

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday December 10th, 2024, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday December 10th, 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
Chief of Police Matt Kalnins
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Also Present: Craig Arnold, Josh Cofield, Bill Covell, Josiah Flanagan, Earleen Hinton, George Howe, and Chad Ryan.

Present via Zoom: City Attorney Paul Chadwick

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

City Clerk Cheryl Hilton started the pledge of allegiance.

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

Presentation

Chief of Police Matt Kalnins introduced police cadet Josh Cofield to the City Council. He said the department will be fully staffed. Josh will attend the academy in January. City Manager Darin DeHaan said Josh will be appointed to his position within the department after the completion of the academy and testing.

Public Comment

Craig Arnold thanked public works director Bill Covell, City Manager Darin DeHaan, and the City Council for all their help with Candlelight Walk.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve the November 26th, 2024, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$60,311.32 and \$31,407.74 and the current warrants as listed:

Ancel Glink, P.C.	\$1,858.72
B & F Construction Code Services, Inc	\$7,000.00
Bonnell Industries	\$100.00
Caspers Home Inspection LLC	\$1,550.00
CDW Government	\$2,750.00

Cintas	\$147.18
City of Aledo IL	\$5,025.71
City of Oregon	\$4,007.89
City of Oregon	\$5,500.00
City of Oregon	\$14,556.80
Comcast	\$249.20
ComEd	\$8,362.18
Envision Healthcare	\$286.00
Fehr Graham	\$1,440.00
Fidelity Security Life Insurance	\$154.20
Frontier	\$117.68
Hawkins, Inc	\$1,304.35
Hey Tree Service, LLC	\$9,350.00
Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police	\$130.00
Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network	\$100.00
Jen's Artisan Breads Ltd	\$375.00
Kaleel's	\$875.00
Ken Williams	\$25.00
Martin and Company Excavating	\$142.80
Martin and Company Excavating	\$6,917.20
Martin and Company Excavating	\$19,501.65
Melanie Cozzi	\$25.00
Menards	\$104.97
NAPA	\$707.97
Northern Illinois Disposal Services	\$23,880.45
O'Brien Civil Works Inc	\$104,735.15
Pace Analytical Services	\$420.00
Pines Meadow	\$134.00
Republic Services #721	\$88.40
Shawn Melville	\$250.00
Snyder's Pharmacy	\$275.45
Stillman BancCorp	\$2,036.03
Stratus Network, Inc	\$64.09
SundogIT	\$2,513.00
Uline	\$83.53
Village of Progress	\$1,280.00
Visa	\$731.14
Waste Water Management of Northern IL	\$5,640.00
Zoro Tools, Inc	\$193.34
	\$234,989.08

Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Business Items

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve Ordinance 2024-018 Regulating Public Camping within Corporate Boundaries and other Actions in Connection therewith, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: There has been an increasing issue with homeless people within the city. They are causing issues in public spaces, damaging property, and creating other nuisance issues. The police department has spent substantial amounts of time with this issue. The police department continues to try to find help and shelter for these individuals, however they are not accepting of these services.

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

Proclamations, Commendations, Etc.

None.

Discussion Items

2025 Capital Improvement Projects: City Manager Darin DeHaan has been working with Public Works Director Bill Covell and Police Chief Matt Kalnins on creating a list of potential capital improvement projects. The projects presented to the City Council included water/wastewater projects such as the headworks project, replacement of aging water meters, and the lead service line replacement. Other projects presented included sidewalk replacement, the leaf pickup program, pedestrian crossing signals at three key locations, new welcome signs, and multiple road construction projects. The police department also has aging vehicles to consider replacing and needs new computers for squad cars. He asked the City Council to review what was presented and to reach out if they had any other projects or concerns.

Building Code Updates: The proposed code updates the current 2015 building code with the 2021 building code. City Manager Darin DeHaan said to be compliant with state law, the cities adopted building code should not be older than seven years.

Committee Reports

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

Economic & Community Development: Creating a workgroup to help guide and grow the community.

Sustainability: Creating Lunch & Learn's for growing your own food indoors and ComEd, Nicor, and solar incentives.

Tree Board: The first step for Tree City USA renewal has been approved and is being sent to Morton Arboretum for their approval.

Public Art Commission: Working with the VFW on a program to install new banners downtown.

Department Reports

Police Chief Matt Kalnins: The department is looking forward to Officer Buckwalter and Officer Wakeland joining them in January. Both officers will be graduating from the academy in December.

City Manager Darin DeHaan: He commended Chief of Police Matt Kalnins on his candidate search. He said the department has been shorthanded for a very long time; he appreciates all members of the department. He has also received a lot of compliments on Candlelight Walk. He thanked everyone who helped.

Council Reports

Council Member Melanie Cozzi: Asked if there had been any complaints about the lighted sign at the high school, she said it is very bright. City Manager Darin DeHaan said no.

Council Member Tim Krug: Wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mayor Ken Williams: Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Adjourn: 6:27 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk