

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday March 11th, 2025, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday March 11th, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.

The meeting was held at the City Hall Council Chambers and on Zoom.

Present: Mayor Ken Williams
Council Member Kurt Wilson
Council Member Terry Schuster
Council Member Melanie Cozzi
Council Member Tim Krug
City Manager Darin DeHaan
Officer Terry Lester
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton
City Attorney Paul Chadwick

Also Present: Officer Taylor Buckwalter, Public Works Director Bill Covell, Earleen Hinton, George Howe, and Luke Ziegler.

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

Council Member Kurt Wilson started the pledge of allegiance.

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

Presentation

2025 Sidewalk Replacement Program

Street Foreman Jordan Plock and Public Works Director Bill Covell assessed sidewalks throughout the community and created a list of sidewalks in need of repair. The repairs will be based on condition, walkability and access, and pedestrian traffic patterns. There will be no sidewalk repairs on the east side of town because there are no sidewalks. The repairs to the sidewalks will be done by the Public Works Department.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve February 25th, 2025, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

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

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$67,188.16 and the current warrants as listed:

Ancel Glink, P.C.	\$1,285.00
Blackhawk Hills Regional Council	\$1,052.86
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$18,352.05
Butitta Bros. Automotive- Oregon	\$572.81

Certified Balance & Scale Corp	\$1,623.00
Comcast	\$330.41
Ecolab	\$166.46
Ehmen	\$235.00
Envision Healthcare	\$228.00
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$17,392.58
Fidelity Security Life Insurance	\$170.02
Fischer's	\$998.17
Frontier	\$117.68
Hackbarth Truck & Equipment	\$1,695.02
Hawk Auto Wash & Storage	\$1,500.00
Hector's Cocina	\$429.00
Jen's Artisan Breads, Ltd	\$375.00
LeadsOnline Parent LLC	\$2,688.00
Manheim Solutions	\$2,592.00
Menards	\$33.95
Meters inv 0513718	\$599.00
NAPA	\$143.24
Nicor	\$158.27
Northern Illinois Disposal Services	\$24,551.15
Ogle County Clerk & Recorder	\$60.00
Oregon Rotary Club	\$115.00
Pace Analytical Services	\$361.50
Quill	\$270.52
Ray O'Herron Co, Inc	\$1,385.98
Raynor Door Authority	\$599.00
Security Lock Inc	\$206.50
Shawn Melville	\$250.00
Sirchie Acquisition Company, LLC	\$99.08
Snyder's Pharmacy	\$245.60
Steve Benesh & Sons	\$6,935.00
Stratus Network Inc	\$64.09
Sun Life Financial	\$427.65
SundogIT	\$2,643.15
Village of Progress	\$1,080.00
Visa	\$321.22
Willett Hofmann & Associates	\$5,005.30
Zoro Tools, Inc	\$454.14
	\$97,812.40

Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Discussion: Council Member Tim Krug asked about the warrant for LeadsOnline Parent LLC. City Manager Darin DeHaan said this is the annual fee for a program used by the police department for investigations.

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

Ordinances

None.

Resolutions

None.

Motions

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve the a5 Marketing Proposal with Authorization for the City Manager to execute all documents, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: The city received a grant from a foundation in the amount of eighty thousand dollars to provide marketing for the Oregon area. The city will provide twenty thousand dollars towards the marketing plan. Marketing will also help small groups and organizations that would otherwise not be able to afford to do this. a5 Branding and Digital will develop a marketing plan that will include social media, rebuilding the website, email, signage, and other events. a5 Branding recommended a three-year commitment, however the city can review the progress at the end of the first year. The city is not obligated to continue the service for years two and three. A steering committee will also be created to review and approve each project presented by a5 Branding and Digital.

Roll Call: Cozzi: Nay. Krug: Nay. Schuster: Yea. Wilson: Yea. Williams: Yea.

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve the Purchase of a 2025 Ford F150 Squad Car and Equipment not to exceed \$75,000.00 with Authorization for the City Manager to execute all documents, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said the police department is behind on rotating squad cars. The rotation of the city squad vehicles is every seven years; however, the trucks are on year ten. The vehicle purchase is within the budget and funds from the Admin Tow and Capital Vehicle Fund will be used for the purchase of the truck.

Discussion Items

None.

Proclamations, Commendations, Etc.

None.

Committee Reports

Economic & Community Development: Beam Beauty & Wellness withdrew their façade grant application. H.A. International has started construction on the foundation for a new plant from Ohio.

Sustainability: There were about forty attendees at the March 10th Lunch and Learn.

Tree Board: There are about five hundred locations available for tree planting. As an incentive to get residents involved, the city will pay eighty percent of the cost of a new tree for the first ten tree applications received this year. The city public works department will also plant the tree. There is also a Bird City designation the Tree Board will be reviewing.

Department Reports

Public Works: Have been repairing potholes.

City Attorney Paul Chadwick: The BNSF deed has been completed and is ready to be recorded.

Council Reports

Council Member Kurt Wilson: The IPass event was well attended. There were over five hundred people there.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi: Asked about the sidewalk project at the school. The engineering has been completed, and an environmental impact assessment still needs to be completed.

Mayor Ken Williams: He said the IPass event was a huge success. He also stated the a5 Marketing projects will be well communicated with the City Council throughout the entire process.

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to go into Executive Session to discuss consideration to join legal action at 6:19pm., seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

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

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

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

Adjourn: 6:27 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk