

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday November 26th, 2024, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday November 26th, 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 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

Absent: Council Member Melanie Cozzi

Also Present: Bill Covell, Josiah Flanagan, George Howe, and Chad Ryan.

Present via Zoom: Earleen Hinton, Katherine Nagy, and Derke Price.

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

Attorney Paul Chadwick started the pledge of allegiance.

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

Presentation

None.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Ken Williams moved to approve the November 12th, 2024, minutes with the amendment to strike the vote count for Council Member Terry Schuster, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Discussion: Council Member Terry Schuster was not allowed to vote during the meeting and the minutes showed a roll call vote of abstain. The roll call should have stated absent.

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

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$56,096.13 and the current warrants as listed:

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|-------------------------------|----------|
| Ace Hardware & Outdoor Center | \$99.56 |
| Airgas USA, LLC | \$306.70 |
| Bobcat of Rockford | \$17.26 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Box Materials LLC | \$960.00 |
| Brooks Jewelers | \$225.00 |
| Caspers Home Inspection, LLC | \$1,550.00 |
| CDW Government | \$1,654.39 |
| City of Oregon | \$5,500.00 |
| City of Oregon | \$13,835.97 |
| Comcast | \$827.73 |
| Comcast | \$872.81 |
| ComEd | \$284.87 |
| ComEd | \$604.27 |
| ComEd | \$3,426.66 |
| DeKalb Implement | \$356.97 |
| Dixon Glass Co | \$19,977.25 |
| Ehmen | \$145.00 |
| EM Benefits | \$1,731.77 |
| Fehr Graham | \$1,910.00 |
| Fehr Graham | \$106,000.00 |
| Fischer's | \$557.20 |
| Frontier | \$91.87 |
| Galls, LLC | \$42.01 |
| Gipper Farm & Gardens | \$12.00 |
| Glenwood Center | \$450.00 |
| Hawkins, Inc | \$2,556.62 |
| Helm Civil | \$897.00 |
| Illinois EPA | \$17,833.19 |
| Illinois EPA | \$35,143.19 |
| Kunes Country Auto Group | \$187.00 |
| Manheim Solutions | \$2,592.00 |
| Menards | \$141.84 |
| Mid-West Truckers Association | \$604.00 |
| Municipal Clerks of Illinois | \$55.00 |
| Nicor | \$79.08 |
| No Stone Unturned Crystals & More LLC | \$225.00 |
| Ogle County Clerk & Recorder | \$60.00 |
| Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce | \$1,500.00 |
| Pace Analytical Services | \$2,920.10 |
| Physicians Immediate Care | \$300.00 |
| Postmaster | \$761.60 |
| Quill | \$156.95 |
| Stillman BancCorp | \$2,036.03 |
| Sun Life Financial | \$358.22 |
| Verizon | \$776.88 |
| Village of Progress | \$1,280.00 |
| Visa | \$1,551.55 |

\$233,454.54

Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Business Items

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve Ordinance 2024-017 Tax Levy, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Discussion: The tax levy was reviewed multiple times with Mayor Ken Williams and Council Member Terry Schuster. A couple of funds have a strong fund balance, adjustments were made to move some of the tax levy to funds such as the police department which does not fully fund itself. Last years tax levy was \$767,916, this year's tax levy is \$805,963.

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

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve Resolution 2024-9 Authorizing the Disposal of Personal Property owned by the City of Oregon, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: This ordinance is done as needed. The police chief would like the option to trade the outdated guns in for new ones for new police officers.

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

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve Resolution 2024-10 Requesting the Denial of a Solar Farm on Riverfront Property, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: The property the solar farm would be built on is not within city limits. The resolution, if approved, would be presented to the county board. The county board just passed an ordinance stating municipalities would be notified of any potential solar farms being built within a mile and a half of city limits. They are taking steps to make sure municipalities have a voice. A solar farm being built at this location could restrict the city from future growth.

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

Proclamations, Commendations, Etc.

None.

Discussion Items

None.

Committee Reports

Planning: Public Hearing to be held for a variance request from the Oregon Fire Protection District.

Economic & Community Development: November meeting was cancelled. Will be creating a task force.

Finance: Completed tax levy.

Sustainability: The Ogle County Health Department has been growing micro-greens. They have created recipe cards and educational materials.

Tree Board: Twelve to fifteen more trees will be planted yet this year. The application for Tree City USA has been completed.

Department Reports

Police Chief Matt Kalnins: The department will be fully staffed soon. They have reached out to another potential candidate. This candidate would go to the academy in January.

Public Works Director Bill Covell: They have been preparing for Candlelight Walk. The water/wastewater department had an EPA inspection as well. Public Works Director Bill Covell said Jeff Pennington did an excellent job.

City Clerk Cheryl Hilton: 2025 meeting dates and holidays are in the packets.

City Manager Darin DeHaan: The police department has been dealing with homeless people in town. The homeless people have been given multiple opportunities to receive help, however they have been reluctant to accept the offers. He gave the City Council a proposed ordinance to review that was created by IML. The police officers need some tools to help with the issue.

Council Reports

Council Member Kurt Wilson: Republic Services will be collecting garbage and recycling carts starting tomorrow.

Council Member Terry Schuster: Candlelight Walk will be this weekend and north 3rd Street will be lit with luminaries. Individual people and businesses have stepped forward to volunteer their time and services to the community.

Council Member Tim Krug: Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Ken Williams: Thanked the city council for approving the resolution regarding the solar farm on riverfront property. He said the riverfront is precious and needs to be protected.

Mayor Ken Williams said the City Council will be going into Executive Session to discuss ongoing legal matters. There will be no vote taken after.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to go into Executive Session at 5:48 pm., Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Adjourn: 6:16 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk