

Needs over wants

Park board tells city council that its focus is narrowing toward fields

By **Peggy Savage**

As the Canby Area Park and Recreation District board moves toward a bond election to help fund community recreation facilities, board member Joe Driggers told the Canby City Council Wednesday that the board is focusing more on the needs of the community and less on the wants, such as a future community center.

The community's top needs are funding and building athletic fields, Driggers said.

"We need space for new sports like lacrosse," Driggers said. "We need fields for soccer. We are in charge of furnishing recreation facilities and Canby kids are the recipients of these benefits."

Canby Parks and Recreation is a special district with a defined service area and an independent elected board of directors that is looking to create more recreational land and facilities for the community's use.

Driggers told the council that the city is about 50 percent short on park property in town, including use of the school playing fields.

"We need to pick up more park land if the city doesn't have the funds to do that," he said. "If we could build a field complex for this community, that's number one."

In other council action, councilors expeditiously passed a series of resolutions and ordinances.

- In a unanimous vote, the council agreed to place before the voters in the November election three measures proposing annexation of land to the city, including:

A 4.5 acre parcel south of Territorial Road and west of Pine Street; two acres east of Molalla Forest Road; and 14.88 acres south of 13th Avenue and east of South Ivy Street.

"Voters need to take a hard look at the amount of available land in the city," said Mayor Melody Thompson.

- The council also approved a resolution declaring the city's intention to initiate

improvements to Walnut Street, located in the Canby Pioneer Industrial Park and directing the city engineer to make a survey and write a report on the proposed project.

Councilor Walt Daniels noted that the city should take the initiative in planning Walnut Street so that all property owners along the street have an equal cost allocation.

The city engineer will do the report at a cost of \$3,500, funded through urban renewal.

Daniels said it is important to get a road through the industrial park connecting all the way to Sequoia Street.

- Mayor Melanie Thompson welcomed five young delegates from Canby's sister city of Kurisawa, Japan, at the meeting.

The Japanese delegates, all girls, are staying with host families as part of an exchange home stay program in which students have been exchanging visits between the two sister cities since 1989.

One of the highlights of the visit will be the Clackamas County Fair, made more exciting this year since one of the students is staying with the family of Alyssa Haines, this year's queen of the Clackamas County Rodeo and Fair.

Thompson welcomed each delegate individually, presenting each with a remembrance gift from the city of Canby.

The council also passed ordinances authorizing:

- Purchase through Canby Ford of a new Ford Escape sport utility vehicle.
- A contract extension with Cynthia Thompson of BCB Consulting to continue as manager of Canby Area Transit Services;
- Amendment of the Canby Municipal Code concerning flood hazard protection;
- A contract with Winstead and Associates to provide building code services;
- A contract with MixZon Inc. to complete a mixing zone study and an analysis for the Wastewater Treatment Department;
- A contract with Eagle-Elsner Inc. for the South 13th Avenue street reconstruction and a traffic calming plan.