

THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

January 30, 2002

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.
Vol. 5 No. 1

Building Official Available in Talent

The City of Ashland is on contract to provide building department services to the City of Talent. These services include structural, plumbing, and electrical permit review, state building code interpretation, and site inspection.

A building official will be available at Talent City Hall on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday at 1:30 p.m. to review plans and to *discuss* the requirements for receiving a building permit. Actual building permits will be issued at the City of Ashland, Building Division, 20 East Main Street, Monday thru Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Talent's City Planner must review and approve the "final site plan" that meets the conditions of approval that were assigned as part of the planning and zoning approval before the building review process is initiated.

Once the final site plan is approved, the Talent Building Official will provide an applicant with a checklist of items that may be required to review an application for a building permit depending on the type of request. In addition, the City will not issue building permits until all applicable systems development charges (SDCs) are paid in full.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, please call 552-2073.

"Cop Talk"

By Officer Shane Wilson

A new booster seat law took effect January 1, 2002. Passed by the 2001 legislature, the new law requires drivers who transport children to use approved devices that elevate small children high enough to make standard safety belts fit properly. In accordance with the booster seat law, drivers must use booster seats for children between the ages of four and six **and** for children who weigh between 40 and 60 pounds. The law has not changed regarding children under four years of age and 40 pounds—they must still be secured in child restraint systems. Violation of the booster seat law is a Class D traffic infraction carrying a \$77 penalty.

You may be eligible for a free booster seat from the Talent Police Department. For eligibility requirements, contact me or the police department at 535-1253. A waiting list is maintained and seats are distributed upon availability. Although the booster seats are free, parents must attend a class on proper use and installation.

If you have any questions or a suggestion for the next Cop Talk article, please write or send me an e-mail.

My address is Officer Wilson, c/o Talent Police Department, P. O. Box 445, Talent, OR 97540. My e-mail address is wilsontpd@hotmail.com.

Tap Project Update

The next step toward completion of the TAP (Talent Ashland Phoenix) project is the swapping out of water pumps at the Bear Creek pump station and the training of employees on the new telemetry system. Acting Public Works Director Lester Naught stated, "Both the swapping out of the water pumps and training on the new system would be taking place in the first week of February."

Ed Barnhurst, engineer for Montgomery Watson, stated, "We hope to have the entire project complete by the end of February."

Street Lights Out

You may notice there are two types of street lights in Talent—ornamental and regular. Ornamental street lights (like the ones found on Talent Ave) are maintained by the City of Talent.

If you notice one of these lights has either burned out or is not working properly, please report the problem to our Public Works Department at 535-3828. If you notice a problem with the regular street lights, please call Pacific Power at 888-221-7070. Be sure to get the number of the pole before you call—they will ask for it.

News from the Planning Department

As you may already know, Talent's building moratorium was lifted by the City Council on January 16, 2002. After four years of no new development, the department was able to update its policies, standards, and procedures in preparation for post-moratorium growth. The following is an update of land use applications and planning-related actions.

Approved Applications:

The City Planner and/or the Planning Commission approved a Conditional Use Permit for an espresso drive thru facility at Wal-Mart

Applications Under Review: These applications are pending before the City Planner and/or the Planning Commission:

Minor Partition at 1108 Talent Avenue to divide one lot to two lots, Chris McIntosh Subdivision at Creel Road, 10 lots proposed, Suncrest Homes

Planned Unit Development at Rapp Road and Talent Avenue, 30 lots proposed with dedicated open space, includes a proposed partition from one lot to two lots; Suncrest Homes

Planned Unit Development at 1737 Lithia Way, 26 lots proposed with dedicated open space, Gregg Adams

Site Plan Review of proposed storage/office structure at 618 S. Pacific Hwy, Ken Scott

Adopted Policies: The City Council adopted the following in January:

Article 22 of the Talent Zoning Ordinance, which addresses home occupations or businesses conducted within a home and in a residentially zoned property, has been amended.

An amendment to the Transportation System Plan (TSP), which adds alleys as an allowable street under certain conditions, and an option for a narrow street standard for local and collector streets.

Policies Under Review:

In addition to processing new applications, the City Planner will be reviewing and updating the sign ordinance and preparing an "Introduction" and "Citizen Involvement" section to the recently adopted elements to the Comprehensive Plan.

Miscellaneous:

Scott Chancey has been appointed by the Mayor to the Planning Commission. The appointment to serve on the Planning Commission is for four years.

City Council Agenda Items

February 6, 2002—6:45 p.m.

New Business:

Request to use Community Hall—Family Community Education

Request to use Community Hall—Federated Women's Club

Request to use Community Hall—Talent Lion's Club

Presentation—Michael Cavallaro, Rogue Valley Council of Governments, will update Council on their financial position.

Review Ordinance No. 01-712-O declaring the annexation of certain real property to the City of Talent and concurrently rezoning said property. Subject to adoption.

Review ordinance pertaining to water rates in Talent.

(Complete agenda packets available for review at City Hall, 204 East Main Street)

Opportunities to Become Involved with the City of Talent

The following is a list of vacancies on our committees and commissions. If you are interested in any listing, please check the calendar on the back of this newsletter for meeting dates and times. If you would like to apply to fill a vacancy, please stop by City Hall, 204 East Main Street, for an application.

Budget Committee—two vacancies

Parks and Recreation Commission— one vacancy

Advisory Board to the Parks and Recreation Commission— five vacancies

Advisory Board to the Planning Commission— five vacancies

Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Talent— three vacancies (2 business, 1 citizen)

Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee— two vacancies

Crossing Guards Needed

Crossing guards play an important role in ensuring the safety of children as they make their way to and from school. Community Service Officer Frank Falsarella is in charge of the Community Service Officer (CSO) program in Talent. He and other CSO's assist crossing guard Betty Welburn in getting kids to and from school safely, but they need help.

If you have morning or afternoon hours available and would like to assist at the schools' crosswalks, please contact Frank Falsarella at 944-0243. Individuals are needed from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Mondays, 7:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday through Friday, and/or afternoons between 2:15 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.