

THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

February 23, 2000

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.
Vol. 3 No. 4

International Potluck

The Talent Historical Society, the City of Talent, and the Rogue Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce are hosting an international potluck supper at Talent's Community Center on February 26, 2000, at 6:00 p.m. The Talent Historical Society will be offering an exhibit on "Archaeology of the Upper Rogue" and, at 7:30 p.m., Kate Winthrop will give a slide presentation to accompany this exhibit. It's Talent's first international potluck and **everyone** is invited to attend! Bring a friend and your favorite international dish to share with others.

Katrina Hill – Welcome to Talent's City Council

Talent resident Katrina Hill was sworn into her new position by Mayor Marian Telerski at the February 16, 2000 meeting of the City Council. Katrina will be continuing her interest in city parks as Council liaison to the Parks Commission.

Support Talent's Friends of the K-9 Program

Talent's Friends of the K-9 Program is a non-profit organization setup to support training and equipment for Igor, the City's K-9. It was established during the summer of 1999, shortly after Igor was sworn into office. The program is in need of community support. If you would like to contribute to this organization, please make checks payable to Friends of the K-9 Program, P.O. Box 445, Talent, OR 97540. For additional information, contact Officer Lenhardt at the Talent Police Department, 535-1253.

Opportunities to get involved with the City of Talent

We currently have vacancies on our Parks and Recreation Commission, the Advisory Board to the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Advisory Board to the Planning Commission, the Traffic Committee, Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee, the Water Committee and the Budget Committee. As you can see, there are lots of opportunities to get involved. If you are interested in filling any of these positions, please pick up an application at City Hall, 204 East Main Street.

Transportation and Storm Drain Utility Fees

The City Council recently enacted a Transportation and Storm Drain Utility Fee Ordinance to provide a much needed resource to maintain the City's streets and storm drains. This fee is **NOT** a tax – it is a charge to provide necessary maintenance to existing infrastructure by the people who use them or benefit from their use. The city has 12 miles of underground storm drain pipes. Half of city streets have curb, gutter, and underground storm drains, while the other half are open ditches, and there are many underdeveloped areas in need of control of water runoff. Whatever the case may be, all of them need routine maintenance and this is where the Storm Drain User Fee will be spent.

The streets are yet another issue that is obvious to frequent drivers as well as pedestrians using the cross walks. The user fee dollars will **not** be spent to construct new streets, but rather to maintain the ones we have.

The City Council adopted the following fee schedules to take effect **March 1, 2000**:

Storm Drains

(1) Residential Uses EDU Charge per month

Single-family dwelling 1.0 \$1.98

Apartment 0.66 \$1.31

Mobile home in park 0.50 \$0.99

Senior housing unit 0.25 \$0.49

Water Rates Increase March 1, 2000

In accordance with Resolution No. 98-518-R, the City of Talent will be increasing the water rates as of **March 1, 2000**. It is the second of two previously approved rate increases and the new fees are reflected in the table below. If you would like a copy of the new water rates, please stop by City Hall, 204 East Main Street, or if you have any questions, please call us at 535-1566.

(within City limits)

Meter Size (inches) Minimum Billing Rate

3/4 – 5/8 \$11.55

1 28.88

1 1/2 57.75

2 92.40

3 184.80

4 288.50

6 577.50

and, \$2.89 for each 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof, for the next 3,000 gallons, and \$3.18 for each 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof, for the next 3,000 gallons, and \$3.47 for each 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof, for all additional gallons.

Celebrate Arbor Day!

(2) All other uses

An equivalent dwelling unit (EDU) equals 3,000 square feet of impervious area. Non-residential uses shall be charged a fee calculated on the impervious area under roof or pavement on the lot or parcel so that the storm drain utility fee shall be \$1.98 per month for each 3,000 square feet of impervious area rounded to the nearest 100 square feet. The minimum charge for developed nonresidential lots shall be \$0.49 month. Undeveloped lots without a roofed building nor paving shall not be charged a storm drain utility fee.

Transportation System

(A) Monthly Charge: as noted in Schedule "A" of Resolution No. 00-552-R

- Single Family \$2.79/month
- Multi-Family \$1.93
- Mobile Home Park \$1.39
- Senior Housing \$0.58

(all others use the following formula)

(1) Formula for transportation utility fee:

Monthly Fee = Number of Units x Chargeable Daily Trip-Ends x Rate per Trip.

Chargeable Daily Trip-Ends adjusts for *passby* trips and trip length.

The minimum charge for developed nonresidential lots shall be \$0.49 per month. Undeveloped lots without a building generating traffic nor paving shall not be charged a transportation utility fee.

The City of Talent will be celebrating Arbor Day on April 22nd this year. This year's event will include planting tree seedlings donated by the Herbert Stone Nursery and Plant Oregon and an educational presentation from the Ashland Ranger District. A local cub-scout troop of thirty young volunteers have offered to help with the tree planting. If you would like to participate in this event, help organize an activity, or prepare something for a pot-luck lunch, please contact Matthew Mattia at the City of Talent 535-1566.

Update from the Parks Department

Tim Detrick, Public Works Director, announced that all city parks will be getting new trees this spring, including the Wagner Creek Greenway. He also announced that the drainage plan for Chuck Robert's Park is complete and work will begin once system parts have arrived. The foundation will be the next step toward a new playground for the park.

Our Parks Department has been busy in the Downtown Park as well. Sewer lines, water lines, and electricity have been installed and the grading and drainage system are being designed.