

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday June 25th, 2024, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday June 25th, 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 Kurt Wilson
Council Member Tim Krug
Council Member Terry Schuster
City Manager Darin DeHaan
City Attorney Paul Chadwick
Deputy Chief of Police Matt Kalnins
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton
Absent: Council Member Melanie Cozzi
Also Present: Earleen Hinton and George Howe.
Present via Zoom: Lynn Baylor-Zies, Bill Covell, and Rachel Jones.

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

Council Member Terry Schuster started the pledge of allegiance.

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

Presentation

None.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve the June 11th, 2024, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$60,012.91 and the current warrants as listed:

Alex Sitze	\$200.00
Anne's Landscape Supply	\$239.92
Black Diamond Plumbing & Mechanical Inc	\$1,654.00
BNSF Railway	\$2,500.00
BNSF Railway	\$5,000.00
Caspers Home Inspection, LLC	\$1,550.00
Chow Haul Smokehouse	\$165.00
Cintas	\$111.24
City of Oregon	\$4.00

City of Oregon	\$5,000.00
City of Oregon	\$12,595.13
Comcast	\$248.57
Comcast	\$846.19
Comcast	\$851.22
ComEd	\$715.02
Constellation	\$3,491.05
Darin DeHaan	\$91.00
Department of the Treasury	\$64.40
Dixon Paint Company	\$1,620.38
Ehmen Industries Inc	\$506.44
Euclid Managers	\$1,632.02
Fehr Graham	\$32,206.00
Freeport Industrial Roofing	\$4,137.50
Hagemann Horticulture LLC	\$25,612.63
Helm Civil	\$201.00
Illinois City /County Management Assoc	\$271.50
Illinois Rural Water Assoc	\$639.72
Johnson Oil	\$3,785.24
Ken Williams	\$58.07
Kurtis Wilson	\$25.00
Lexipol LLC	\$379.55
Liz Hiemstra	\$571.43
Martin & Company Excavating	\$579.04
Melanie Cozzi	\$25.00
Menards	\$457.91
Mike McHale	\$200.00
Mobile Electronics	\$23,784.88
No Stone Unturned Crystals & More LLC	\$225.00
Postmaster	\$742.00
Quill	\$141.94
Ray O'Herron Co	\$11.99
Ray O'Herron Co	\$67.79
Republic Services #721	\$20,520.00
Rock River Ready Mix, Inc	\$90.65
Rock Valley Concrete Cutting LLC	\$625.00
Shaw Media/Sauk Valley Media	\$55.20
Stillman BancCorp	\$2,036.00
Sun Life Financial	\$401.08
Taryn Bradley	\$250.00
Verizon	\$677.69
Village of Progress	\$1,280.00
Visa	\$35.50
Vos Marketing & Events	\$200.00
Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson, P.C.	\$418.00
Zoro Tools, Inc	\$807.69
	\$160,605.58

Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Discussion: Council Member Tim Krug asked about the BNSF payments that were made. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the payments were for the purchase of the Railroad Property at 402 S 1st Street that runs through the Street Department property. Five thousand dollars for the purchase of the property and two thousand five hundred dollars for administrative fees.

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

Business Items

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve recommendation from the Planning Commission for a Variance requested by the City of Oregon for an LED Lighted Sign at the Sarah Phelps Plaza, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan stated the Planning Commission unanimously approved the request. Mayor Ken Williams said due to the city code, no illuminated signs can be in the historic downtown area, therefore a variance is required. Council Member Tim Krug said the updated sign will be a benefit to the public. Council Member Terry Schuster stated the new sign will be much easier to use and the light can be adjusted.

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

Proclamations, Commendations, Etc.

None.

Discussion Items

First Responder Resiliency Program: City Manager Darin DeHaan said he has wanted to create this program for over a year. With recent events, it was pushed to the forefront again. He met with the City Manager of Dixon, and they discussed Dixon's program and creating a culture for mental health awareness and support. This program will support first responders and their families throughout their careers. Council Member Terry Schuster said he is glad this resource will be available. Deputy Chief of Police Matt Kalnins said early in his career, resources were unavailable. He said a committee would be created to organize resources to be available to first responders. Mayor Ken Williams said this will be brought to the City Council for approval at the next meeting.

Job Descriptions: Chief of Police, Deputy Chief of Police, Police Lieutenant, Police Sergeant, and Police Officer: City Manager Darin DeHaan said the city HR Attorney recommended updating the current job descriptions. The job descriptions were created by GovHR, and a few adjustments were made. Council Member Terry Schuster said these will bring us up to date and help with performance reviews. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the updated descriptions spell out the chain of command and create a measure of standards for reviews.

Committee Reports

Planning Commission: Variance for Sarah Phelps Plaza LED sign approved.

Economic and Community Development: Two potential Lease Subsidy grants in the que for new businesses.

Finance: Budget is almost done. Overview of the proposed budget and appropriations in July.

Sustainability: Region One Planning is continuing to work on public education. No meeting was held.

Tree Board: Public Works Director Bill Covell continues to collaborate with citizens for a tree planting event. Council Member Terry Schuster stated public education on the program seems to be an issue. Mayor Ken Williams would like to see educational information for residents in the next city newsletter for the Tree Board and the Sustainability Committee.

Public Art Commission: There are three potential murals in the que.

Department Reports

Public Works Director Bill Covell: Public Works Department is fully staffed again. He welcomed Andy and Josh to the team.

Council Reports

Mayor Ken Williams: City Hall will be closed for the 4th of July holiday on Thursday. He also said brush pickup was held on June 24th. He reminded everyone the schedules for brush pickup can be found on the city website.

Mayor Ken Williams stated the City Council will be entering Executive Session to discuss the compensation of a specific employee. Action will be taken after.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to enter Executive Session at 5:53 pm, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Executive Session

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve the City Manager to execute an Employee Separation Agreement for Joseph Brooks, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Council Member Tim Krug moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

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

Adjourn: 6:02 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk