



THE FLASH OF TALENT

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works
and Police Departments

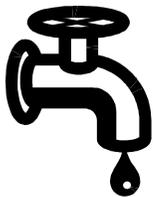
CITY ELECTIONS



In addition to the ballot items mentioned in the last issue of the FLASH there are several candidates running for City Council positions in Talent. The City Council is sponsoring an **Election Forum to be held at the Talent Community Center on October 13, 2004 at 6:30 p.m.** This will provide an opportunity to meet the candidates and hear their responses to questions raised by the public. There will also be information available on the other Talent ballot items.

In Talent, by City Charter, a candidate runs for a particular position and must identify that position when they apply for a petition. Listed below are the candidates for the November election for Talent City Council:

Position #2: William H. Smart, Jr. (2 year)	Position #4: Ray Cecil (RC) Davis (4 year)
Position #3: Dawn Watson (4 year)	Edwin J. (EJ) McManus II (4 year)
	Wendy Siporen (4 year)
	Position #6: Brian Roberts (4 year)



PAYMENT OF WATER BILLS

During the summer season customers have a tendency to increase their water usage and therefore receive higher water bills. The City would like to remind customers of the option of entering into an agreement to participate in the "Water Service Equal Payment Plan". This Plan allows a customer to pay a fixed amount each month of the year regardless of the monthly consumption. This fixed amount would be unique to a particular property and customer usage and is calculated based on a one-year history of prior water usage. You can sign up for this payment plan in March of each year and must commit to making the monthly equal installments, otherwise the agreement will be terminated and the customer would revert to making full payment each month based on usage. It is not too early to consider this option as it takes time for City staff to determine the usage and complete the paperwork.

Throughout the year the City will continue to provide tips on water conservation, which can help to reduce water consumption and therefore reduce billing amounts. Customers should repair water leaks, leaky toilets etc. immediately as this greatly increases the cost of their water bills. It is also important to be conscious of usage to protect a valuable resource.

Official Newsletter of the City of Talent

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Storm Water Utility Fee

Since July 2000 Talent property owners have been billed a Storm Water Utility Fee, added as a separate item to the monthly water utility bill. The revenues generated from this fee have been used to provide maintenance to the City's storm water facilities that manage storm runoff.

Effective October 1, 2004 this fee will no longer be added to your water utility bill that the City sends out.

This does not mean that there is no longer a need to maintain the storm water system. The need for improved storm water management has, in fact, increased considerably based on federal requirements that the City of Talent as well as other cities in the valley have become responsible for.

The City of Talent has entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Rogue Valley Sewer Services (RVS) to provide services to meet these new requirements and also to collect the fee to cover the City's cost for existing and improved maintenance of the system. It has been agreed that RVS will manage the billing for storm water and forward to the City a portion of the receipts collected. This way the property owner is paying just one bill for storm water management services that they are receiving from both the City and RVS .

RVS has set the rate at \$2.50/equivalent dwelling unit with \$1.50 of that rate being sent to the City. RVS will retain \$1.00 to handle the agreed upon services that they will provide on the City's behalf

Proposed Water System Development Charges



On October 20, 2004 the City Council will hold a public hearing at the Community Center at 6:30 p.m. to consider the increase of Water System Development Charges (SDC). With the completion of a Water Master Plan and the adoption of a Capital Improvement Plan covering the planning period of 2004-2009, the consultants recommended an increase in the Water SDC fee to help pay for the needed improvements to the City's water system. The proposal will double the Water SDC currently being charged when building permits are issued.

System Development Charges are assessed when any new development takes place and are paid prior to the issuance of a permit. The City is then able to use these fees to finance

major construction projects related to the water system. As part of the Highway 99 upgrade the water line located on Highway 99 from Colver to Rapp Road will be replaced with a 12-inch line. In addition a section of the water line on Valley View between Highway 99 and Talent Avenue will also be upgraded. By increasing the size of these lines it will improve the ability of the City to meet current and future water demands of residential and commercial developments as well as to provide adequate pressure for fire fighting purposes.

