

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday May 14th, 2024, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday May 14th, 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
City Attorney Paul Chadwick
Deputy Chief of Police Matt Kalnins
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Also Present: Bill Covell.

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

Council Member Melanie Cozzi started the pledge of allegiance.

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

Proclamations, Commendations, Etc.

None.

Presentation

None.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve the April 23rd, 2024, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$59,063.08 and the current warrants as listed:

Advanced Automation & Controls	\$1,320.00
Anthem Excavation & Demolition, Inc	\$96,000.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$16,673.50
Butitta Bros Automotive - Oregon	\$1,068.09
Cintas	\$111.24
City of Oregon	\$12,962.00

Coliseum Museum Art, Antiques & Americana	\$6,848.40
Comcast	\$248.57
Comcast	\$797.12
Conserv FS	\$434.90
Constellation	\$1,236.36
Ecolab	\$157.04
Ehmen	\$390.75
eLineup LLC	\$600.00
Envision Healthcare	\$193.00
Euclid Managers	\$1,632.02
Fidelity Security Life Insurance	\$159.36
Fischer's	\$246.09
Frontier	\$90.74
Frontier	\$117.58
Galls LLC	\$135.99
Hach Company	\$1,998.57
Hometown Auto Repair, LLC	\$96.92
Illinois EPA	\$13,033.06
James Taylor	\$320.00
Jordan Plock	\$69.98
Kunes Country Auto Group	\$86.86
Liz Hiemstra	\$571.43
Liz Hiemstra	\$571.43
Martin and Company	\$24,960.00
MCS	\$145.00
Maxon's	\$2,535.72
Menards	\$55.70
MGT of America Consulting	\$1,400.00
NAPA	\$490.27
Nicor	\$274.23
Old National Bank	\$1,925.60
Oregon Park District	\$1,000.00
Oregon SuperValu	\$19.99
Quill	\$201.12
Quill	\$310.49
Region 1 Planning Council	\$2,018.75
Region 1 Planning Council	\$2,500.00
Republic Services #721	\$68.00
Republic Services #721	\$20,191.03
Rush Power Systems	\$2,086.92
Scott Wallace	\$68.26
Snyders	\$205.01
Standard Equipment Co	\$3,210.06
Subway	\$169.80
Sundog IT	\$3,923.89
The Police and Sheriffs Press	\$141.10
Visa	\$653.65
Water Solutions Unlimited	\$2,520.00
Willett Hofmann & Assoc	\$474.00
Wipfli	\$1,000.00

Zoro Tools, Inc

\$289.94

\$231,009.53

Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

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

Business Items

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve to Award the Bid of \$107,174.00 to O'Brien Civil Works, Inc. for the Downtown Streetscape Project – along Washington Street between 4th Street and 5th Street, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said this is the last section to have the streetscape done. The project includes curb and gutter, sidewalk, and pavement removal and replacement. The drive at the Sarah Phelps Plaza will be removed, creating two more parking spaces on Washington Street. The project is estimated to take two weeks to complete. Business owners will be notified before the project begins.

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

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve Resolution 2024-04 Protecting the 1% Grocery Tax, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Discussion: Council Member Terry Schuster said this resolution shows the city's position on the 1% grocery tax. Mayor Ken Williams stated the potential loss for the city would be around forty-two to forty-three thousand dollars per year. He said he understands the rationale for the state taking away the tax, however the state gets the credit for taking away the tax. City Manager Darin DeHaan said there would be an option to pass a referendum to put a local 1% tax back on groceries. The revenue would still be collected at the state level, the state would take a fee for the collection, and then send the local municipality the remainder of the collected tax. Council Member Terry Schuster asked what a typical grocery bill for a family of four is and what the impact would be on these households. Mayor Ken Williams said the resolution does not mean the city intends on putting a local 1% tax back in. City Manager Darin DeHaan said as the budget is prepared, the impact will be looked at and where the budget can be cut accordingly. The resolution is just to show the City Council's support in keeping the 1% tax in the state budget. Council Member Terry Schuster said the loss of forty-three thousand dollars is substantial for the city budget.

