

New Florence City Council takes oath of office

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Florence city government began a new chapter Monday night when a new mayor and city council were sworn in and the departing mayor and city council were honored for their contributions to the city of Florence.

Approximately 100 relatives and community members attended the council meeting to witness the passing of the torch as Mayor Wilbur Ternyik and councilors P.T. Smith, Roger McCorkle and Lynnette Wikstrom-Smith took oaths of office.

Ternyik, a former Florence mayor for four years and a former city councilor for 10 years, said he is honored to serve the people of Florence once again and vowed to carry on with the Florence Visual Management Plan where the previous council left off.

"I hope that everyone in this room feels as good about this city as I do," Ternyik told the crowd. "There's a lot of reasons for that. We've got the economy going fairly well here. We could use some better paying jobs for our young people, and hopefully that will be our number one goal."

Other priorities may include another look at the sign ordinance and progress toward the proposed all events center, Ternyik said.



Outgoing Mayor Rob Ward (left) cuts a cake during Monday night's reception with new Mayor Wilbur Ternyik as former

councilor Lillian Petersen, city staffer Betty Olivera and councilor Dave Braley look on.

The new council has a goal setting workshop scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday in the Florence City Hall council chambers. The workshop is open to the public.

Smith previously served four

years on the city council. McCorkle is a former Florence mayor with four years previously served on the council. Wikstrom-Smith is a newcomer to city government. Councilor Dave

Braley is continuing his term on the council.

Ternyik announced that McCorkle will be appointed as a representative of the city to the Lane Council of Governments, and

Smith will be appointed to serve on the Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association. McCorkle was also elected council

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