hall. You may fill out the application prior to submitting it, but leave it unsigned. You will need sign it in the presence of the City Recorder.

Also bring with you the following items:

- 2 identical passport pictures (2" by 2" in size). Pictures must meet passport office specifications.
- A current State drivers license will be required. If a child is under the age of 16 (or does not have a drivers license), a parent's drivers license will be used.
- A **certified** birth certificate **or** a passport issued previously.
- A certified check, money order or personal check, payable to the U S Department of State in either of the following amounts:
 - \$52.00 (age 15 and under) - Passports valid 5 years
 - \$67.00 (age 16 and over) - Passports valid 10 years
- A separate fee, cash or check payable to the City of Yachats in the amount of \$30.00.

If your most recent passport was issued after your 16th birthday, and was issued within the past 15 years you may renew your passport by mail using FORM DSP-82. This form is available at Yachats City Hall.

Expedited service is available. The fee is \$60.00 per passport. Passports will be processed within 3 business days after receipt by a passport agency. This does not include the express mail fees each way.



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 has been working with the County to ensure that all addresses are appropriate, and that those in use are correct and meet the County code. If you have any questions about your address, or if you would like to know more about the ordinance requirements, please call City Hall.



Commons News

By Susan Garner - Commons Coordinator

By the time you read this I hope we will be basking in the glow of a warm building and our boiler problems will be behind us. For those of you who have been following, and patiently surviving under these cold conditions, we have wanted a new boiler for the building for quite some time. Our old boiler, which we found out had been installed in the early 50s, had been limping along for the last few years and seemed to break down whenever there was a major cold snap. In September the new boiler was ordered and installation began. Through a series of mishaps (including an asbestos scare - that came to nothing!, thank goodness), it is now late November and we are coming in to the home stretch. My blue fingers are hoping that the last hurdles will be covered and the heat will once again come merrily through our old radiators.

So, for all of you who were patient and loyal, thank you very much for sticking with the Commons through all these delays. Maybe we should have a luau to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Coming up in the newly-warmed Commons:

- Dec. 1 - 7 pm - Yachats Big Band Dance
- Dec. 2 - 7 pm - Oregon Coast Chamber Orchestra Dec. 3 - 2 pm - Kittel Conservation Easement Signing
- Dec. 3 - 5 pm - YYFAP Family potluck and ornament making
- Dec. 8 - 12:30 - Lunch Bunch Senior Luncheon
- Dec. 8 - 7 pm - Yachats Movie Night
- Dec. 10 - 10 am - Farmers' Market Holiday Market
- Dec. 17 - 7 pm - Chautauqua Talk "Coyote Tales"
- Dec. 18 - 2 pm - Pacific Wind Ensemble Concert
- Jan. 5 - 7 pm - Big Band Dance
- Jan. 12 - 7 pm - Yachats Movie Night
- Jan. 26 - 12:30 - Lunch Bunch Senior Luncheon
- Jan. 28 - Lions Club Crab Feed

Happy Holidays to one and all, and many thanks to the many people who have helped out through the year. I cannot name them all, but Dennis McSharry, Don Niskanen, Leon Sterner, Swan Carey and her husband, Betty Bahn, Leslie Carter and the Lunch Bunch staff get extra special thanks.

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