



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

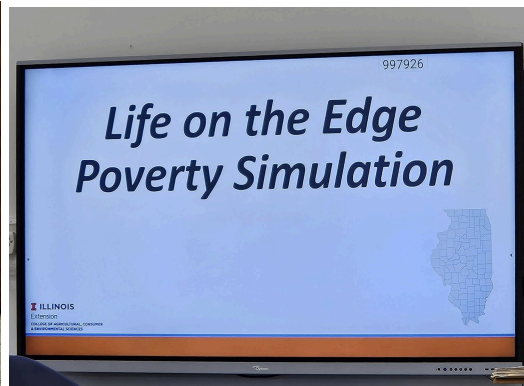
From: Darin J. DeHaan, City Manager

DATE: Mar 10, 2025

I am pleased to provide Mayor Williams and the Oregon City Council with the following synopsis of City Business for – Feb 22, 2025 – Mar 7, 2025

Submitted by Darin DeHaan - City Manager:

- I wanted to take the time to explain this in this report. The City of Oregon has received a generous grant from a private foundation to allow us to hire a major marketing firm on behalf of the City of Oregon. We will be working with the firm a5 Branding & Digital (<https://a5inc.com>). They have an extensive list of municipal and local government clients and come highly recommended. We will be working on branding, digital information for tourism, as well as overall marketing of our community to strategic markets. We will be forming a small committee to help set the vision and direction of this marketing campaign and other related projects.
- Terry Schuster and I volunteered to help with the Ogle County Poverty Simulation with the Ogle Co. Health Dept and University of Illinois Extension Office. I played the role of a Police Officer. (Big Stretch) This is an amazing eye opening exercise that brings awareness of the struggles our community members, neighbors, and oftentimes own family members who struggle to make ends meet, or to put food on their tables. If you have the opportunity to go through this simulation I highly recommend it! We still have work to do to care for those who need it most. Great group of participants attended today as well as holding very insightful discussions.



- Terry Schuster and I held a focus group meeting with 20-35 year olds and discussed their thoughts and what they would like to see as priorities for the future of Oregon. This is a quick synopsis of those discussions. We did a “nothing is off the table” discussion and put all of the ideas on the wall. The group were given stickers to put next to their priorities and were given a “Cool” sticker that represented if you had \$1,000,000 what would you do immediately. Thank you to Mike Delany and the Illinois Extension office for helping to facilitate and the use of the space.
- This was a great discussion and this group certainly wants to get involved with the future of Oregon. I think it’s also important to see the words they used to describe our community.
- I continue to work on various potential economic and business development projects.
- I’m excited to hear that the Oregon School District and the City of Oregon will partner again for this year’s Walk, Bike and Roll Event. We are starting to work out the details and have a planning meeting schedule coming up.
- I’m working with the Street Department to prepare for terrace tree planting for this year. I’d like to encourage residents to take advantage of our tree planting program. We normally pay 50% up to \$100.00 with residents for new trees planted in the terrace. We are running a special where we will pay 80% of the cost up to \$160.00 for the first 10 tree applications we receive this year.



City Hall - Cheryl Hilton - City Clerk:

- 4 Building Permits were issued for the month of February.
- Brush pickup begins March 31st, 2025 - Yard waste pickup begins April 1st, 2025
Schedules can be picked up at City Hall, they are also available on the city website
- Please contact City Hall if you would like to start direct debit or email billing for your water/sewer/garbage bill.

MEETING INFORMATION

Tree Board:

Next meeting Mar 18, 2025 at 4:30pm at Oregon City Hall Conference Room

Planning & Zoning:

Next meeting Mar 18, 2025 at 5:30pm Oregon City Hall Council Chambers.

