



*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 22, 2024**

I am pleased to provide Mayor Williams and the Oregon City Council with the following synopsis of City Business for – **Oct 5, 2024 – Oct 18, 2024**

**Submitted by Darin DeHaan - City Manager:**

- October 14th was my 28th work anniversary with the City of Oregon. It gave me pause to reflect on all of the amazing accomplishments the City of Oregon has had during my near 3 decades with the City. I truly feel Oregon is a special place with great amenities. We always have more work to do to solidify our future for the next generations to come but I know we have great vision and energy to get us there. I want to give a huge thank you to everyone who gets involved in making us Uniquely Oregon!
- I've submitted our application to re-new our Tree City USA designation through the Arbor Day Foundation. Our next goal is to meet the standards to apply for a **Growth Award** next year. I've discussed this goal with our Tree Board and look forward to making it happen.
  - Step one is to qualify as a Tree City USA community for two consecutive years.
  - Earn 10 points in the following areas.
    - Education and Public Relations
    - Partnerships
    - Planning and Management
    - Tree Planting and Maintenance
- As part of our area economic development work I continue to work with a group of professionals looking to re-vitalize the Mt. Morris Clinic. We know there is a need for access to health care and mental health facilities. We are working diligently to find a way to utilize this great space for our communities.
- Just a heads up we have an independent film company in town. They will be filming near Oregon City Hall so parking will be a little tight for the week of 22nd. The 15 minute spaces in front of City Hall will be available for citizens to have access to



City Hall services. We are always excited to see film crews in Oregon utilizing the fantastic backdrop of our community in their films.

- Our executive group continues to work on strategies related to the Taft Campus closing. Mayor Williams has taken a lead role in gathering information and I continue to coordinate with interested and concerned parties.
- I continue to work with Chief Kalnins on strategies to get our police department staffing back to full. I can't thank the team enough for their willingness to fill in where needed. I know that department has had some major changes over the past few years but I'm confident we can stabilize staffing soon.
- I was asked to join the Ogle County Soil and Water Conservation District with the title of Associate Director. As an Associate Director the District Board can and has asked me to be their representative on the board of directors for the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council. Being a representative on this council, I will be able to share information, ideas and opportunities between the council, the district and other organizations I am a part of. I attended their first meeting this month and I can already see how the continuity will work. I see a lot of information being shared with our Tree Board as well as our Sustainability Committee and back to the Conservation District. I was very impressed with all of the great work that Ogle County Soil and Water Conservation District does!
- As fall is in full effect I wanted to say thank you to Tyler Hagemann and Merlin's Greenhouse & Flowers and the Oregon Park District for all of the work they do to make our downtown so beautiful. I get calls from community leaders all around Northern Illinois asking how we do what we do. I'm always proud to explain the team effort that goes into this every year!



- We are excited to welcome Fehr Graham to the Ogle County Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors. I have compiled a list of four properties of interest for

possible future development in and around Oregon for our Executive Director Charlene Coulombe to work on.

- I'm working with our Dir of Public works Bill Covell to establish a list of potential Capital Improvement projects for next fiscal year. Our plan is to make a presentation to the City Council in January for their review.
- Willett Hoffmann & Associates continue to work on our Safe Routes to School project. In checking with Corey Buck he advised the following:
  - We left a voicemail with IDOT today to confirm that the QBS process is unwarranted due to our pre-existing relationship with the City.
  - We will be out to perform the topographic survey of the alignment soon.
  - You will be seeing a Resolution authorizing MFT to be used for engineering in the next week for council approval.
  - And we will be submitting the ESR (Environmental Survey Request) very soon too. That process has the longest lead time within IDOT.
  - While the ESR is being processed with IDOT we will be working on preliminary design and PDR (Project Development Report) preparation.

