

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday October 8th, 2024, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday October 8th, 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
Chief of Police Matt Kalnins
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Also Present: George Howe, Mike Mudge, and Chad Ryan.

Present via Zoom: Bill Covell and Earleen Hinton.

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

Council Member Terry Schuster started the pledge of allegiance.

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

Presentation

None.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve the September 24th, 2024, minutes.
Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

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 \$68,922.02 and the current warrants as listed:

Andy Silva	\$240.00
Biller Press	\$344.85
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$19,081.29
Bobcat of Dixon	\$742.08
Butitta Bros. Automotive - Oregon	\$56.62
Cintas	\$147.18
Comcast	\$248.89
Conserv FS Inc.	\$428.94
Darin DeHaan	\$136.54

Ehmen	\$145.00
Envision Healthcare	\$204.00
Fehr Graham	\$74,200.00
Ferguson Enterprises dba Pollardwater	\$188.48
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$16,461.84
Fidelity Security Life Insurance	\$175.18
Fischer's	\$961.70
Frontier	\$208.91
Golden Rule Signs	\$21,952.43
Hackbarth Truck & Equipment	\$3,767.44
Hagemann Horticulture LLC	\$8,200.00
Hector's Cocina	\$275.00
Helm Civil	\$732.75
James Taylor	\$370.00
Josh Pickering	\$240.00
Ken Williams	\$25.00
Ken Williams	\$26.71
Martin and Company Excavating	\$212.84
MCS	\$145.00
Melanie Cozzi	\$25.00
Menards	\$107.95
Ogle County Clerk & Recorder	\$60.00
Oregon Rotary Club	\$115.00
Oregon SuperValu	\$71.18
Polo Cooperative Association	\$1,851.92
Postmaster	\$97.53
Region 1 Planning Council	\$2,467.09
Republic Services #721	\$68.00
Sauk Valley Community College	\$6,671.04
Shaw Media/ Sauk Valley Media	\$55.20
Standard Equipment Co	\$292.21
Sterling Fence	\$4,245.38
Steve Benesh & Sons	\$1,480.28
Steven Varble Productions	\$1,147.50
Stratus Network Inc	\$89.26
Sun Life Financial	\$16.17
SundogIT	\$2,473.00
Taylor Buckwalter	\$160.00
The Police & Sheriffs Press	\$17.60
Uline	\$167.53
Uniform Den East, Inc	\$166.40
Visa	\$1,538.31
Visa	\$2,546.48
	\$175,848.70

Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

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

Business Items

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve the Sustainability Plan, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: Council Member Melanie Cozzi stated there were no changes to the plan since last presented to the council. Mayor Ken Williams said the plan is outstanding. City Manager Darin DeHaan stated the Sustainability Committee will begin to look at items on the plan that can be accomplished relatively easy at their next meeting.

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

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve Resolution 2024-8 Candlelight Walk Carriage Rides, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said the resolution is similar to last years. Council Member Tim Krug asked if the Pedal Bus would be running during Candlelight Walk. City Manager Darin DeHaan said he does not think the pedal bus will be operating during Candlelight Walk.

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

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve the Solar Credit Contract and Authorized the City Manager to execute documents, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: Mike Mudge spoke to the City Council regarding the solar credit program. He stated US Solar has enough capacity to handle all the cities accounts. He estimated the saving to the city to be about seven thousand five hundred dollars. Mayor Ken Williams asked if there are different rates for nighttime versus daytime. He said the city receives a cheaper rate from ComEd to run the wells at night. Mike Mudge said it does not matter when, the program just provides a credit. City Attorney Paul Chadwick has reviewed the contract.

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

Proclamations, Commendations, Etc.

Mayor Ken Williams proclaimed April 25th, 2025 as Arbor Day in the City of Oregon.

Mayor Ken Williams proclaimed the City of Oregon officially recognizes the VFW on their 125th Anniversary.

Discussion Items

Brush Pickup Guidelines: City Manager Darin DeHaan said during the last brush pickup, several residents put out large amounts of brush and one resident removed an entire tree. He said the city does not have the capacity to remove large trees. Mayor Ken Williams said what happens after a storm. He also mentioned when the city closed the city dump site to residents, it was discussed that the city would pickup the brush generated by residents. He said now it feels like we are taking that away too. He wants the City Council to think about that as well. Public Works Director Bill Covell said brush pickup takes about a day and a half to complete. He said the city dump is currently full and can not be burned until winter. The public works department also works with the

Park District and the County to take brush from those areas. He said they are very flexible with what is picked up, there were just a few residents who abused the program. Council Member Melanie Cozzi asked if it would be worthwhile for the city to invest in a chipper. Public Works Director Bill Covell said it would take two to three people a couple of days to run a chipper. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the city could charge a service fee to pick up larger loads of brush if the public works department is capable. Council Member Melanie Cozzi asked if the Sustainability Committee could look at this topic.

Committee Reports

Planning: A public hearing for a variance request submitted for a sign at Conover Square Mall will be held at the next meeting.

Economic and Community Development: Workshop being held on October 23rd.

Tree Board: Working on educational programs for tree incentives.

Public Art Commission: A resident is interested in updating the banners in the downtown.

Department Reports

Police Chief Matt Kalnins: Thanked the Police department for keeping everyone safe during AOP. He also thanked the Public Works department.

Public Works Director Bill Covell: Thanked the Public Works department and the Police department, great collaboration over the weekend.

City Attorney Paul Chadwick: Expressed his amazement at how many people were in town for AOP.

City Manager Darin DeHaan: A meeting has been set-up with Fehr Graham to discuss funding for the Headworks project. He also commended city staff and the AOP committee, it was a great cohesive effort. He also said collaboration with the county was great as well, they provide a lot of resources for AOP.

Council Reports

Council Member Kurt Wilson: The City and Police department did an excellent job this weekend.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi: AOP was great. She helped with sanitation. They had ten student volunteers.

Council Member Tim Krug: Great AOP weekend.

Mayor Ken Williams: Thanked City Manager Darin DeHaan for the nice post made during AOP. The Association for Equipment Manufacturers brought a tour bus and attended open houses at Woods Equipment and E.D. Etnyre. He said state legislators attended the open houses as well. E.D. Etnyre employees about four hundred people, one thousand nationally. He thanked E.D. Etnyre for their generosity towards the community.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

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

Adjourn: 6:09 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk