



THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

December 9, 1998

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, Police and Fire Departments. Vol. 1 No. 19



Officer Tracy Lenhardt:

Welcome to the City of Talent



Officer Tracy Lenhardt comes to us from the Phoenix Police Department. He has lived with family in the valley for several years. Officer Lenhardt is a recent graduate from the Police Academy where he earned numerous awards, including the Self Defense Tactics Award. Due to our close association with the Phoenix Police Department, Officer Lenhardt comes to Talent with a good working knowledge of the City and he has expressed an interest in working with the youth of our area. With the addition of Officer Lenhardt, we are now able to provide 24-hour patrol service. Police Chief C.W. Smith says, "He is an exciting and welcome addition to the Talent police force and we'd like to welcome him to our community."

Participate in the future of Talent's *transportation system*



Mark your calendars for Friday, December 11, 1998, and plan to attend the Transportation System Planning Meeting. The meeting starts at 10 a.m. at Talent City Hall in the council chambers. This will be a joint meeting of the Talent Traffic Committee, interested citizens, Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG), and Oregon Department of Transportation to discuss opportunities for citizen involvement in transportation planning for the City.

RVCOG is coordinating a grant-funded planning project that will result in a twenty-year plan for improvements to roads, sidewalks, bike facilities, and public transit. Citizen input is important for the development of a Transportation System Plan that will meet our needs for the future. There will also be a series of three evening meetings in the winter and spring to encourage citizen participation.

If you are unable to attend this first meeting but would like to be included on the mailing list for this issue, please contact City Planner Nancy Kincaid at 535-7401.

The *FLASH* of Talent is published by the City of Talent

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A CITY COUNCIL MEETING YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

City Council Meeting Agenda
December 16, 1998 – 6:30 p.m.



PRESENTATION:

Representatives from the Rural Utilities Services of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Program will attend *this* City Council meeting to officially announce their participation in the Talent and Phoenix (TAP) Water Improvements Project. The City will receive a \$4,141,000 loan and \$2,000,000 grant from the Rural Utilities Service and a \$2,000,000 loan from the Oregon Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Program.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing will be held to receive comments about proposed **adjustments to water rates**. The water rate increases are required in order for the City to qualify for a \$2,000,000 grant and loans in the amount of \$6,141,000 for the TAP Water Improvement Project. The funding agencies require rate increases to insure the City's ability to repay the loans and properly maintain the water system. The proposed rate increases resulted from a Water Rate Study recently completed by Lee Engineering, Inc. Water rates are proposed to increase by 5% on March 1, 1999, and by 10% on March 1, 2000.

ALSO ON THE AGENDA, THE COUNCIL WILL...

- Review and discuss a proposal from the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) to amend Oregon Administrative Rule 845-005-0026. If approved, the amendment would allow OLCC to deny a license which allows the sale of alcohol by the drink to businesses such as laundromats, barber or beauty shops, shoe stores, etc.
- Consider a Resolution appropriating the Meyer Memorial Trust Grant funds of \$10,000 for completion of the skatepark portion of the Downtown Park.
- Consider a Resolution transferring funds within the General Fund to provide for Mayor and City Council compensation and unanticipated structural repairs to the Community Hall bell tower.
- Review the performance of the City Administrator/Recorder.

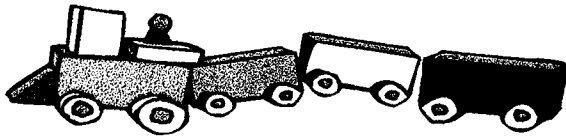
(A complete agenda packet is available for review at Talent City Hall, 204 E Main St.)



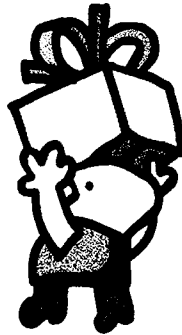
Money for the Downtown Park!

The Meyer Memorial Trust Foundation of Portland has awarded the City of Talent with a **\$10,000** grant to be used exclusively for the skating area of the Downtown Park. Representatives from the foundation came to Talent in mid October to discuss plans for the park and community benefits. Shortly after, we were granted the money to help finish the skate area. "It's exciting news," said Dave Bobb, Construction Coordinator for the project. "We're ready to get back to work as soon as we get a break in the weather. Hopefully we'll be able to get busy again this season, but if not, we'll be back at it in Spring."

Toys For Tots

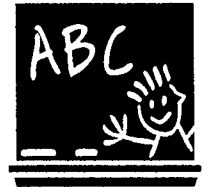


The Marine Corps League is asking for your help to make a child's Christmas a little brighter. Since 1947, the Marines have been making Christmas wishes come true for needy children through the **Toy For Tots** campaign. They have placed a **Toys For Tots** barrel at the Talent Police Station and are looking for **new**, unwrapped toys to fill it. All toys must be in by December 17th, so don't delay! The Police Station is open Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



The D.A.R.E. Program is Coming to Talent!

The City of Ashland has donated D.A.R.E. Officer Bob Smith to talk to three 5th grade classes here in Talent. The program started December 4, 1998, and will continue for 17 weeks.



Officer Smith will be teaching his classes every Friday, for one hour per 5th grade class.

D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Awareness Resistance Education. Officer Smith says it's more than just drug education. "It's a life skills program," he says. "It's a program that teaches about consequences, self-esteem, peer pressure, and dealing with stress. It also addresses topics like violence in the media, gang and group violence, making good decisions, and it offers positive alternatives to bad situations. I teach skills that these kids can use in everyday life. We will also have drug-free mentors from the high school come talk to the students about the pressures of school and their peers."

Upon completion of the program, there will be an actual D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony. A few weeks prior to graduation, the students will be asked to write an essay and, at the ceremony, chosen students will share their essays with the audience. We would like to thank the City of Ashland and Officer Bob Smith for helping to educate the children in our community.

Thank you **TALENT CLUB!**



We would like to extend a giant thank you to William "Willie" Brickner, owner of the Talent Club, for his generous contribution of hot dogs and soda to our recent fundraising auction.

Leash Laws?!!



The City would like to remind citizens about our leash law – dogs **cannot** run loose in the city and Talent police officers will be picking up stray dogs. If your pet turns up missing, you may want to contact the Jackson County Animal Shelter at 776-7035. Another reminder: there are no dogs allowed in *any* of the parks in the City, including Chuck Robert's Park.

Christmas Tree Recycle

Day in Talent

Wondering what to do with your Christmas tree after Christmas? Thanks to Boy Scout Troop 535, your worries are over! All you have to do is drag your tree to the curb and the Boy Scouts will carry it away. This will prevent cluttering of our landfills, and the materials can be used on park trails or as mulch for plants. Let the Boy Scouts recycle your tree for you! Pick-up day is scheduled for Saturday, January 9, 1999 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Donations are accepted and appreciated.



Graffiti in our City

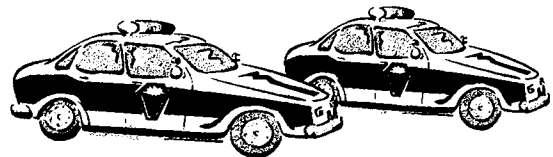
If you see any signs of graffiti around town, please report it to the Talent Police Department, 535-1253. Even if you see someone walking with a large marking pen or spray can, please take the time to call. We would like to prevent the appearance of graffiti in our area.

Interested in serving on a *board* or *committee*?

Well, here's your chance! The City of Talent is looking for interested citizens to serve on the Urban Renewal Agency Board, the Urban Renewal Budget Committee, *or* to fill a seat with the Traffic Committee. If any one of these positions sounds like an opportunity for you, please contact Talent City Hall at 535-1566 or stop by 204 East Main Street to pick up an application.

LOST AND FOUND

Recently, we've had some items turned in that were left behind at the skate park. If you've lost something at the park, chances are we may have found it. You can stop by City Hall, 204 East Main Street in Talent or call 535-1566.



"NEW" CARS FOR TALENT POLICE

The Talent Police Department just acquired two used police vehicles from the Las Vegas Police Department. The vehicles are 1995 Ford Crown Victorias and we purchased both vehicles for \$7,000 – a savings of over \$22,000! They each have only 50,000 miles and they came fully equipped, thus allowing a great savings to Talent citizens *and* our police department. But the best deal of all came from a local police department: we purchased a 1992 Chevy Caprice for only \$1!