

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

May 2022

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
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MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY COLUMBIA CITY VETERANS PARK

Please join us in honoring all American veterans on Monday, May 30 from 11 am to noon at the Columbia City Veterans Park.



Before attending the event, please review these **IMPORTANT transportation and parking instructions:**

Free bus service will be offered to and from the event! To catch the bus, park near the Caples House Museum, Community Hall, City Hall, or park at the CC Rider Park 'n Ride in St. Helens, and be bussed directly to the park! Bus service will start at 9:30 am.

Parking near the Veterans Park is **NOT RECOMMENDED.**

Vehicular access to the park from Highway 30 will be **PROHIBITED** on event day.

Parking along Highway 30 on event day will be **PROHIBITED.**

Refreshments will be available, compliments of the Daughters of the American Revolution

NO SCHEDULED INCREASE IN WATER AND SEWER RATES

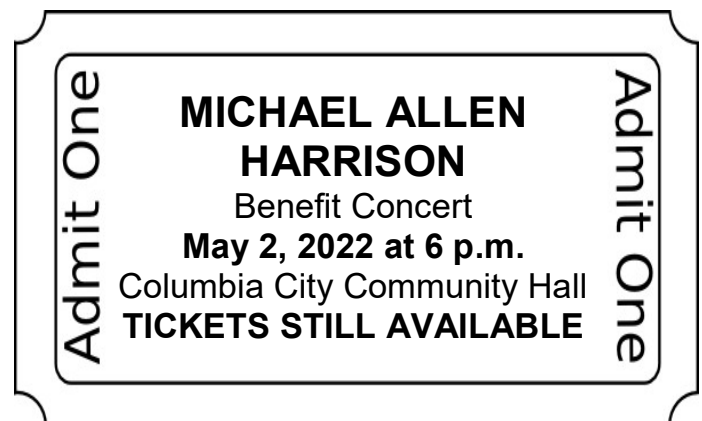
In 2013 the City commissioned a study for water and sewer rates, which is set to expire at the end of the 2028/2029 fiscal year. The study projected any

increases that may be needed for these services based upon funds required for debt service, system improvements/maintenance and operations of the water and sewer systems. We are pleased to announce that based upon the guidance provided by this study the City is not needing to increase the rates for either of these services during the upcoming fiscal year that starts on July 1, 2022.

What does this mean to you? Great news... water and sewer rates will remain the same for the upcoming fiscal year!

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FILING DATES

Three City Council positions, one for the position of Mayor and two for Councilor positions, will be filled by the voters during the November 8, 2022, General Election. Qualified electors who have resided within the City since November 8, 2021, may run for office. Nominating petitions are currently available at City Hall. The nominating petitions must be signed by 20 qualified electors, and candidates must submit the signature sheets to the City Administrator/Recorder for verification allowing sufficient time for the verification process to be completed prior to the August 30, 2022, filing deadline. The positions are for a term of four years.



BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING SET

The Columbia City Budget Committee will hold a public meeting and hearing on Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 6 pm at the Columbia City Community Hall. For those wishing to participate and/or provide public comment, please attend the meeting or submit written comments prior to 4 pm the night of the meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to present the budget message, to receive comment from the public on the proposed budget for fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 and to discuss the possible use of revenue sharing funds. A copy of the proposed budget document may be inspected and/or purchased starting May 19, 2022.

CAPLES HOUSE LATIMER QUILT SHOW



Caples House Museum at 1925 First Street will be hosting the Latimer Quilt Show on Saturday, May 14th from 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, May 15th from 10 am to 3 pm. Entrance fee is \$5 and there will be turnings, vendors and food. If you have any questions contact the Caples House at 503-397-5390 or capleshouse@comcast.net.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Mystery Book Club is back at the library, after way too long of a wait! If you are interested in joining us, we meet at the library on the last Wednesday of each month. There is no required reading – we discuss what we have read recently and enjoy each other's company!

May Artist. Edna Morse is a long time resident of Columbia City. She started quilting when she got tired of making clothes for her two girls. She is an original member of the Columbia River Piecemakers Quilt Guild, and is a member of the Novel Quilters.

Edna has made hundreds of quilts. She is known for making miniature quilts. She does a lot of hand piecing, paper piecing and hand quilting.

Novel Quilters. We showed our quilts based on "The Night Circus" by Erin Morgenstern last month. The quilts were posted on Facebook, I hope you saw them! Our next book will be "Tidelands" by Philippa Gregory, set in northeast England in the 1640s.

Columbia City Celebration. We are looking for craft vendors for this year's Columbia City Celebration, set for Saturday, August 13. Vendor applications are available at the library and at City Hall.

Items we've added. We added 118 items to the library in the past month, some of which include:

Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage by Alfred Lansing (best seller)
Killing Crazy Horse by Bill O'Reilly (past best seller)
Shadows Reel by C.J. Box (best seller)
Tidelands by Philippa Gregory (Novel Quilters selection)
Summer on Honeysuckle Ridge by Debbie Mason
The Lightning Rod by Brad Meltzer
Hot Shot by Fern Michaels
Treachery at Lancaster Gate by Anne Perry
One Italian Summer by Rebecca Serle (best seller)
Stuart Little by E.B. White (how did we not have this in our children's collection?)
Alfred Hitchcock Collector's Edition Vol. 1 (video)

Library Hours:

Monday and Saturday 10 am to 2 pm
Thursday 3 to 6 pm

Columbia City Community Library

2000 Second Street / PO Box 189
503-366-8020 / ccclibrary@live.com

Website: www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com

Reach our book catalog:

<https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com>



Blood Drive **St Helens Community** **Columbia City Community Hall**

1850 2nd Street
Columbia City, OR 97018

Thursday, June 2, 2022
12:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



VIEW INTO THE PAST – **A SHIPWRECK AT COLUMBIA CITY – OH MY!** **By Mark Stevens**

On October 18, 1914 at approximately 12:30 pm the steamer SS “Santa Catalina” was sailing past Columbia City on its way from New York to Portland when suddenly heavy smoke poured out of the engine room. Fire shot out the stack which was then followed by a heavy explosion as the fire reached ammunition being carried on-board. The bridge and cabins were wrapped in a sheet of flames. With the entire amidships on fire Captain J. F. Rose turned the ship towards the shore where it was beached near the present day River Club Estates.



The fireboat “David H. Campbell” arrived from Portland to help put the flames out. The engine

room and entire center section of the ship was gutted by the flames. The fireboats had the fire mostly out by midnight and fully extinguished by 3 pm the next day. One Fireman, Gus Johnson lost his life in the flames. The



remaining crew of 42 stayed with the ship until it beached on shore. Cause of the fire is not known, but it was possibly the ignition of an oil burner.

Captain Rose’s wife and 6-year-old daughter Gertrude were lowered over the side of the burning ship while still mid-steam and taken aboard the river boat “Eureka”. The family stayed at my Great Grandfather Hugh Caples home for two days. My cousin Don Caples said that the Captain gave him a set of blocks and his sister got something “girlish” but he couldn’t recall what it was.

The Towboats “Shaver”, “Sarah Dixon”, “Cascades” and “Diamond O” pulled the ship off of the beach and the “Shaver” and “Cascades” towed the ship to Portland.

According to the St. Helens Mist October 23, 1914 “The sound of alarm was sounded in St. Helens and almost the entire population hurried to the scene of the burning ship”.

The ship was rebuilt in Portland at the Willamette Iron & Steel Works and returned to service at a cost of \$320,000 and began its return trip to New York on March 8, 1915 (it promptly ran aground while being towed in the Willamette river and had to wait until high tide to free it).

The SS Santa Catalina was sold by 1917 to the US Navy and became the USS BLACK HAWK, a destroyer tender and served in both WWI and WWII and was decommissioned August 15, 1946.



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, June 25TH at 9:30 am



at

Harvard Park

SERGEANTS CORNER

Catalytic Converter Thefts. We have seen a rise in catalytic converter thefts here in Columbia City and up and down Hwy 30. There are two vehicles of interest for these thefts: one is a white Dodge Durango 4 door pick up and the other is an early 2000 Mercedes 4 door sedan silver or light colored. The suspect is a thin white male wearing a tan coat and blue jeans. If you see any suspicious activity or similar vehicles in your area please call the non-emergency number at 503-397-1521. There are numerous ways to protect your vehicle from these types of thefts. All of our local automotive shops can provide you with ideas and solutions for your type of vehicle.

During the month of March we had the following calls: 2 assist agencies for DHS on Eighth Street and Tahoma Street, 1 traffic crash on The Strand, 1 warrant arrest on A Street, 1 harassment on Second Street, 1 city ordinance violation on Third Street, 2 unlawful entry into motor vehicle on B Street, 1 unlawful entry to motor vehicle on Fifth Street, 1 unlawful entry to motor vehicle on Northstar Court, 1 stolen vehicle on Fifth Street, 9 follow up calls, 5 motorist assists, 88 premise checks, 2 welfare checks, 17 traffic stops and 2 suicide threats.