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

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve Ordinance 2024-005 Authorizing the City of Oregon to Join the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network IPWMAN, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said coming from a law enforcement background, he began looking into mutual aid agreements to respond to major events after 911. He felt something similar to law enforcement mutual aid could be done for public works. The IPWMAN organization manages the entire mutual aid process. Mayor Williams has spoken to the Mayors of surrounding communities such as Byron, Mt. Morris, Polo, and Stillman Valley. Those communities are also looking at joining this

organization. Each community will provide a list of resources that could be used for mutual aid. For the first five days, the city would cover the cost of the mutual aid. If the emergency becomes a state level emergency, costs for those services could be reimbursed by IEMA or FEMA. This allows for the communities to share resources and help our neighbors.

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

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve Ordinance 2024-004 Authorizing the City of Oregon to Purchase Real Estate – Abandoned BNSF Railway – 400 Blk South 1st Street, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan stated the property being purchased from the railroad runs through the street department lot. Bill Covell stated the abandoned railroad tracks are still there. If approved, the ordinance will be published in the paper and the process will begin to allow for petitions and public comments to be made.

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

Discussion Items

Capital Improvement Plan – City Manager Darin DeHaan asked the City Council to review the list of projects to be included in the Capital Improvement Plan. He said the City received a grant through Blackhawk Regional Council that paid for the ArcGIS software that is being used to create the plan. He asked them to think about projects that need to be added to the plan, such as adding sidewalks on Pines Road and the drainage issues on the east side of Oregon. The plan helps the city begin to prepare for future costs. Mayor Ken Williams said projects that are essential to city services are the highest priority.

Funding Level for Continuation of Mural Grant Program – City Manager Darin DeHaan said he currently knows of two mural requests. Previously, ARPA funds were used to create funding for murals. He asked the City Council if they would like to continue the program. Mayor Ken Williams stated he believes the murals are worthwhile in the community and he would like to see the program continue.

Committee Reports

Finance: Work continues on the fiscal year budget.

Sustainability: The entire Sustainability Plan has been created. Public engagement events are being scheduled. There will be an informational booth at the River's Edge Farmer' Market on June 13th and 20th and a public input meeting is coming up.

Tree Board: The tree signs have been ordered and the Arbor Day event is being planned. Tree diapers have been ordered to help with watering newly planted trees.

Other: Contracts for the Farmer's Market Manager, Liz Hiemstra and On-Site Market Coordinator Taryn Bradley, have been signed.

Department Reports

Deputy Chief of Police: Deputy Chief Kalnins thanked City Manager Darin DeHaan for registering the department for the Bike and Roll to school event. He said the students really enjoyed the event. Approximately twenty to twenty-five students participated.

Deputy Chief Kalnins also thanked surrounding police departments for helping city police officers. He also thanked the city police officers for doing a great job.

Public Works: Bill Covell said the department is attending training for flagging certification. They are also working at the Sarah Phelps Plaza and preparing to install new poles and flags downtown for Memorial Day.

City Manager Darin DeHaan: City Manager Darin DeHaan thanked the police department for their service and Deputy Chief Kalnins for his leadership.

Council Reports

Council Member Terry Schuster: He is going to be meeting with Council Member Melanie Cozzi to discuss the placement of additional bicycle racks. City Manager Darin DeHaan said he spoke with Erin Folk at the Oregon Park District, and she would like to participate and help with the project.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi: She thanked the Oregon Elementary School for sharing the Link Match flyer with families in the school district.

Mayor Ken Williams: Thanked everyone for putting their fingerprint on the city and he appreciates their perspective.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to go into Executive Session to discuss employment of specific employees at 6:11 pm, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

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: 6:14 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk