



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 8, 2024

I am pleased to provide Mayor Williams and the Oregon City Council with the following synopsis of City Business for – **Sep 7, 2024 – Oct 4, 2024**

Submitted by Darin DeHaan - City Manager:

- I've started working on our 2025 Tree City USA application. Each year we have to: Maintain a Tree Board, Spend at Least \$2 per capita on urban forestry, Celebrate Arbor Day, and have a community tree ordinance in place.
- It was an honor to discuss all the great work ILCMA's Senior Advisors do on ILCMA's podcast. Especially thankful for John Phillip's guidance as we changed the form of government and I moved into the City Manager role in Oregon, IL. You can check it out on Youtube or on ILCMA's website.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hh9mZbMdx_s

- Our executive team has been diligently working to find solutions to the housing crisis in Oregon. We were able to meet with a large home builder who is interested in building in Oregon. We provided a great packet of information as well as a tour of potential home sites in Oregon. We continue to strategize on the next best steps for our community.
- The bid for Sarah Phelps Community Plaza LED messaging sign was approved by City Council. Jordan and I had our first meeting with the development team. We have some minor electrical work to do and Golden Rule Sign will complete a site survey. They advised that the sign will be in production for approximately 6-8 weeks.
- Bill, Scott, and I had an update meeting with Fehr Graham on the headworks project for the sewer plant. The design phase is at 30% and is coming along very well. We made the decisions to allow Fehr Graham to get to 90% design before we meet again. Great job by Bill and Scott on providing information for the engineers throughout this process.
- I attended the Senator Andrew Chesney Community Connection hosted by Mayor Ken Williams and held at Nash recreation center. We appreciate Sen. Chesney took the time to visit Oregon and discuss what's happening in Springfield.
- I continue my role as Vice-President of the Ogle County Economic Development Corporation. We welcomed Sterling Federal Bank as a new member. It appears that Fehr Graham has also committed to join the Corporation. Our Exec Dir. Charlene Coulombe has been working diligently to grow the corporation as well as working on many new projects throughout Ogle County. We are going to shift focus in Oregon to start looking for new commercial interest along Rt. 64 on the east side of Oregon. There are some great available spaces along that corridor.
- Our executive team met with Ted Hvarre to discuss strategies for Trestle Ridge. Ted is working to launch a new marketing campaign for this 55+ Townhome development. <https://hvarre.com/hvarre-communities/trestle-ridge/> We are hopeful that as the interest rates begin to lower we will see homes purchased in that development.
- I took a few days off this month to teach at the Sauk Valley Community College Police Academy. I am very impressed with the recruit class and I am always thankful that there is a new generation of individuals willing to serve their communities as police officers. Our newest officer Taylor Buckwalter has entered week 5

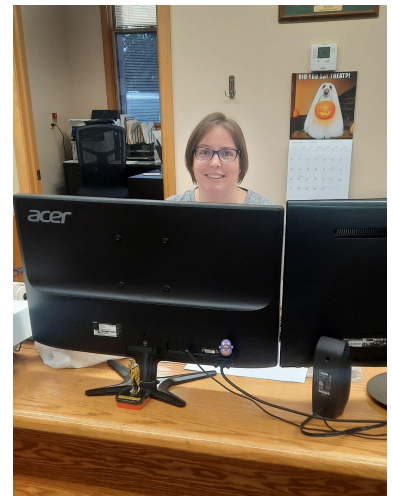


of 16. About 1/3 the way through the academy.

- I had a few follow-ups on some citizen complaints which staff were able to resolve.
- Chief Kalnins and I met with the AOP Committee and their volunteers to discuss traffic control, and volunteer safety. We had a great discussion with this group.
- I joined Bill and Jordan on a virtual meeting with Frontier to discuss the Fiber project and address areas that needed fixed throughout the project area.
- I attended a site visit with ENGIE and the Oregon Library Board to discuss potential use of space at the Oregon Coliseum.
- **AOP weekend is upon us. I want to thank all of our staff, Oregon Fire Protection District and the Ogle County Sheriff's Department for all their hard work preparing for the weekend as well as the hours spent during the weekend on traffic control and other services that we provide. Thank you to the AOP committee and all of the AOP volunteers for the hours of work they put in to provide a safe and fun festival weekend.**

City Hall - Cheryl Hilton - City Clerk:

- Congratulations to Lisa Payne on her 1st Anniversary with the City of Oregon. Thank you for all you do Lisa!
- The next brush pickup is scheduled for October 28th.
- Recycling statistics for the month of August 2024: 46,520 lbs.
- Petition Packets for the upcoming Consolidated Election are available for pickup at City Hall.
- Direct Debit is now an option to pay your water/sewer/garbage bill. Please stop by or contact City Hall. Email billing is also available.



