

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday September 12th, 2023, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday September 12th, 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
Sergeant Tad Dominski
City Attorney Paul Chadwick
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Also Present: John Ebens, Mark Herman, and Roger Howe.

Present via Zoom: Lynn Baylor-Zies, Corey Buck, and Earleen Hinton.

Mayor Ken Williams called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Sergeant Tad Dominski started the pledge of allegiance.

Council Members Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, and Williams answered roll call.
Absent: None.

Presentations
None

Public Comment

City Manager Darin DeHaan read a public comment submitted by Mr. Wiesner who stated he was not in favor of the expansion of pour licenses and gaming machines.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve the August 22nd, 2023, minutes. Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

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

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$57,344.08 and the current warrants as listed:

Ace Hardware & Outdoor Center	\$239.95
AEP Energy	\$3,080.82
Altorfer Caterpillar	\$40,730.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$16,903.01
BNSF Railway Company	\$3,713.15
Bonnell Industries	\$183.66
Brown Equipment Company	\$3,954.49

Butitta Bros. Automotive - Oregon	\$1,894.36
City of Oregon	\$2,246.01
Comcast	\$996.49
ComEd	\$76.35
Conserv FS Inc	\$438.95
Constellation	\$1,554.74
Dahme Mechanical Industries	\$19,395.00
Dan Flanagan	\$3,002.00
Ehmen	\$623.44
Envision Healthcare	\$211.00
Euclid Managers	\$1,679.71
FCS LLC	\$2,000.00
Ferguson Enterprises LLC # 3325	\$409.28
Fidelity Security Life Insurance	\$164.20
Fischer's	\$162.59
Fritz Asphalt Service	\$1,250.00
Frontier	\$189.83
Getz Fire Equipment	\$462.65
GovHR USA LLC	\$5,250.00
Hagemann Horticulture LLC	\$4,600.00
Hawkins Inc	\$1,711.88
Hoo Haven	\$196.80
James Taylor	\$320.00
Jon Wright	\$5,500.00
Keith Nyquist	\$200.00
Linda Pieczynski	\$86.00
Liz Hiemstra	\$312.50
Mark Ambrose	\$200.00
Mark Nehrkorn	\$4,423.89
Martin and Company	\$91.65
NAPA	\$220.74
O'Brien Civil Works Inc	\$64,464.61
Ogle County Brewery	\$10,000.00
Oregon Chamber of Commerce	\$560.00
Pace Analytical Services	\$615.00
Polo Cooperative Association	\$56.40
Polo Cooperative Association	\$5,018.25
Postmaster	\$27.75
Quill	\$88.17
Rock Valley Concrete Cutting LLC	\$845.00
Rogers Ready Mix	\$1,120.50
Scott Wallace	\$196.99
Shaw Media/Sauk Valley Media	\$51.85
Snyders Pharmacy	\$623.12
Something Bleu Bridal Boutique LLC	\$750.00
Steeple Jack	\$1,395.00
Steve Benesh & Sons	\$1,800.00
Taylorbuilt Farms. Inc	\$4,400.00
The Police and Sheriffs Press	\$17.60

Timothy Brechon	\$14.00
Uniform Den	\$76.50
Visa	\$576.87
Visa	\$3,738.43
White Pine Mercantile, LLC	\$395.00
Zoro Tools Inc	\$90.00
	\$225,596.18

Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

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

Business Items

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve a Façade Grant for A.M. Floral – Abby Martin. Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Discussion: Council Member Terry Schuster stated the façade of the building has been deteriorating over the last couple of years. The façade grant amount would be five thousand dollars contingent on proof of payment.

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

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve Resolution 2023-5 Candlelight Walk Carriage Rides. Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve Engineers Final Pay Estimate #3 to Martin & Company Excavating Inc. for Jefferson and Madison Streets in the amount of \$17,931.42. Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said this amount was held back from payment due to the work on the terraces.

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

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve the FY24 Budget. Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: Mayor Ken Williams thanked all departments for the work that goes into this. A scheduled budget report will be given in mid-October. Council Member Terry Schuster said the budget has been in draft form since the beginning of the fiscal year.

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

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve the FY23 Financial Audit. Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: Mayor Ken Williams explained portions of the Audit to the City Council. City Manager Darin DeHaan stated the budget and audit can be found on the city's website.

