



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: cityoforegon.org

To: Mayor Ken Williams & Oregon City Council

From: Darin J. DeHaan, City Manager

Re: Bi-monthly Report

DATE: Oct 10, 2023

I am pleased to provide Mayor Williams and the Oregon City Council with the following synopsis of City Business for – **Sep 23, 2023 – Oct 6, 2023**

Submitted by Darin DeHaan - City Manager:

- First and foremost I want to commend City Staff for all of their hard work helping to make Autumn on Parade a successful event in Oregon. From Public Works, City Hall Office Staff and the Police. Everyone is working together to make this a safe and successful event. Thank you to all of the AOP volunteers who dedicate hours of service to bring a fantastic community event to fruition each year. Thank you!
- We held the Sarah Phelps Plaza Grand Opening Saturday September 30th at 11:30am. Thank you to the [Lions Club of Oregon, IL](#), Oregon Together, [Oregon IL Rotary Club](#), Oregon Public Works Department, [Hagemann Horticulture](#), Aegis Construction, [County Line Designs LLC](#), and all of the individuals who helped make this happen. We have a few more things to complete, including the droop chain fence by [Beesing Welding LLC](#) coming soon. The Lions Club Bench was donated in memory of Dave Stenger. The Rotary bench was donated in honor of their 85th anniversary as a club. What a beautiful day to show off this great new space for our community to use!

The estimated project cost for Sarah Phelps Community Plaza is \$81,181. We received \$25,397 in donations and \$7,500 in grants. We budgeted \$60,000 in ARPA funds for this project and will have spent \$48,283 after the chain fence is installed. Next year we will look at two pergolas for shade and a fence to hide the dumpsters in the back. No other City funds have been used at this time.



- I was able to submit the safe routes to schools grant. Thank you for the collaboration between the City, School District and Oregon Park District. We hope we will receive the good news that the project is chosen for funding.
- I continue to work on the Ogle County Economic Development Corporation with the help of Chris Manheim and the Board of Directors. Some great things are being worked on and I look forward to getting our Executive Director in place soon.
- I had some great conversations over the past few months with Council Member Tim Krug and he has shared an interest in creating a bike path system in Oregon. This led to other conversations with other communities. I was able to get a great group of individuals willing to look at the potential of connecting Oregon, Polo, and Mt. Morris all together. Polo has connectivity to Dixon and Oregon is connected to Byron with the wide shoulder of Rt. 2 so making these middle connections would be awesome. Kim Krug will take over bringing these interested parties together and I will help anyway I can.
- We held our first Public Art Commission meeting and reviewed the ARPA mural grants. This group already has great energy and ideas to continue the art legacy of Oregon. I look forward to the new members and helping to facilitate their vision going forward.

- An overview draft copy of the Comprehensive Plan update should be available for review at the October 17th Planning Commission meeting. Any comments would be helpful and I will provide them to NIU to include in the full draft we are expected to receive in early November.
- The University of Illinois Extension office is hosting Mark White, a University of Illinois professor who works in the area of rural economic development and is currently engaged in work on a “Rural Vitality” project. They have put together a question and answer event next week. I look forward to attending this and gaining insight and perspectives from Professor White. Thank you Mike Delaney for putting this opportunity together.
- We are finishing up the bid process for the old Dayton Property demolition.
- I’m working with Liz Vos Marketing on the Fall Newsletter. I hope to get this out to the public very soon.
- I continue to work through some technical issues with the U.S. Solar Project.

City Hall:

- Welcomes Lisa Payne to our city hall staff
- Brush pickup is scheduled for October 30th, 2023

Planning & Zoning:

Next meeting 10/17/2023 at 5:30 p.m. Oregon City Hall Council Chambers

- Public Hearing for Sally Moring Short-Term Rental request

City Council Meeting:

Next meeting 10/24/23 at 5:30 p.m. Oregon City Hall Council Chambers

Economic and Community Development Committee:

Next meeting 11/7/23 at 5:00 p.m. Oregon City Hall Conference Room

Sustainability Committee:

Next meeting 11/13/23 at 9:00 a.m. Oregon City Hall Conference Room - We will be meeting with Reg 1 Planning Staff to start working out details of the plan.

Tree Board:

Next Meeting TBD

Public Art Commission:

Next Meeting TBD

Submitted by Bill Covell - Director of Public Works:

Street Department:

- Tree Trimming
- Brush pick-up
- Asphalt patching
- Training
- Mowing
- Painted flower planters and set in place for Sarah Phelps Plaza
- AOP prep work
- Help with utility pole replacement on Jefferson Street





Water / Sewer Departments:

- Triple the normal julie locates for due to fiber optic installation
- Daily chores and samples
- Pump sludge
- Monthly samples
- Monthly reports
- Mow
- Clean clarifier



Public Works:

- Observed projects on North 3rd Street Project
- Observed North 2nd Street, Franklin Street and Monroe Street projects.
- Observed and helped with the generator project. .
- Observed / helped with EV project.
- AOP prep work including updating AOP map
- Update GIS Maps
- Safety meeting
- Organized CDL training for employees and finalized making Oregon an authorized training facility.
- Began working on capital improvement budgets

Submitted by Deputy Chief Matthew Kalnins:

Police Department:

- From September 12th through September 15th Deputy Chief Kalnins attended the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board “New Chiefs of Police Orientation” conference in East Peoria. During this training Deputy Chief Kalnins learned about officer wellness, managing departments and working with the community. This was also a great opportunity for Deputy Chief Kalnins to network with other Chiefs of Police throughout the state of Illinois.



- September 18th through the 24th the Oregon Police Department worked with the Oregon School District to make sure Homecoming activities were safe and enjoyable for everyone. During the week officers helped with the pep rally, homecoming parade, football game and ended the week with having a great time at the homecoming dance.



- During the month of September Mr. Martens Hawk Huddle has been bringing sweet treats to the Oregon Police Department. We would like to thank them for thinking about us and appreciate the delicious treats.