The Police Department would like to request your continued support in being our eyes and ears in the community. Please feel free to contact us via 9-1-1 (emergency), 503-397-4010 (office), or 503-397-1521 (non-emergency dispatch).

Best regards ~ Sergeant Jerry Bartolomucci

COLUMBIA CITY POLICE LEVY

Why is the levy re-certification needed? Police protection service costs have exceeded the permanent tax rate revenues for the last ten years, and the funding gap continues to grow. The City's permanent tax rate is among the lowest of all of the cities in the state. Passage of this levy will secure police protection services at **current** levels for the next five years.

How will the taxes from the levy be used? For police protection services. These taxes will sustain current-level police protection services that include:

- ❑ Seven day a week coverage with "on-call" protocol.
- ❑ Premise check services, traffic enforcement patrols, directed patrols and other proactive community programs.
- ❑ Proactive criminal patrol and follow-up investigations.
- ❑ Continued partnerships with adjoining local law enforcement agencies.

What will happen if the levy fails? Department service levels will be **reduced**. Service level reductions could involve a combination of cuts such as:

- ❑ Reducing current staffing levels of Department personnel by as much as 160 hours per month or more.
- ❑ Reducing Department service levels by moving to a reactive approach in addressing dispatched calls for service.
- ❑ Programs such as premise checks, foot patrols, area patrols and community policing may be eliminated or incur a service fee.
- ❑ Physical criminal patrols and follow-up investigative activities could be reduced.

How long will this levy last? Five years.

When would I start to pay for this re-certification? November 2022.

What will the levy cost? The levy will cost \$0.90 per \$1,000 assessed value. A home with an assessed value of \$200,000 would pay \$181.00 per year, or \$0.50 per day. If the levy is re-certified under this proposed rate property taxes will increase by an estimated \$47.00 per year.

How much do I pay now? The City levies a permanent tax rate of \$1.13 per \$1,000 of assessed value, plus the current \$0.67 per \$1,000 assessed value for the most current levy.

When will I vote on the levy? The levy will appear on the ballots for the May 17, 2022, primary election.



MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - MAY 2022

May 2 nd	6:00 p.m.	Michael Allen Harrison Concert at Community Hall
May 10 th	6:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
May 14 th	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Spring Clean Up at Columbia City Grade School Parking Lot
May 17th	6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting - canceled
May 19 th	8:00 a.m.	2022-23 City Budget available for public review
May 19 th	6:30 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting via Zoom*
May 26 th	6:00 p.m.	Budget Committee Meeting at the Community Hall
May 30 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Memorial Day
May 30 th	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Memorial Day Ceremony at Veterans Park

*For Zoom information contact City Hall

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CITIZEN SATISFACTION SURVEY

Columbia City provides a range of services to the community. We'd like to ask you to please take a moment to let us know how we are doing. Your input is important to us, and we look forward to hearing how we might better serve you. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and you need not answer all of the questions.

Your feedback is appreciated!

Please return completed surveys to City Hall during the month of May

PO Box 189 ♦ 1840 Second Street ♦ Columbia City, Oregon 97018

Phone 503-397-4010 ♦ Fax 503-366-2870

E-mail colcity@columbia-city.org ♦ Web site www.columbia-city.org

Question 1:

A. In the past year or so have you or anyone in your household had direct contact with a representative of the City Hall Office?

Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 2)

B. If you answered yes to Question 1A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Water or Sewer Utility Payment or Inquiry	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Municipal Court Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Building, Plumbing or Mechanical Permit	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Nuisance/Code Violation Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Land Use Related	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Street Light Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 2:

A. In the past year or so have you or anyone in your household had direct contact with a representative of the Police Department?

Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 3)

B. If you answered yes to Question 2A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Criminal Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Traffic Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Traffic Stop	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Nuisance/Code Violation Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 3:

A. In the past year or so have you or anyone in your household had direct contact with a representative of the Public Works Department?

Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 4)

B. If you answered yes to Question 3A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Water Service Need or Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Sewer Service Need or Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Park Facility Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Storm Drain Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Street Maintenance Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 4:

What is your perception of the overall quality of services provided by the City of Columbia City? (circle one)

1
(Poor)

2

3

4

5
(Excellent)

Additional comments you would like to make: _____
