



*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](http://cityororegon.org)**

To: Mayor Ken Williams & Oregon City Council

From: Darin J. DeHaan, City Administrator

Re: Bi-monthly Report

**DATE: Apr 25, 2023**

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

**City Business for – Apr 8, 2023 – Apr 21, 2023**

**Submitted by Darin DeHaan - City Administrator:**

Chief Brooks, DC Kalnins, Sheriff VanVickle and I met with the AOP Board to discuss some potential changes for this year. Thank you to Debbie Dickson and her board members, and law enforcement for having a great conversation and vision.

Held our insurance committee meeting. I brought new staff up to speed and we discussed the renewals for health, dental and eye insurance this year. I am going to work with our insurance broker to look at some possible health and wellness initiatives for the upcoming year.

I had a zoom meeting with the CGI production team for our community video. It looks like we are set for filming on May 25th.

Chief Brooks and I attended the ILCMA Professional Development Webinar - Emergency Preparedness.

I attended the Ogle County Economic Development Committee training event presented by the Next Move Group. Very informative and insightful as we continue to develop a regional approach to economic development. Thank you Chris Manheim for organizing this training event.

I put together a small steering committee to finalize the vision of the Sarah Phelps Plaza. We met onsite and vetted each of the different ideas that have been discussed for the space. This is a synopsis. (Thank you to: Kathy, Chris, Mel and Cheryl) Also, thank you to both the Sustainability Ad Hoc and Tree Board for their input on this space.

1. Shift from umbrellas to building two pergolas that will fit roof line to roof line on the east side of the building. (Maybe add lights)
2. Can the dents be taken out of the gutters or replaced? Can the rain barrels be integrated into that gutter system?
3. Paint the weathervane base (White to match the courthouse)
4. Darin will check on adding solar to the roof and see if we can integrate charging ports.
5. Rotary is looking to replace the flagpole.
6. A water feature will be added to each side of the building so don't block those spaces.
7. Public Works needs to remove the cement between the drive thru lanes to level that space and also see if we can do the work to create two new ADA ramps to the bathroom from the east and west sides.
8. We would like the cement curbing to curve around the front of the City sign, remove the sidewalk and add green space there. Possibly two small trees. \*Keeping in mind access to the sign to place lettering. Consider a mason or someone skilled to fix the cracks and divots on that curbing. I don't feel this is a skill set Public Works has, nor should be expected to have.
9. Darin starts pricing tables. 2 ADA picnic tables and 4 others (Evergreen color) Made in the USA and recycled material, price chair options for the chess tables,
10. Can we afford to seal the blacktop
11. For the back we will use 4 of the city's rectangular planters and 2 pots. Two planters on each side with screening and two pots with trees in the middle.
12. Price and labor for chain fence and posts.
13. Leave the city sign where it is.
14. Price one bike rack.
15. Garbage and recycling bins are already purchased.
16. Price benches. Two for the bags area and 4 for in front of the rectangular planters.

I met with Comm Schuster and went over the department head's budget justifications sheets in preparation for the F24 budget. We also reviewed FY23 budget numbers and incomes.

At Mayor William's request we held a review meeting on why the sealcoating project failed last year. We have a plan to finalize what needs to be done to fix the project going forward.

I met with Erin Folk to discuss the City's portion of the Lowden Recreation path and to coordinate that portion of the project going forward. This is a fantastic enhancement for our community. Congrats to the Oregon Park District for their success in receiving the ITEP Grant. The City was not awarded a grant for their Bridge to Bridge path. We will continue to strategize on how we can move forward with that project in the near future.

I continue to work on required updates to meet the standards of the new form of government.

### **City Hall:**

LOCiS our new billing software company is onsite completing some data migration from our current system. We are excited to bring this technological enhancement to City Hall. We will be able to offer new billing options for the community once we complete the onboarding process.

### **Economic and Community Development Committee:**

Next meeting 05/02/23 at 5:00 p.m. Oregon City Hall Conference Room

### **Sustainability Committee:**

Next meeting 04/21/23 9:00 a.m. We will have Dr. Thomas Skuzinski from NIU presenting on sustainability. <https://www.niu.edu/clas/public-administration/about/faculty-staff/skuzinski.shtml>

### **Tree Board:**

Next Meeting TBD:

### **Submitted by Bill Covell - Director of Public Works:**

#### **Street Department:**

- Clean-up after storm events
- Installed footings for Coliseum deck
- Serviced fleet vehicles and plow equipment
- Training
- Brush pick-up after ice storm

#### **Water / Sewer Departments:**

- Julie locates for utility work
- Daily chores and samples
- Worked on lead service inventory
- Maintained sewer plant after storm events
- Training

#### **Public Works:**

- Review lead service inventory changes
- Help with storm clean-up
- Review equipment for head works project
- Provide training
- Review & observe clean-up from chip & seal project

- Provide pricing and recommendation on new blowers

**Submitted by Chief Joe Brooks:**

**Police Department:**

- All Officers completed the monthly legal update training.
- Deputy Chief Matt Kalnins attended Internal Affairs and Professional Standards training in Freeport.
- SRO Brechon spoke with Oregon Elementary Kindergarten classes about being a police officer and his duties as school resource officer



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- Sgt. Josh Lee was invited to Mrs. O’rorke’s kindergarten class to read a very special book, “The Book With No Pictures” by B.J. Novak



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- Deputy Chief Kalnins spoke with the Oregon Rotary Club

- Detective Maison Crawford completed ILETSB training on Cultural Competency and An Introduction to Research Methods for Criminal Justice Practitioners.