

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 5:30 P.M.  
City Hall Council Chambers  
115 N 3<sup>rd</sup> Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 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  
Deputy Chief of Police Matt Kalnins  
City Attorney Paul Chadwick  
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Also Present: Bill Covell, George Howe, and Dawn & Jeff Wiechowski.

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

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

City Manager Darin DeHaan started the pledge of allegiance.

Council Members Cozzi, Krug, Schuster, Wilson, and Mayor Williams answered roll call. A quorum was present.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Presentations**

None.

**Approval of Minutes**

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve the January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, 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 \$66,093.87  
and the current warrants as listed:

AEP Energy	\$5,037.54
Alfano's	\$223.75
Altorfer Inc	\$891.27
Armcor Cartridge Incorporated	\$490.00
Axon Enterprise Inc	\$22,924.60
Bill Covell	\$335.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$17,074.32
Bobcat of Rockford	\$410.20

Bonnell Industries	\$132.12
Bonnell Industries	\$257.18
Bonnell Industries	\$584.60
City of Oregon	\$12,014.18
City of Oregon	\$25,857.53
Comcast	\$246.16
ComEd	\$27.14
ComEd	\$200.49
Constellation	\$1,423.59
Envision Healthcare	\$361.00
Fehr Graham	\$4,390.00
Ferguson Enterprises LLC #3325	\$49.25
Ferguson Enterprises LLC #3325	\$1,525.99
Ferguson Waterworks # 2516	\$2,075.44
Ferguson Waterworks # 2516	\$4,368.49
Fidelity Security Life Insurance	\$148.60
Fischer's	\$2,109.59
Frontier	\$77.37
Frontier	\$117.58
Fyr-Fyter	\$1,226.70
Hach Company	\$2,061.24
Hagemann Horticulture LLC	\$220.00
Helm Civil	\$1,200.04
Helm Civil	\$1,367.96
Hey Tree Service LLC	\$4,400.00
Hometown Auto Repair, LLC	\$1,043.18
Illinois EPA	\$11,677.38
Illinois EPA	\$72,768.30
I water, Inc	\$240.00
Jacob & Klein, LTD	\$553.10
Josiah Flanagan	\$40.00
Julie	\$879.69
Locis	\$175.00
Maison Crawford	\$42.00
Maison Crawford	\$230.00
Manheim Solutions	\$2,592.00
Mark Nehrkorn	\$600.00
MCS	\$135.00
Mel's Custom Graphics	\$759.72
Menards	\$132.12
Menards	\$636.51
Morton Salt	\$6,417.28
NAPA	\$948.05
Nicor	\$821.41
Northern Illinois University	\$360.00
Old National Bank	\$1,925.60
Oregon Republican	\$52.00
Polo Cooperative Association	\$3,051.13
Postmaster	\$8.73
Postmaster	\$8.73

Quill	\$591.66
Region 1 Planning Council	\$3,277.50
Republic Services # 721	\$68.00
Republic Services #721	\$21,067.20
Rockford Tech-Systems Inc	\$221.25
Rush Power Systems	\$5,000.00
Servpro of Clinton	\$1,467.90
Shaw Media/Sauk Valley Media	\$31.75
Snyders	\$479.11
Sundog IT	\$2,591.00
SuperValu	\$31.53
The Economic Development Group	\$6,067.50
Visa	\$104.85
Visa	\$518.15
Visa	\$1,616.61
White Pine Mercantile, LLC	\$395.00
Willetts Hofmann & Associates	\$349.00
Willetts Hofmann & Associates	\$1,406.44
Willetts Hofmann & Associates	\$3,058.94
Willetts Hofmann & Associates	\$13,683.54
	<b>\$281,952.78</b>

Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

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

### **Business Items**

Mayor Ken Williams moved to approve the Appointment of Liz Hiemstra to the Planning and Zoning Commission, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

**Discussion:** City Manager Darin DeHaan stated Rachel Brunner has moved and the committee has been looking for a replacement member. Liz is already involved with other community development projects. He said she would be a great asset.