#### **City Hall - Cheryl Hilton - City Clerk:**

- Brush pickup is scheduled for October 28th.
- 8 Building Permits were issued in September.
- Petition Filing begins October 21st and ends October 28th for the upcoming Consolidated Election. Petitions should be filed with the City Clerk during normal business hours at 115 N 3rd Street, Oregon for the position of City Council Member for the City of Oregon.
- 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

##### **City Council Meeting:**

Next meeting Nov 12, 2024 at 5:30pm Oregon City Hall Council Chambers

**Sustainability Committee:**

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

**Planning & Zoning:**

Next meeting Nov 19, 2024 at 5:30pm Oregon City Hall Council Chambers.

**Tree Board:**

Next meeting Nov 19, 2024 at 4:30pm at Oregon City Hall Conference Room

**Public Art Commission:**

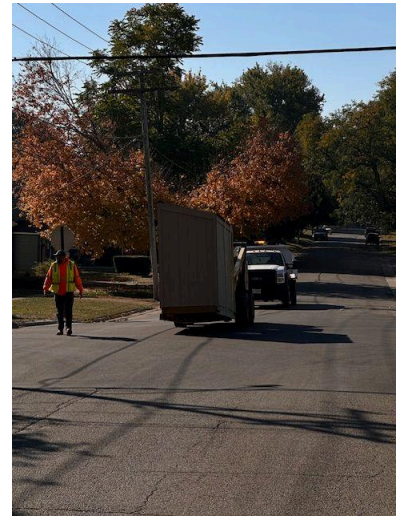
Next Meeting TBD

**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 route
  - Prepared punch list for fiber installation project
- Trestle Ridge
  - Communicate about required sewer testing
- Daily Scheduling
- AOP
  - Provide parade traffic control
  - Make no parking signs
- Headworks Project
  - Reviewed 30% plans submitted by Fehr Graham
- Streetscape Project
  - Final quantity review
- Lead Service Inventory
  - Updated list for IEPA
  - Review new rules for inventory
- MFT
  - Meeting with Fehr Graham
  - Final quantity review.
- Rt 64 IDOT Paving
  - Minor observation

- Pedestrian Crossings
  - Emailed IDOT and received verbal approval for new pedestrian crossing locations
- Help move Food Bank Shelter
- Prepared bills for payment
- Helped with SCADA upgrades–new Verizon accounts
- 2025 Street Projects
  - Completed rough quantities for South 10th Street with alternate
  - Completed rough quantities for South 2nd Street
  - Began quantities for sidewalk on East Washington Street
  - Completed rough quantities for Jefferson Street
- Call in Julies for sidewalk removals and sign installation



**Street Department Submitted by Jordan Plock:**

- Crew continued street sweeping in heavy areas.
- Street Department Foreman continued with his continuing education classes
- 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 sidewalk that was a hazard in the AOP area
- Crew helped with setup and teardown of all barricades for AOP
- Crew worked tirelessly during AOP to do our part to have a successful festival.
- Crew helped during the AOP parade to ensure the safety of all involved.
- Crew patched two areas of town after sinkhole repairs
- 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 wDaily chores
- Full testing (process control/EPA Monitoring)
- Half testing (process control)
- Pumped Sludge
- Cleaned bar screens multiple times a day due
- 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



- Worked on Management classes
- Sexual harassment training completed
- Hauled sludge with Wastewater management
- Scheduled blower maintenance
- Assisted with Autumn on Parade
- Pulled Influent pump at Influent Station due to rags
- Unclogged Clarifier Scum trough due to rags, pine needles, leaves

**Water Department Submitted by Jeff Pennington:**

- Daily water chores
- Daily water testing
- Repair and Replacement of Chemical feed pump issues as needed
- Chemical Delivery
- Julie Locates
- Completed Monthly paperwork for EPA compliance
- 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
- Sexual harassment training completed
- Andy continues with classes through Black hawk program
- Assisted with Autumn on Parade
- Worked on Water heaters for Well houses for eyewash stations
- Jetted N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street for storm sewer
- Camera N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street for Storm Sewer pipe condition
- Our Newest Employee Andy Silva celebrates the birth of his Child. Congratulations Andy!!

**Submitted by Chief Matthew Kalnins: Police Department:**