



## City Manager's Weekend Update

11/10/2017

The homeless task force met Thursday morning. Community in Action is working with Origins Faith Community to serve lunch 5 days a week. The Argus Observer and Malheur Enterprise were both in attendance and wrote stories about the task force.

There have been several more strategic plan focus groups this week. Our staff and our partner organizations are doing a great job.

**City Council Meeting** – City Council met on November 9, 2017 at 12 pm.

City finance staff reported that the 2016 year-end audit ended and there was a savings from what was budgeted.

I presented a plan to the City Council to pay down the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) debt obligation through year end savings or an additional budgeted principal payment each year. Paying the unfunded liability off early would create room in the city's budget to pay for current services. The City Council directed that the budget committee consider this plan in the upcoming budget.

Councilor Justus brought forward a resolution which was unanimously passed to request our state legislators and governor to support removing the \$25 cap on alcohol permit reviews by city and county governments.

The City Council received a brief presentation on state property tax regulations at the request of Councilor Norm Crume. A very helpful video was shown, made by the Oregonian, on how property tax restrictions got to where they are. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtalhnmxnZU>

The city council consented to create a Marijuana Community Impact Ad-Hoc Committee. The goal of the ad hoc committee is to address current issues as a result of marijuana legally existing in our community. The committee will be appointed by the mayor and will bring both sides of the issue together to recommend solutions to the city council.

### **Airport**

The airport improvement to the taxiway lighting continues on schedule. The airport manager, engineer and contractors met on Thursday for their weekly safety and planning meeting for construction on the airport grounds. All FAA requirements are being met.

### **Police**

The police department was awarded a grant from Walmart in the amount of \$2,500 that will be used for the Shop with a Cop event in December.

Officers responded to a report of a stabbing with a victim in serious condition. They were able to quickly identify and arrest a suspect the same day of the incident.

A new police officer started this week, Officer Harnden.

K9 Officer Rex and his handler Officer Swank had their big certification test this week. They received a perfect score on their first attempt and are now a certified drug detection team.



Figure 2 Officer Harnden

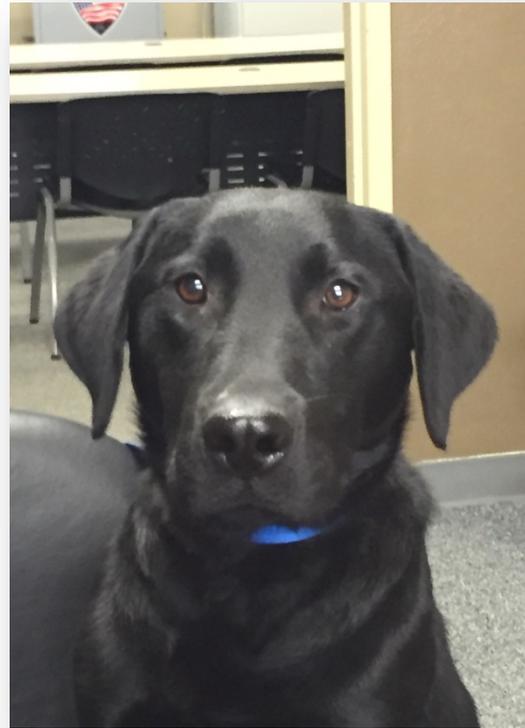


Figure 1 Officer Rex

### **Community and Economic Development**

Staff is reviewing 11 applications for issuing building permits. We issued 41 permits this past week. Staff is processing 3 land use applications.

Planning commission met on a proposed annexation on Monday night and the City Council saw the recommendation yesterday.

Staff continues to work with the Revitalize Downtown Economic Development coordinator on an updated downtown plan.

Staff is working with a local business wanting to expand and with other potential developers looking for new building sites. Work continues on the repair and tenant improvements for Ashley Furniture in the West Park Plaza.

## **Public Works**

Catch basin cleaning throughout the town, in preparation for winter season, is roughly 70% complete. Crews completed the demo of a vacant building on the back of community development center parking lot.

East Idaho Tree Planter Project continues work on the north side of East Idaho. The trees have been donated by Meadows Outdoor Advertising and the work is being done by staff.

Leaf bag pickup will begin the second full week of November 13, 2017.

Crews worked on installation of a new decant pump for the decant ponds.