City Council Meeting:

Next meeting Mar 25, 2025 at 5:30pm Oregon City Hall Council Chambers

Economic and Community Development Committee:

Next meeting: Apr 1, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. City Hall Conference Room

Sustainability Committee:

Next meeting: Apr 14, 2025 at 9am Oregon City Hall Conference Room

Public Art Commission:

Next Meeting TBD

PUBLIC WORKS:

Director of Public Works Submitted by Bill Covell:

- Tree Board
 - Reviewed prices for trees and began planning additional location
 - Meeting w. City Manager
- Monthly Fuel Reports
- Frontier Communications
 - Nothing
- Trestle Ridge
 - Discuss Comcast permit and review
- Daily Scheduling
- Headworks Project
 - Meeting to review 90% of plans submitted by Fehr Graham
 - Had FG change lift station pumps
- Lead Service Inventory
 - Updated list for IEPA
 - Sent list back to FG
 - Started planning pothole project
- Lead & Copper Samples
 - Review finalized report

- Discussed sampling with the water operator
- 2025 Road Project
 - Work on 2025 MFT work with Fehr Graham
 - Review FG cost estimates
 - Discuss Jefferson Street traffic control with Department heads
 - Phone conversation with FG about installed fiber optic
- Pedestrian Crossings
 - Nothing new
- Prepared bills for payment
- SCADA Upgrades
 - New cellular connections in two lift stations and both new generators
 - Review work on generators
 - Schedule conduit installation with Helm
- SPP LED Sign
 - Reviewed installation of electrical and sign
 - Scheduled electrical work
- Participated in department head meetings
 - 3 total meeting
- Flag pole adjustments
 - Spoke with Beesing about modifications that are needed

Street Department Submitted by Jordan Plock:

- Street Department Foreman continued with his continuing education classes.
- The crew worked on maintenance and repairs of snow removal equipment.
- Crew working on sign replacement inventory.
- Crew is continuing to work on improvements to the Street Garage.
- Several members of the crew helped with the lead line program.
- The mechanic worked on general vehicle maintenance.
- Worked on getting an inventory for the sidewalk replacement program.
- Worked on getting tree lists and availability for the upcoming planting season.
- Crew took down winter decorations and banners and replaced them with the summer banners.
- Crew worked on repairing some potholes from the previous plows.
- The crew worked on preparing some items to be auctioned off.
- The crew completed and updated their OSHA training.

Sewer Department Submitted by Scott Wallace:

- Daily chores
- Full testing (process control/EPA Monitoring)
- Half testing (process control)
- Pumped Sludge
- Cleaned bar screens multiple times a day due to rags, debris
- Daily netting of Tanks
- Daily reporting of National Weather Service recordings
- Lift Station usage recording
- Assisted the Water department when needed
- Generator/ Well checks
- Worked with various customers on water and sewer issues (leaks, sewer backups)
- Monthly reports to EPA
- Training of new employees on testing and process control
- Pulled RAS pump due to rags
- Department head meetings with the Public Works Director
- Worked to schedule upcoming work, hauling sludge from digester and cleaning/ vector of RAS Station
- Prepared for upcoming sampling for EPA
- Spring cleaning of clarifiers and contact basins
- Changed RAS pump due to impeller bolt breaking
- Took RAS pump to Metropolitan Pump for repair and overhaul
- Updated procedures for Ammonia testing
- Updated sample protocols to coincide with recent limit changes
- Department head meeting with City Manager to discuss city operations

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
- Submitted Monthly reports
- Assisted the Sewer department when needed
- Water shutoffs
- Water turn-ons
- Jet Sewer lines

- Camera Sewer line
- Final reads
- Worked with various customers on water and sewer issues (leaks, sewer backups, frozen pipes, frozen meters)
- Generator/ Well checks
- Department head meetings with the Public Works Director
- Worked on lead line inventory updates
- Training of new employee
- Worked on the Meter Replacement Program
- Worked with contractors for quotes on necessary improvements for wells
- Department head meeting with City Manager to discuss city operations
- Cleaned well houses
- Finished removing old water heater units for eyewash stations at wells 2,3,4 for updated units.
- Started installation of Double wall tanks and new scale at well #5
- Pulled RAS pump at treatment plant due to rags
- Pulled Jefferson St. Lift station pump due to rags in the pump

Oregon Police Department Submitted by Chief Matthew Kalnin

- The Oregon Police Department would also like to give a few safety tips for anyone that is going to be out and about in the snow/cold temperatures.
 - Dress in Layers and wear a hat and gloves when outside
 - Wear outer garments that are water-repellent
 - Wear sturdy boots and will protect your feet.
 - Watch for frostbite and hypothermia
 - Carry a winter kit in your car, one that includes a shovel, windshield scraper, jumper cables, flashlight, warning devices and a blanket.
 - Don't crowd snowplows and be careful approaching intersections, ramps and bridges.