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

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve Ordinance 2024-002 an Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a TIF District Redevelopment Agreement by and between the City of Oregon and White Pine Mercantile, Robert Miller, and Sheri Donaldson, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

**Discussion:** The owners of White Pine Mercantile reached out to the city with an expansion plan to open the wall between two suites. The grant will be for three thousand dollars. Council Member Melanie Cozzi said they have customers coming from Wisconsin and Chicago suburbs to shop at their location.

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

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve Resolution 2024-1 Agreement #JN224042 between the City of Oregon and the State of Illinois Department of Transportation –



Resurfacing Project on IL 64 from Illinois Street to 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

**Discussion:** Mayor Ken Williams said this is a 1.1-million-dollar project to improve Rt 64. The city would be responsible for about sixty-two thousand dollars. Public Works Director Bill Covell said there are a few city projects to complete before this happens.

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

Mayor Ken Williams moved to approve a Liquor License Request for Chrissy's Corner LLC-17 N. River Road, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

**Discussion:** Council Member Terry Schuster said this liquor license replaces the previous license issued to Trippie's. The owners Dawn & Jeff Wiechowski said the location will be a bar/restaurant.

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

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve a Video Gaming License Request for Chrissy's Corner LLC-17 N. River Road, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

**Discussion:** Mayor Ken Williams said this is not a new license, only replacing the current license that was issued to Trippie's.

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

Mayor Ken Williams moved to approve an Employment Settlement Agreement, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

**Discussion:** Mayor Ken Williams said the city received a complaint from the Illinois Human Rights Commission from a job applicant whose initial offer of employment was rescinded. On advice from legal counsel, a proposed settlement in the amount of ten-thousand dollars in consideration of the waiver of all claims the complainant may have against the city is the best option. This will limit the liability for the city.

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

#### **Proclamations, Commendations, etc.**

None.

#### **Discussion Items**

**Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Ogle County Brewery LLC and Toasty Noodles LLC-108 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street:** City Manager Darin DeHaan said OCB has requested a liquor and gaming license at the old Sparklefox location. They plan to open an Asian inspired restaurant called Toasty Noodles. City Attorney Paul Chadwick has drafted an agreement so there is no confusion. The liquor license would be limited to Asian oriented liquor. The agreement also includes language prohibiting the use of advertising for gaming or liquor and contains enforcement regulations.

### **Committee Reports**

**Planning:** They will be discussing, and potentially approving, the Comprehensive Plan at their next meeting.

**Finance:** The Service Line Warranty program is working, there are about one hundred and twenty-nine active customers and twenty-four service repairs have been completed. A report submitted to the city shows fifty-nine thousand dollars in total savings with a customer satisfaction rating of 4.8 out of 5.

**Sustainability:** Next meeting will be in March.

**Tree Board:** A tree grant was submitted today and would provide about three thousand dollars towards planting new trees in the community. An Arbor Day community tree planting event is being planned for April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Public Art Commission:** The Oregon Park District has submitted a request for a mural grant. The Art Commission will be meeting next week to discuss the request.

### **Department Reports**

**Public Works Director Bill Covell:** The generators are up and running. The blowers for the wastewater treatment plant have been shipped and they hope to have the repairs made soon.

**City Manager Darin DeHaan:** Two students from NIU will be conducting a housing study for the city as part of a capstone project.

### **Council Reports**

**Mayor Ken Williams:** Thanked all who participated in the city sponsored Shop Hop Event. He also attended a meeting with surrounding community leaders. They discussed and compared upcoming projects affecting each community. They also discussed the possibility of an intergovernmental agreement which would provide multi-community collaboration, like mutual aid.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to enter executive session to discuss personnel at 5:59 pm, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

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

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

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

Adjourn: 6:26 P.M.

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Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk