

Memorandum

Date: September 13, 2013

To: John Kovash, Mayor
Members, West Linn City Council

From: Chris Jordan, City Manager *CJ*

Subject: Miscellaneous Items

Community Survey

Since my arrival in West Linn, the City has conducted a “Community Attitudes Survey” to gauge community sentiment on a variety of issues. These surveys have been extremely useful to prior City Councils and staff. These surveys include both a statistically significant telephone survey, as well as the farther-reaching web survey. Because of the expense of these surveys, we do them every two years. Based on this schedule we are due to conduct another Community Attitudes Survey in January 2014. However, I would like to delay the Community Attitudes Survey one more year, to coincide with the beginning of a new City Council term and the biennial budget process which will commence again in 2015.

In 2014, I would like to conduct a statistically significant telephone survey and web survey on citizen communications and involvement, to help guide the City’s communications policy, and to better understand the community’s preferences on citizen involvement. I believe this survey would greatly assist the City Council, Planning Commission, and other groups as they work on important issues that have a communications or citizen involvement element. And, by delaying the Community Attitudes Survey to 2015, we can more clearly tie community attitudes and opinions to the items that are included in the biennial budget. Please let me know if you have any questions about this approach. Kirsten Wyatt will staff this communications and involvement survey effort, and we hope that a member of the City Council and a member of the Planning Commission will assist her with survey question development.

Local Option Levy Renewal for Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVF&R)

Currently TVF&R assesses a voter-approved local option levy of \$.25/1,000 of assessed value. This week, TVF&R Chief Mike Duyck informed me that TVF&R plans to ask voters to renew that levy at the May 2014 election. Although the exact amount has not been determined, the City Council might want to consider this information if the Council wants to place a money measure before West Linn voters in 2014.

Council Schedule

September 16 – no meeting

September 23 – Executive session at 5:30 followed by a work session to discuss:

- Amendments to the Community Development Code regarding Water Resource Areas (WRA)
- No Solicitation Ordinance
- Surplus Property

September 30 – No meeting

October 7 – Work Session

Please note that the discussion regarding the WRA amendments will be very preliminary to provide the Council with some background on the topic. The Planning Commission was scheduled to discuss this topic in a work session on September 25, but has cancelled that meeting and delayed its initial discussions until sometime later this year.