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

Mayor Ken Williams moved to approve Art Commission Members, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan stated members include Micheal Glenn, Julie Kennelly, Joy Meyer, Cheryl Bunton, Terry Schuster, and Darin DeHaan. He believes the group represents a broad range of people with backgrounds in art education and art application.

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

Mayor Ken Williams moved to approve Planning/Zoning Commission Members, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: Mayor Ken Williams stated Council Member Kurt Wilson will no longer be on the commission. An alternate member will be needed for the commission.

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

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve the use of ARPA Funds for up to \$25,000.00 to be used for the creation of a Sustainability Plan for the City, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan stated the Sustainability Committee was created a couple of years ago. They have discussed creating a guiding light for future growth and development.

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

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve an ARPA Grant of up to \$25,000.00 in matching funds for the Oregon Depot Museum Zephyr Railcar Electric Panel, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: Mayor Ken Williams stated the estimated cost to repair the electrical panel is around \$50,000.00. The funds would be used to re-wire the entire rail car.

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

Proclamations, Commendations, etc.

None

Discussion Items

Pour License and Gaming Machine Expansion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said he has received several requests for gaming machines. He asked for City Council recommendation. Mayor Ken Williams said his approach has always been allowing what

the state allows and for assisting small bars and taverns, he was not for stand-alone gaming parlors. There have been numerous requests for gaming parlors within the city as well as allowing gaming in gas stations and other places. He said each community has the authority to control the number of gaming machines and locations. He also stated he would like to add requirements to the city code. Such as an establishment be required to show at least sixty percent of income comes from a source other than gaming. He said he is not interested in putting gaming machines in locations other than taverns and bars. City Manager Darin DeHaan stated for a location to have video gaming machines a liquor pour license is required. Council Member Tim Krug stated a store or gas station could potentially start a mini bar at their location. Mayor Ken Williams said yes. Revenue created from the gaming machines is split between the state, the city, the gaming machine vendor, and the establishment. These amounts are public information. Council Member Melanie Cozzi asked what the intentions are for the hardware store asking for gaming machines. City Manager Darin DeHaan stated they are looking to strengthen the bottom line of the business. Council Member Kurt Wilson said he does not see the necessity of gaming machines in that type of location. Council Member Melanie Cozzi agreed. City Manager Darin DeHaan said he was asked by the gaming machine vendor and has not been approached by the owner of the hardware store. Mayor Ken Williams said do residents of the community want to walk into these locations and see the gaming machines. If someone would like to make a formal request, they can. The request would be reviewed by the City Council and public comment could be made. Council Member Terry Schuster said the locations he has visited with gaming machines are more of a social or entertainment type establishment. He does not see them in a gas station or a grocery store.

Committee Reports

Planning: None

Economic and Community Development: Mayor Ken Williams said the Ogle County Economic Development Coalition has been formally established and City Manager Darin DeHaan was elected as the Vice President. City Manager Darin DeHaan said this allows for all communities within the county to work together and create a central clearinghouse for projects.

Mayor Ken Williams stated the Enterprise Zone has allocated three thousand more acres to be distributed. The bank currently has approximately five to six hundred acres available.

Finance: None

Sustainability: None

Tree Board: City Manager Darin DeHaan hopes the city will receive Tree USA designation this year.

Department Reports

Sergeant Tad Dominski: Trick or Treat hours will be from 5pm to 8pm on Tuesday October 31st.

City Manager DeHaan: He has been working with ComEd regarding the EV Station and Blink. North 3rd Street should be blacktopped this week, there was a one-day delay due to

rain. He also received a thank you letter from the Rock River Center regarding the City distributing \$7,500 in ARPA funds towards their parking lot repairs.

Council Reports

Council Member Wilson: Stated he has joined the Sustainability Committee.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi: There are three River's Edge Farmers Markets left this season.

Mayor Ken Williams: Volunteers are meeting tomorrow to put together furniture at the Sarah Phelps Plaza.

Executive Session

Mayor Ken Williams said the City Council will be going into Executive Session to discuss issues with lawsuits and property.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve entering Executive Session at 6:23pm. Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Adjourn: 6:41 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk