



Our Mission: To foster an environment of economic growth and opportunity through effective partnerships with our citizens, businesses, and visitors while maintaining a high standard for quality of life in a progressive community which embraces its heritage.

CITY OF OREGON

115 N. 3rd Street, Oregon, IL 61061

Phn: 815-732-6321/ website: cityororegon.org

To: Mayor Ken Williams & Oregon City Council

From: Darin J. DeHaan, City Administrator

Re: Bi-monthly Report

DATE: Jan 10, 2023

I am pleased to provide Mayor Williams and the Oregon City Council with the following synopsis of

City Business for – Dec 10, 2022 – Jan 6, 2023

Submitted by Darin DeHaan - City Administrator:

Happy New Year! I can't believe it's already 2023!

Just wanted to take a moment to reflect over 2022. Staff continues to tackle challenges on a daily basis and continue to provide great services to the community. I have enjoyed working with Mayor Williams and the City Council over the past year to meet their vision for Oregon. We have seen several accomplishments including a new recreation path behind the fire department. Fresh new pavement for several blocks on 3rd Street, Jefferson and Madison. We saw excellent coordination preparing 1st Street for our new businesses and I am thankful for Willett, Hofmann & Associates for their continued service and guidance on these large projects. Our public works made a huge cooperative effort to pull together and complete a major repair at the sewer plant. Again from snowstorms, water main breaks, to complex law enforcement issues we have a great staff who get the job done. Thank you to all of them.

Now onto 2023!

Welcome to our newest police officer Terry Lester. We are glad to have him on Team Oregon.

I continue to work with NIU and our Steering Committee on the new Comprehensive Plan. The community survey has been completed and will be distributed soon. I can't encourage everyone enough to participate in the survey when it comes out. This will help set our land vision for the next several years and is vitally important.

I hope to meet with Developer Ted Hvarre in the next week or so to help coordinate the Trestle Ridge Development.

I completed the quarterly budget review with each department head. Each department is doing well considering the increased costs in products, gas and other services. We continue to monitor expenditures and look for ways to save money where we can.

Comm Schuster and I attended a webinar put on by the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (WIU) discussing ways to create economic growth in rural areas. Also discussed the creation of food hubs, other food cooperatives.

We completed the upgrades to the key lock system at the Coliseum. Kathy Lawrence and Mike Glenn (ED) have collected all of the old key cards and issued new security cards based on need.

Cheryl and I met with a new software vendor for our payroll, utility billing and general ledger needs. We have decided to move forward with this new software which will enhance our services to the community. We will provide more information once we begin the integration process. I am excited for this enhancement and I believe this upgrade will provide some options for citizens that they have been asking for.

I'm working with a possible new vendor for our VOIP phone system at City Hall. We have had some technical issues that have dropped calls.

We held our first labor negotiation meeting with the FOP and I am working through that with Mayor Williams and Comm Schuster for council recommendations. The contract does not end until March but we want to complete the negotiations in time for budget considerations before next fiscal year.

I attended the IDOT webinar discussing the impact electric vehicles will have on Motor Fuel Tax. They are conducting a study to help prepare for the shift in funding and will provide detailed information to municipalities soon.

Worked with the Public Works Department and Police Department on a few new job descriptions.

I met with two new potential businesses looking at locations in our downtown. I will continue to facilitate what they need from the City. We are always glad to see new business considering our City and work hard to make the local government process easy to navigate.

I continue to work on the County Economic Development cooperative with Chris Manheim and will be leading an Ad Hoc group looking at staffing and job qualifications for the executive director.

City Hall:

City Hall will be closed Monday January 16th for observance of Martin Luther King Day.

Sustainability Committee:

Next meeting 02/07/23 at 10:00 a.m. Oregon City Hall Conference Room

Tree Board:

No update. A new meeting date is being worked out.

Submitted by Bill Covell - Director of Public Works:

Street Department:

- Made repairs to plow trucks
- Cleaned and organized building
- Started working on Coliseum deck
- Helped with Aeration repair at sewer treatment plant
- CDL training
- Brush clean-up
- Street Sweeping

Water / Sewer Departments:

- Daily samples and chores
- Completed aeration repair at treatment plant. Crew worked hard to save residents money.
- Continued working on lead service inventory and meeting with homeowners
- Skylight replaced on digester

Public Works:

- Review road conditions and ranked on condition
- Observed work on bike path by fire station
- Worked to get trees removed for bike path project
- Helped with repair at sewage treatment plant
- Start deck project at Coliseum
- Reviewed new driveway permits
- Met with homeowners with tree issues

Submitted by Chief Joe Brooks:

Police Department:

- Held department meeting. Took new photos to update our website.
- Ordered updated business cards for Officers.
- New business cards will have important resources on the backs.
- Equipped Officer Lester, set up all of his accounts, and began the FTO program.

- Ordered plaque for Bea Orsted to honor her 28 years as a crossing guard.
- Implemented a questionable death checklist.
- Issued new firearms in preparation for training and qualification on January 10th.
- Attended a meeting with Sheriff Vanvickle to discuss new “no cash bail” laws.
- Created new policy for new “no cash bail” laws.
- Created a job description for the Deputy Chief position.
- Collected salary comparison documents for upcoming union negotiations.
- GPS is now installed and active in the squad cars.
- Sgt Dominski completed LEADS recertification.
- All Officers completed monthly legal update training.
- Chief Brooks completed LASO (Leads Agency Security Officer) certification.
- Det Lee completed Sex Offender Law class.
- Det Lee completed LEADS recertification.
- Officer Spencer completed Officer Mental Wellness class.
- Officer Lester completed classes in Cultural Competency, Officer Stress Management, and Firearms Restraining Order Act Awareness.
- Chief Brooks, Sgt Dominski, Sgt Kalnins, Det Lee, Officer Crawford, and Officer Spencer trained at OHS with the Oregon Fire Department for active shooter response.