COP TALK

By Officer Shane Wilson



This month I would like to talk about an issue that comes up almost daily: abandoned cars. You may have noticed at times a bright orange sticker that is placed on a vehicle, warning & notifying the vehicle owner that unless the vehicle is moved, it will be towed. This

occurs when we receive a complaint about a car that is abandoned or we notice that a vehicle has been abandoned. If the vehicle is not moved it can be impounded and towed, as well as a citation issued with a base fine amount of \$237. What's important to note here is that the relevant state statute, 819.100, Abandoning a Vehicle, requires that the **owner of the vehicle as shown by DMV records** shall be liable for the costs associated with removal and disposal of the vehicle. This means that the person(s) listed as

registered owners with DMV will be person(s) held responsible. Often times an owner sells the vehicle by signing over the title but fails to notify DMV that they've sold the vehicle. Back to the issue of the bright orange sticker; sometimes a vehicle owner will respond to the placing of the tow notice on their car by moving the vehicle a short distance, but leaving it on the street. Be

forewarned that Talent City Ordinance #543 says that no person shall store a motor vehicle (or an RV, boat, trailer, etc) on a public street for a period in excess of 72 hours. What's relevant here is that Ordinance #543 requires the vehicle be moved no less than 1,000 feet from the original location in one direction, and can only be at the new location for no longer than 72 hours. Please help us keep abandoned vehicles off our streets.

In addition to the abandoned vehicle, section 23 says: No operator shall park and no owner shall allow a vehicle to be parked on a street for the principal purpose of:

1. Displaying the vehicle for sale.
2. Repairing or servicing the vehicle, except emergency repairs.
3. Displaying advertising from the vehicle.
4. Selling merchandise from the vehicle, except when authorized.

These ordinances are in place to preserve the quality and value of city owned property as well as your property. Please make sure that if you have a vehicle that is not working and is parked on a public street, it is moved to an ap-

Planning Department News

Upcoming Public Hearings

On October 14 at 6:30 in the Community Center, the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to review zoning code changes recommended by a citizens' advisory committee as part of a grant sponsored by the Transportation and Growth Management (TGM) program.



On October 28 at 6:30 in the Community Center, the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to review an application for annexation of property at the corner of Lithia Way and Alpine Way. There may be additional applications for review at the same meeting, but no complete applications have arrived as of September 22, 2004.

General Information

The Planning Department receives several phone calls each year asking the City to remove branches, trees or to repair sidewalks. The City Zoning Ordinance, Article 19, Section 6, spells out the basic responsibilities of the City and property owners:

§ The City will maintain trees within the public right-of-way and sidewalks abutting private property along collector and arterial streets.

§ The owners of property abutting residential streets are responsible for the maintenance of the trees, shrubs and sidewalks in the public right-of-way in front of their property.

§ All property owners in the City are responsible for repairing damage done to a street, sidewalk or curb by the roots of trees or shrubs on private property within six feet of a right-of-way.

We hope this clarifies the issue. You may view Article 19 of the Zoning Ordinance on the City's website www.cityoftalent.org under the menu heading "Zoning and Development."

You may also obtain copies for 25 cents per page of Article 19 at the City Hall between 8:30 and 5:00 weekdays. If you have a specific request or need more information, please feel free to contact Planning at 535-7401 or via e-mail at john@cityoftalent.org.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
O C T O B E R						1	2
	3	4 Municipal Court 3:00pm Comm. Hall	5	6 City Council 6:30pm Comm. Hall	7	8 HARVEST FEST. MTG 2:00pm Comm. Hall	9
	10	11	12 Arch. Review 7:00pm Comm. Hall	13 Parks 6:00pm Library Election Forum 6:30pm Comm. Hall	14 Planning 6:30pm Comm. Hall	15	16 Arch Review Walk 9:00am
	17	18 Municipal Court 6:00pm Comm. Hall	19 Urban Renewal 6:00pm TBD	20 Safety 1:30pm Comm. Hall / City Council 6:30pm 6:30pm Comm.	21	22	23
	24	25	26 RR District Master Plan 6:30pm Comm. Hall	27	28 Planning 6:30pm Comm. Hall	29 The "Flash" Distributed	30 Day light savings ends
	31				Building Plan Review Mon—Fri 8:30am—9:00am & 4:00pm—5:00pm Building Permits Issued Mon—Fri 10:00am—2:00pm		