



Philomath

OREGON

March 2018

(541) 929-6148

980 Applegate St./PO Box 400, Philomath, OR 97370

www.ci.philomath.or.us

WEBSITE OFFERS NEW WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED



In an ongoing effort to improve free public access to information, the City's website at www.ci.philomath.or.us is constantly seeing new features:

NEW – AGENDA PACKETS: Complete agenda packets in .pdf format for City Council and Planning Commission meetings are now posted at least 24 hours in advance of meetings.

FREE WI-FI: Did you know that City Hall has free wi-fi access in the meeting room? Citizens are welcome to bring their laptops or tablets to the meeting, link to the packet and follow along as staff reports and exhibits are being discussed.

LISTEN AT HOME: If you can't make it to meetings, audio recordings of City Council and Planning Commission meetings are typically available the day after the meeting. Open the link to the agenda packet and follow along as you listen to the meeting audio.

Objective 1.2.1 in the City Council's Strategic Plan emphasizes improving efficiency and expanded transparency through the

use of technology. Providing more timely access to meeting materials is one example of efforts to make this happen. And that Strategic Plan? Yes, it's on the website on the "Mayor and City Council's" web page as well.

NORTH 12TH STREET CHIP SEAL SCHEDULED FOR THIS SUMMER

The North 12th Street water line expansion project went in as planned this winter. This important project will improve vital fire safety by improving flow rates to this neighborhood.

As a chip sealed street, however, repairs due to the trenching involved trade-offs. Standard procedure calls for repairs to chip sealed streets to either be paved or re-chip sealed. Because the asphalt repair option was much more expensive, the trench repairs (except the long service trenches which needed to be asphalt patched) will be left as gravel until they can be re-chip sealed later this summer. The City will maintain the trench integrity until the entire road width can be re-chip sealed mid-summer. This action will save over \$45,000 from the original estimate while restoring the integrity of the street and has the support of the "F" Street Road District president.

The North 12th Street water line project was approved in the 2017-2018 Capital Improvement Plan with funding from the Land, Buildings and Equipment Fund and System Development Charge Fund.

CITY MEETINGS & EVENTS

MARCH 2018

- TBD – Public Works Committee, 5 p.m.
- Mar. 6 – Park Advisory Board, 5 p.m.
- Mar. 12 – City Council, 7 p.m.
- Mar. 19 – Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

APRIL 2018

- April 3 – Park Advisory Board, 5 p.m.
- April 5 – Public Works Committee, 5 p.m.
- April 9 – City Council, 7 p.m.
- April 16 – Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- April 18 – Budget Committee meetings for City and Urban Renewal Agency, 7 p.m.
- April 25 – Finance/Administration Committee, 7 p.m.
- April 30 – May 5 – Spring Cleanup Days at Public Works, more information coming in early April.

All meetings are at City Hall unless otherwise indicated. Schedule subject to change. See City website calendar for finalized schedule.

SCAMS TARGET TAX SEASON

With tax-filing season upon us, the scam artists are out in force and working the phones.

Here in Philomath, there have been at least four such calls, ones that were reported to the police anyway, involving callers identifying themselves as with the Internal Revenue Service and telling people that they owe money or else.

Philomath Chief of Police Ken Rueben said Thursday that the elderly are almost always targeted. It's a scam that's been seen before but a new tactic has created concern. Crooks are using cellular phone apps to disguise their phone number, and make it look the number is coming from somewhere else.

The would-be victims are told there is a warrant for their arrest but that there is a way to get out of it and save everybody the trouble. They could go to a store,



buy a prepaid credit card and then relay information to him, such as the card's number and so on.

"The person that's calling is very smooth, sounds like a federal agent and says that they've done an

investigation and found that the person they're talking to is four years behind paying a particular fee, or having to pay their taxes in full and now there's a penalty, and the penalty already went to the level of arrest warrant," Rueben said.

Another would-be victim believed the call she received might be legitimate because her husband had just finished doing their taxes a few days earlier. The phone call made her think something went wrong.

Although there are many types of red flags, there is one important fact to remember.

"The IRS is never going to call and tell you that you owe money, they just don't," Rueben said. "It usually comes

by a certified letter and then there's a number you call with a code so that you can call up and verify who you are without giving private information over the phone."

This article excerpt was provided by the Philomath Express and Editor Brad Fuqua

HELP NAME NEW CITY PARK

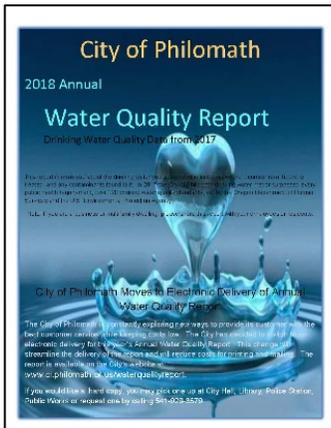


The Philomath Park Advisory Board is asking residents to help name the new neighborhood park that will be built on N 11th Street this summer. The City was awarded a \$200,000 State Parks and Recreation Local Government Grant and has budgeted an additional \$50,000 in park SDC funds to pay for the project.

The nature-play themed park was referred to as the T.J. Connor Discovery Park during the City's application, but the final name of the park has not yet been decided. T.J. Connor is one of the founders of Philomath. He led a wagon train of 96 people from Indiana to Philomath in 1853 and helped establish Philomath College and the surrounding community.

Other suggestions or support for this name can be submitted to the city manager for consideration via email to chris.workman@philomathoregon.gov or placed within your utility bill envelope.

The park design includes a boulder climb, water pumps, sand play, a willow tunnel, and other nature-themed features. The park will also include a covered picnic area and sports court. The park plans are available for review on the city website.



2018 WATER QUALITY REPORT AVAILABLE

The City produces a safe and reliable supply of high quality drinking water to our citizens. The annual Water Quality Report provides current information about your drinking water and some of the programs and technologies that make it among the safest in the world. In 2017, the City's drinking water met or surpassed every public health requirement, over 120 drinking water quality standards, set by the Oregon Department of Human Services and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

This year, the City switched to an electronic delivery of the report that will reduce costs for printing and mailing. The report is available on the City's website at: www.ci.philomath.or.us/waterqualityreport or via a link on the Home page.

Paper copies of the report are available upon request at the Library, Police Station, Public Works office and City Hall.