MEETING INFORMATION

Economic and Community Development Committee:

We are holding a work session on Oct 23rd to formulate a vision for the future of Oregon's economic development goals.

Next meeting: **Nov 5, 2024** at 5:00 p.m. City Hall Conference Room

Planning & Zoning:

Next meeting **Oct 15, 2024** at 5:30pm Oregon City Hall Council Chambers.

- Public Hearing for a Sign Variance Request - 201 N 3rd Street.

Tree Board:

Next meeting Oct 15, 2024 at 4:30pm at Oregon City Hall Conference Room

City Council Meeting:

Next meeting Oct 22, 2024 at 5:30pm Oregon City Hall Council Chambers

Sustainability Committee:

Next meeting: Nov 18, 2024 at 9am Oregon City Hall Conference Room

Public Art Commission:

Next Meeting TBD

PUBLIC WORKS:

Director of Public Works Submitted by Bill Covell:

- Monthly Fuel Reports
- Approve driveway, sewer, and tree permits
- Setup and attended meeting with Frontier Communications
 - Items discussed were low lines, service installs, and repair work
 - Followed with Frontier on Low Lines on parade router
- Contact ComEd in regards to low electrical line
- Contact Comcast in regards to low service line
- Help with storm damage and scheduled additional storm work
- Trestle Ridge
 - Communicate about required sewer testing
- Daily Scheduling
- AOP
 - Prep
 - Make no parking signs
 - Go over logistics with crew
 - Scheduling
- Assist with purchase of landscaping rake
 - This will assist with providing a clean prepped area for seed

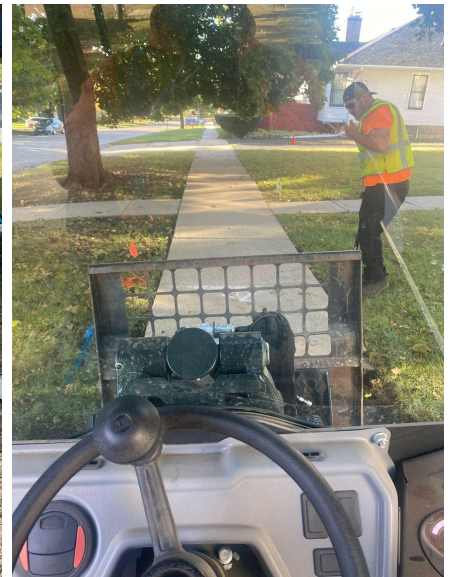


- Headworks Project
 - Meeting with Fehr Graham
 - Reviewed 30% plans submitted by Fehr Graham
- Streetscape Project
 - Final quantity review
- Lead Service Inventory
 - Updated list for IEPA
- MFT
 - Meeting with Fehr Graham
 - Final quantity review.
- Rt 64 IDOT Paving
 - Minor observation
- Prepared bills for payment
- Helped with SCADA upgrades–new Verizon accounts
- Start preliminary work on South 10th Street
- Call in Julies for sidewalk removals and sign installation



Street Department Submitted by Jordan Plock:

- Crew continued mowing for the 2024 season
- Crew continued street sweeping in heavy areas.
- Street Department Foreman continued with his continuing education classes
- Crew did cleanup for storm debris after the thunderstorm
- Crew is continuing with stump removal and restoration of the terrace.
- Crew is working on trimming low hanging branches and brush throughout the city.
- Crew completed the monthly brush pickup.
- Crew replaced 100ft of dilapidated sidewalk
- Crew patched two areas of town after sinkhole repairs
- Crew prepped barricades and parking signs for the upcoming AOP festival
- Street foreman attended AOP briefing meetings for upcoming festival
- Crew worked on restoration of a terrace on S 10th st
- Crew did a cleanup of the downtown and festival area



Sewer Department Submitted by Scott Wallace:

- Daily chores
- Full testing (process control/EPA Monitoring)

