

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday June 27th, 2023, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday June 27th, 2023, at 5:30 P.M.

The meeting was held at the City Hall Council Chambers and on Zoom.

Present: Mayor Ken Williams
Council Member Melanie Cozzi
Council Member Tim Krug
Council Member Terry Schuster
Council Member Kurt Wilson
City Manager Darin DeHaan
Chief of Police Joe Brooks
City Attorney Paul Chadwick
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Also Present: Public Works Director Bill Covell, Mark Herman, and George Howe.

Present via Zoom: Jordan & Morgan Williams and Alexa Zoellner.

Mayor Ken Williams called the meeting to order.

Council Member Terry Schuster started the pledge of allegiance.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve the June 13th, 2023, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$59,816.90 and the current warrants as listed:

Ace Hardware & Outdoor Center	\$172.91
Brayden Schlaf	\$17.03
Byron Bank	\$3,081.27
Casper's Home Inspection, LLC	\$1,450.00
Cassandra Chapman	\$600.00
Cintas	\$105.94
City of Oregon	\$5,000.00
City of Oregon	\$13,016.20
City of Oregon	\$50,400.00
Comcast	\$436.99
Comcast	\$835.12
ComEd	\$56.80
ComEd	\$567.20
Constellation	\$412.35
DeKalb Implement	\$475.97
Department of Treasury	\$60.00
Devin DeHaan	\$68.67
Envision Healthcare	\$191.00

Euclid Managers	\$1,821.47
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$1,756.48
Fischer's, Inc	\$424.44
Frontier	\$72.40
Hach Company	\$601.15
Hageman Horticulture LLC	\$13,280.00
Hawkins, Inc	\$3,268.12
Illinois EPA	\$10.00
Jason Hicks	\$200.00
Josiah Flanagan	\$68.94
Ken Williams	\$69.29
Kurt Wilson	\$25.00
Manheim Solutions	\$2,592.00
Mark Ambrose	\$200.00
Martin and Company	\$7,200.00
Matt Pendergrass	\$1,050.00
O'Brien Civil Works Inc	\$12,460.00
Oregon Rotary Club	\$115.00
Polo Cooperative Assoc	\$4,909.15
Postmaster	\$780.00
Rogers Ready Mix	\$734.00
Sirchie Acquisition Company LLC	\$70.64
Sterling Environmental LLC	\$625.00
Steve Benesh & Sons	\$575.40
Stillman BancCorp	\$2,036.00
Sun Life Financial	\$386.89
Terry Schuster	\$25.00
Thomson Reuters-West	\$312.60
Tonya Hardy	\$600.00
Traffic Control & Protection Inc	\$603.00
United Electric	\$13,325.67
Verizon	\$466.71
Village of Progress	\$960.00
Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson, P.C.	\$63.00
Water Solutions	\$2,495.00
White Pine Mercantile, LLC	\$395.00
Zoro Tools, Inc	\$211.76
	\$151,736.56

Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve the Short-Term Rental submitted by Jordan & Morgan Williams for the property located at 707 Monroe Street Parcel #16-04-289-005, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: Council Member Terry Schuster asked what the occupancy was for the location. He said he would be interested in the total occupancy for all the Airbnb's in town.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve Ordinance 2023-006 amending the Oregon City Code Zoning Ordinance for the Authorization and Regulation of Solar Energy Systems as amended, Seconded by Mayor Ken Williams.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said the requested changes to the ordinance were completed. City Attorney Paul Chadwick provided language to separate ground solar from roof solar. An amendment was also made to megawatt from kilowatt.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve ARPA Funds for Rock River Center in the amount of \$7,500.00, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said he has spoken with Executive Director Jamie Nobis about the parking lot project at the Rock River Center. He said they provide many services to the community. The total project cost is estimated to be thirty-six thousand one hundred and fifty-nine dollars. Council Member Terry Schuster asked if the county would also be using a portion of their ARPA funds for this project since it is a county building. City Manager Darin DeHaan stated he has connected her with a board member who oversees allocating their ARPA funds.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve ARPA Funds for Community Event Micro Grants for a total of \$2,500.00, Seconded by Mayor Ken Williams.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said he has received comments from residents about providing more activities to do. A local business could apply for the micro-grant to encourage activity in the community. A total of five grants in the amount of five hundred dollars each will be available. The concept is to use ARPA funds to draw tourism into the community. The grant could be used for supplies, marketing, or personnel to help fund pop-up events and off-set costs to local businesses. Mayor Ken Williams stated he does not know what the uses of these micro-grants will look like but will leave the decision up to the local groups for creativity.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve ARPA Funds for Mural Grants of up to \$25,000.00 in total, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said a total of five grants in the amount of five thousand dollars each will be available for qualifying murals. An ordinance will be created, and each request will be brought to the City Council for approval. One project that has been discussed is to have Jon Barnhart refresh the mural located on the Village Bakery. This mural will be relocated to another area in town. A replacement mural for that location is in the design phase. Other potential murals include one at the Chamber of Commerce building and one at the Masonic Lodge location. Mayor Ken Williams said there has been a lot of interest in this. Council Member Tim Krug suggested we wait until

we have clear guidance for the size and type of mural before letting the community know. City Manager Darin DeHaan said he believes it is prudent to let the groups who are interested know there is a potential grant available to offset the costs. He said the mural ordinance will need to be approved by the Planning Commission as well as the City Council, this may take some time to do. A decision will need to be made on who is reviewing the applications as well. Mayor Ken Williams said at this point we are just looking to get City Council approval to allocate twenty-five thousand dollars of ARPA funds for murals. Council Member Melanie Cozzi said when she spoke with 8th grade students last year, they requested more art and more color in our community. Council Member Terry Schuster said we are a community that is known for art and art events.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Mayor Ken Williams stated during the working session there will be no legislative action taken.

Work Session: Budget Considerations and Potential Projects:

City Manager Darin DeHaan has been working with Council Member Terry Schuster on next fiscal year's budget. They discussed using ARPA funds to offset in-house expenditures. He asked each department to fill out budget justification sheets for potential upcoming projects and wish list items. An example is the replacement of in-car cameras for the police department. They have become outdated and cost around one hundred and forty thousand dollars to replace. The vactor truck at the public works department has been in the queue to be replaced for many years. Public Works Director Bill Covell said a new truck would cost about four hundred eighty-five thousand dollars, a used one could be purchased for about one hundred thousand dollars. If the truck is maintained correctly, it could last twenty to thirty years. Council Member Terry Schuster asked what other ways the city could fund the replacement of this truck if the city did not use ARPA funds. Public Works Director Bill Covell stated there are multiple options. Mayor Ken Williams asked why the current equipment could not be rebuilt. Public Works Director said the current equipment is a two-part setup, where the vactor truck is one piece of equipment. Mayor Ken Williams said one option is to add the cost of the vactor truck to the bond for the upcoming headworks project. He said he is looking at other funding options for these projects. His vision for the use of ARPA funds was for the people. Not for normal government expenses. We have provided grants to local agencies to provide services for the people, such as Emerging Leaders Program, a new freezer for Lifeline Food Pantry, EV Charging Station, Hotel Feasibility Study, as well as grants to the Oregon Fire Department, Oregon Public Library, and the Oregon School District. He believes the ARPA funds should be used to make the community a great place to live, work, and play. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the treasury department rules need to be verified. The city needs to know when these funds need to be spent. If the timeline is shorter, we have multiple high expense items the funds could be used for. Mayor Ken Williams said we will verify when these funds need to be spent. The city will not return the funds.

Reports:

Public Works Director Bill Covell said the columns are up at the Sarah Phelps Plaza. Public Works staff is also completing training and painting at the Farmer's Market. They will also be completing a project at the Coliseum.

Police Chief Joe Brooks stated Officer Greg Spencer will be returning to work on July 12th. He has been on military leave. Mayor Ken Williams thanked Officer Greg Spencer for his service to our nation.

City Attorney Paul Chadwick said he will be attending court hearings this week and making progress on projects.

City Manager Darin DeHaan congratulated Public Works Director Bill Covell on his one-year anniversary with the City of Oregon. He has been instrumental on many projects.

Mayor Ken Williams said the CMAAA museum is opening on July 14th. The Farmer's Market is this Thursday.

Council Member Terry Schuster said the landscaping at the Coliseum looks great.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Roll Call: Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, Williams. No Nays.

Adjourn: 6:19 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk