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City of North Bonneville Newsletter January 2014



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A Message from the Mayor's Desk

As we welcome the New Year it's a good time to recap a few of the events of 2013 as we look towards the future.

We experienced a fair amount of change in our staff at City Hall over the past 12 months with Steven Hasson, our new City Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator, and Richard Lafayette, our new Public Works Field Supervisor both coming on board. Steven and Richard have worked diligently to ensure our city continues to run smoothly while they learn the numerous duties and details their jobs require.

Our city is very fortunate to have employees who truly care about our community and are willing to regularly put their care and concern into action on all of our behalf. I want to take this opportunity to publicly express my thanks to Heidi, Annette, Jim, Tom, Bryan, Gary, Richard and Steven for all they do to preserve and enhance the quality of life we all enjoy. Please join me in thanking them the next time you come into City Hall or see them around town.

In addition to the personnel changes, we also finalized an agreement with Skamania County that will result in the Skamania County District Court providing municipal court services for North Bonneville beginning this month. We expect this move will have little or no financial impact on our budget but we will enjoy a positive overall effect by allowing our Deputy Clerk to use the time she has been expending to maintain court operations to spend more time on other areas that will ultimately benefit our city.

We are also in the final stages of negotiating a new collective bargaining agreement with our employees' union and look forward to having a new CBA in place by the end of this month.

I'll close with my annual reminder to renew your business, dog and golf cart licenses as we head into 2014 and add in a reminder of what Sergeant Esterhaus used to say on Hill Street Blues, "Hey, let's be careful out there."

As always, I am happy to address your questions, comments and concerns regarding all aspects of our community. You can reach me by email at don@northbonneville.net and the phone number here at City Hall is 427-8182. I'm not always in my office but I will get back to you as quickly as possible.

City Hall is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

City Hall will be closed for New Years Day and Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holidays.

2014 IS HERE

Time to renew your Business License and/or Dog License.

Business License\$25.00

Dog License

Non-neutered animals....\$10.00

Neutered animals..... \$3.00

(If the owner is 65+) \$1.00



REMINDER

Be polite and courteous to your neighbor and please pick up after your dog.

The Planning Commission Needs You!

Please contact City Hall if you are interested in helping plan the city's future.

MOUNT SAINT HELENS INSTITUTE

Is offering Guided Snowshoe Adventures on January 18th and January 25th.

The first adventure is to June Lake. The second adventure is to Old Man Pass.

Call 360-449-7883 for more information.



Water/Sewer News

In July 2013, the City Council approved Ordinance 1023 which raised the rates for water and sewer. This Ordinance was modified by Ordinance 1030 and became effective **November 1, 2013** and is reflected in the January, 2014 billing.

The base water rate went from \$20.89 to \$21.42 a month; an increase of \$0.53. The water consumption rate went from \$1.72 to \$1.76 per each 100 cubic feet of water used; an increase \$0.04.

The base sewer rate went from \$23.15 to \$23.89 per month; an increase of \$0.59. The sewer usage rate went from \$3.50 to \$3.59 per each 100 cubic feet of usage; an increase of \$0.09.

Effective immediately the City will be able to accept credit cards and debit cards. This convenience has been a long time coming.

Effective **January 1, 2014**, the annual water and sewer rates based upon the Consumer Price Index will take effect as approved in Ordinance 979. This increase will be seen in the March 2014 billing.

The base water rate will go from \$21.42 to \$21.74 per month; an increase of \$0.32. The water consumption rate will go from \$1.76 to \$1.79 per each 100 cubic feet of water ; an increase \$0.03.

The base sewer rate will go from \$23.89 to \$24.25 per month; an increase of \$0.36. The sewer usage rate will go from \$3.59 to \$3.64 per each 100 cubic feet of usage; an increase of \$0.05.

REMINDERS

- Bi-monthly water sewer bills go out on the first of odd numbered months.
- Payments are due on the 20th of the month the bills are mailed.
- Late fees of \$10.00 are added to any bill not paid by the 20th.
- If payments are not received by the end of the month, water service is subject to shut-off which would include a \$60.00 turn-on fee.

City Administrator's Notes

Your City Administrator is very busy developing short and long range strategies designed to maintain the viability of our city's sewer system. Our biggest maintenance issue is Lift Station #3. We are working with our city engineer to determine the best way to keep the lift station operational while seeking outside loans and grants to replace our three lift stations. Current estimates are in vicinity of \$500,000.00. We encourage all our citizens to join us at City Council meetings to provide input and learn how the city government is addressing the issues.

WANTED - FIREFIGHTERS

Our city is in severe need of volunteer firefighters. Our numbers are desperately low at this time. If you have interest in helping out please contact City Hall or Fire Chief JB Tennison. Thank you for your consideration.



**NEW
YEAR'S
RESOLUTION**

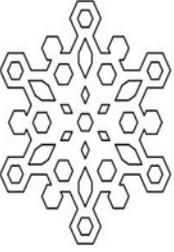
A stylized illustration of a white reindeer with a red bow around its neck, positioned to the right of the text.

JANUARY



NOTARY PUBLIC
AVAILABLE AT CITY
HALL ON TUESDAYS
AND WEDNESDAYS

January 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 	9 Sr. Lunch 12 pm Library 1-5 pm	3	4 Bookmobile Chevron Gas Station 9:00 - 9:30 Hamilton Park Apts. 9:45-10:15 Wanakowak 10:45-11:20
5	6 Fire Training 7 pm	7 Sr. Lunch 12 pm Library 1-5 pm Planning 6 pm	8 Library 1-5 pm	9 Sr. Lunch 12 pm Library 1-5 pm	10	11
12	13 Fire Training 7 pm	14 Sr. Lunch 12 pm Library 1-5 pm Finance 6:30 pm City Council 7 pm	15 Library 1-5 pm	16 Sr. Lunch 12 pm Library 1-5 pm	17	18 Bookmobile Chevron Gas Station 9:00-9:30 Hamilton Park Apts. 9:45-10:15 Wanakowak 10:45-11:20
19	20 	21 Sr. Lunch 12 pm Library 1-5 pm Planning 6 pm	22 Library 1-5 pm	23 Sr. Lunch 12 pm Library 1-5 pm	24	25
26	27 Fire Training 7 pm	28 Sr. Lunch 12 pm Library 1-5 pm Finance 6:30 pm City Council 7 pm	29 Library 1-5 pm	30 Sr. Lunch 12 pm Library 1-5 pm	31	