

Council aims to be on its best behavior

By SHANDA KEARNS MOORE
Headlight-Herald Staff

TILLAMOOK — To avoid possible confrontations that led to the resignation of two council members in recent months, the City Council updated its code of conduct with a 1940s version Monday night, outlining how civility and mutual respect should govern council interactions.

The council adopted the code of conduct in conjunction with a mission statement, a list of council goals, job descriptions for city staff and procedures evaluating the performance of

See COUNCIL, Page A10

Page A10 • Tillamook, Ore., Wednesday, May 9, 2007 - Headlight-Herald

COUNCIL

Continued from Page A1

city staff.

Though the council did not discuss the matter at the time it voted unanimously to pass the resolutions, Mayor Bob McPheeters said they were the result of three months of work and consultation.

"It gives people confidence in

the council that they're moving in the right direction," McPheeters said. "I think the fact that the people that were here worked through it will be a benefit."

The code of conduct binds councilors to act with decorum both inside and outside the chamber, including a warning to councilors to "never publicly criticize an individual employee."

Allegations that former City

Councilor Doug Henson verbally abused city employee April Goddard last August led to heated council debate and two councilor resignations in the months since.

"It's something we've been needing for a long time, and it puts boundaries on the councilors and on city staff," City Manager Mark Gervasi said.

The code of conduct relies on the council members to hold themselves accountable and

does not outline any enforcement strategies.

The city's new mission statement: "Continue working for a safe, livable, and economically viable community that promotes managed growth while maintaining small-town values" will be placed on the city Web site, along with a list of goals that include support for affordable housing, economic development and effective local, state and regional partnerships.

The council also approved a proposal from the Tillamook Farmers' Market to set up its Thursday market on city land on North U.S. 101. Not more than 12 vendors will set up near a stand of trees behind the taco stand, La Providencia.

Market Manager Chris Kell said the market will help to add "color and activity to what is currently a pretty depressing area." Kell said the market promises to be good neighbors to the increas-

ingly popular Mexican food stand and will work together to coordinate use of the lot made unbuildable by floods. The market begins Saturday, June 9.

Representatives from Tillamook Bay Habitat & Estuary Improvement District presented their case for \$25,000 in assistance to the independent flood mitigation district. Councilors agreed to try to find some extra

See COUNCIL, Page A11

COUNCIL

Continued from Page A10

money in the budget for TBHEID, but largely decided to fund the Oregon Solutions project and wait for its results.

In other council action,

• The week of May 14 to 20 will be Salvation Army Week, following a similar proclamation by Gov. Ted Kulongoski.

Local Salvation Army representative Steve Forster invited the councilors to visit the Salvation Army Thursday, May 17, at 9 a.m., for a tour of the facilities.

• The fee for garage sale permits was raised from \$3 to \$5, to reflect inflation.

• Lonnie Jenck was hired at a rate of \$13,000 to water, fertilize and deadhead 100 flowering baskets in the downtown core from June to September.