- Half testing (process control)
- Pumped Sludge
- Cleaned Rotomat daily- Multiple times a day due to rain
- Daily netting of Tanks
- Daily reporting of National weather service recordings
- Lift Station usage recording
- Assisted Water department when needed
- Cleaned clarifiers (weirs, and channels)
- Generator/ Well checks
- Worked with various customers on water and sewer issues(leaks, sewer backups)
- Monthly reports to EPA
- Chemical Delivery
- Training of new employee
- Worked on Management classes
- Cleaned drying beds of branches and debris.
- Hauled sludge with Wastewater management
- Bi annual sludge sampling with 503 regulations
- Excepted haulings from Constellation
- Scheduled blower maintenance

Water Department Submitted by Jeff Pennington:

- Daily water chores
- Repaired hydrant on North 3rd St.
- Daily water testing
- Repair and Replacement of Chemical feed pump issues as needed
- Chemical Delivery
- Julie Locates
- Completed Monthly paperwork for EPA compliance
- Worked on yard Maintenance/Trimming/Cleaning up of the grounds
- Hauled spoils from Drying bed from hydro excavation and cleaning of Sewers
- Assisted Sewer department when needed
- Water shutoffs
- Water turn-ons
- Final reads
- Worked with various customers on water and sewer issues (leaks, sewer backups)
- Generator/ Well checks
- Continued working on meter replacement program
- Worked on Management classes

- Andy started certification Training through Black hawk program
- Took Bac-t samples on October 1st
- Took Quarterly Radium sample for Well#3 on October 1st.
- Read Monthly Meter readings October 1st.
- Met with Ogle County in regards to Fire Hydrant and service line.
- Prepared for Autumn on Parade

Submitted by Chief Matthew Kalnins: Police Department:

Trick or Treat hours for Oregon will be October 31st from 5PM-8PM



1. **Practice costume safety.**
Make sure all costumes, wigs, and accessories are fire-resistant, as your kids could encounter anything from jack-o-lantern candle flames to a neighbor's bonfire while trick-or-treating. An ill-fitting or uncomfortable costume can also make or break your child's Halloween. Try before you buy, and ensure that the costume doesn't pose a tripping hazard.
2. **Choose makeup wisely.**
Many kids have sensitive skin. Choose nontoxic cosmetic products and test makeup on a small area first to see if any irritation occurs. At the end of the night, follow the product's instructions to fully remove all makeup.
3. **Rethink the mask.**
Masks can obscure kids' vision, making it difficult for them to see traffic or tripping hazards. Instead, plan a mask-free costume—the options are endless!

4. Prepare for the scare.

Especially for young children, Halloween sights and sounds can be intense. It may help to have a discussion in advance about the difference between reality and “make believe.” Reassure kids that it’s OK to feel nervous. If they aren’t ready for the haunted house this year, maybe they can try next year.

5. Give kids a refresher on traffic safety.

In the excitement of the holiday, even older kids may forget the traffic-safety rules they follow every day. Sadly, the consequences can be deadly—children have a greater chance of being fatally injured by a car on Halloween than on any other day. So, it’s extra important to remind kids how to cross the street safely.

6. Increase your child’s visibility.

Halloween costumes often feature dark colors, making kids harder to see at night. Choose a lighter-colored costume if possible, and pass out glow sticks or use reflective tape to ensure kids are visible to motorists.

7. Encourage kids to stay together.

Even if you will be accompanying your children, remind them to stick with your group at all times. For older kids who will be trick-or-treating without your supervision, the buddy system is essential. Make sure their phones are charged in case they become separated from their friends.

8. Have kids stick to familiar, well-lit areas.

If you won’t be accompanying your older kids on Halloween night, discuss their route in advance and remind them to stay in your neighborhood. Reiterate that they should never enter a stranger’s house or accept a ride from someone they don’t know.

9. Check all treats.

While stories of Halloween candy tampering are mostly urban legends, it never hurts to be safe. Inspect your child’s candy before they indulge and make sure to remove any treats that aren’t age-appropriate—such as gum or jawbreakers your toddler could choke on.

10. Be mindful of allergies.

Emergency room visits due to peanut and tree nut allergies surge on Halloween. If your child has an allergy that keeps them from eating many kinds of candy, consider stocking up on allergy-friendly treats and have your child swap out their haul at the end of the night.