



JACKSONVILLE NEWSLETTER

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE



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FEBRUARY 2018

Mayor

Paul Becker

Council

Brad Bennington

Criss Garcia

David Jesser

Jim Lewis

Ken Gregg

Steve Casaleggio

City Administrator

Jeff Alvis

City Hall

Monday-Friday

8:30 am-4:00 pm

Police

Office 541-899-7100

Dispatch 541-776-7206

Fire

Office 541-899-7246

Dispatch 541-776-7206

Get Involved: Applications for the Committee for Citizen Involvement are Now Available

Effective public participation is essential to maintaining Jacksonville's livability and sense of community. Serving on a city committee is one way members of the public can volunteer and get involved with their city government.

Over the past several months, the City of Jacksonville has worked to establish a Committee for Citizen Involvement (CCI). The intent is to ensure that the city reach a broad range of perspectives, not just from the most vocal, and integrate the diversity of interests into the decision-making process. The committee serves in an advisory capacity to various standing committees and decision-making bodies. The requirements of the CCI are included in Chapter 1 of the City's Comprehensive plan, *Citizen Involvement*. The goal in the Citizen Involvement chapter is, "to provide opportunity for the citizens on Jacksonville to be involved in the ongoing city planning processes." To achieve this goal, the city adopted Policy 1: "The City of Jacksonville shall support and maintain an effective Citizen Involvement Program in order to ensure that all citizens are afforded the opportunity to participate in the City's programs and decision-making processes."

The City is currently accepting applications to the seven-member CCI. We estimate the CCI will meet monthly, but may be more frequent as needed. If you are interested in serving, applications are available on the City of Jacksonville's website, or you can stop by City Hall to pick one up in person. If you have questions about this committee, feel free to drop by the Planning Department during our regular hours, or you can call or send us an email. **The open application period closes on February 16 at 12:00 pm.**

Jacksonville's Chinese New Year Celebrating The Year of the Dog

The Jacksonville Chinese New Year celebration is a treasured annual festival celebrating the contributions of the Chinese in Southern Oregon's development. The day long event is coordinated by the Southern Oregon Chinese Cultural Association (SOCCA).

Chinese New Year will be **Saturday, February 17th 2018**. The day offers a wide variety of activities and events to explore different aspects of the ancient Chinese culture along with programs that show how the Chinese played an important role in Oregon's early history.

The day kicks off with a parade 10am. The rest of the day is filled with many entertaining and educational programs for the entire family. Join the celebration of The Year of the Dog! Go to the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce website for the 2018 schedule of events for more details.

City Offices will be

CLOSED

on Presidents Day

**Monday, February 19th
2018**



FUNDING OUR POLICE PROTECTION FUND

We have every reason to be proud of Jacksonville's police force. We can continue to support the men and women who serve us so well by carefully considering how we fund our police.

Historically, we have funded police services with our general fund, which, in turn comes mainly from property tax revenues. Today, those tax revenues are stretched very thin trying to cover other needed services and police. In fact, police services account for almost 100% of our property tax revenue in the general fund. So, we are looking at some alternatives to help fund the police, freeing up some general funds for other vital needs.

The City needs to find a revenue stream of about \$400,000 annually, which would go directly into a special Police Protection Fund only for police services. The \$400,000 revenue would partially fund the Police Protection Fund at 58% and the remaining 42% will be transferred from the general fund. This will free up general funds to be applied to projects such as street repair, historic preservation, building Fire Department capital and Parks.

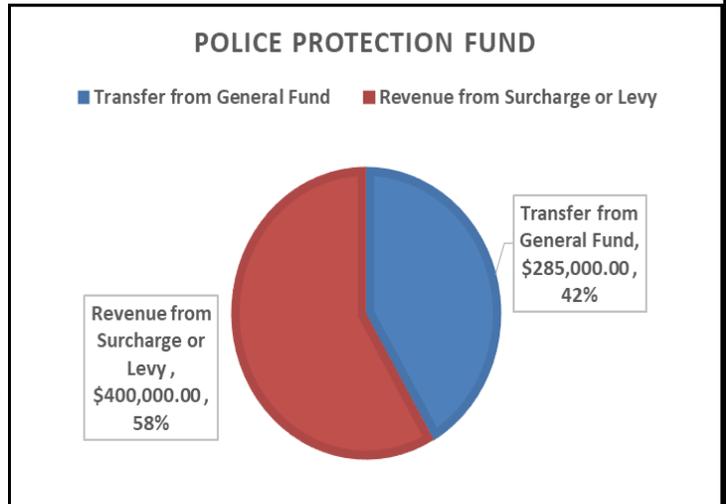
The Budget Committee has been considering multiple options over the last couple of years and had narrowed it down to the following two options:

Raising funds could be done through a property tax levy on all properties in Jacksonville. This levy would be \$1 per \$1,000 of property assessed value (AV). For example, a property with an AV of \$250,000 would have a \$250 per year property tax increase, a property with an AV of \$450,000 would have a \$450 per year property tax increase. By law, this levy can last only 5 years and must be voter approved.

The other option would be a surcharge on the utility bills, like we now do for our fire department. This surcharge would be \$20 per month or \$240 per year, collected monthly. While no vote is required, it must be authorized by an ordinance, approved by City Council. The Police Protection Surcharge would also have the same relief program as the current Fire Protection Surcharge.

The City must provide police protection for its citizens. At the December 14, 2017 meeting, the Budget Committee recommended that the Council consider the surcharge as the fairest and most equitable funding source.

No decision will be made until the City Council fully considers the need for funding, the proposed methods and obtains public comment, both written and in public forum. Notices of coming actions will be provided.



JACKSONVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT - BURN TO LEARN

Jacksonville Fire Department plans to burn a house located at 460 California St. starting around 9 a.m. and ending about 1 p.m. on Saturday, February 24. The purpose is to provide training for firefighters under realistic conditions. They will be practicing exterior fire attack, water supply operations, rescue skills, ventilation, and exposure protection activities. These exercises allow us to maintain our skills at an optimum level, helping to ensure that we are ready when an unplanned fire emergency occurs. We have planned additional resources to help insure that this drill is conducted safely - both for our personnel and for the safety and property protection to others. We will be constantly monitoring the wind conditions and the effect that this exercise may have on the residents in the area. A fire department member will be at the burn location until the fire is in a controlled state, and it will be monitored until it is extinguished. A live-fire exercise is the best type of training that we can provide our firefighters. I personally invite the public to come and watch all the activities that occur during a live fire training event, and observe your Fire Department in action.

For questions about this training drill or Jacksonville Fire Department, contact the Fire Station at 180 N. 3rd St. or call 541-899-7246

Public Meeting Schedule	Date	Time	Place
City Council	Tuesday, February 6th	6:00pm	Old City Hall
Planning Commission	Wednesday, February 14th	6:00 pm	Old City Hall
City Council	Tuesday, February 20th	6:00 pm	Old City Hall
HARC	Wednesday, February 28th	6:00 pm	Old City Hall