

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday April 22nd, 2025, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday April 22nd, 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

City Manager Darin DeHaan
Chief of Police Matt Kalnins
City Attorney Paul Chadwick
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Absent: Council Member Tim Krug

Also Present: Josiah Flanagan, Eric Higby, George Howe, Tom Pacey.

Present via Zoom: Lynn Baylor Zies.

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

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

City Clerk Cheryl Hilton started the pledge of allegiance.

Presentation

Officer Eric Higby was promoted to Sergeant for the City of Oregon Police Department.

Council Member Kurt Wilson was presented with a plaque for 10 years of service to the City of Oregon City Council.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve April 8th, 2025, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

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

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Kurt Wilson moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$63,585.60 and the current warrants as listed:

a5 Branding & Digital	\$12,731.25
Ancel Glink, P.C.	\$2,840.00
Buttitta Bros Automotive- Oregon	\$474.18

Carreno Landscaping	\$1,565.00
Caspers Home Inspection LLC	\$1,550.00
City of Oregon	\$5,500.00
City of Oregon	\$12,356.33
Comcast	\$996.04
ComEd	\$88.21
Curran Materials Co	\$306.90
Dabney Services LLC	\$484.00
Ehmen	\$195.00
Epic Insurance Midwest	\$500.00
Ferguson Enterprises LLC dba Pollardwater	\$891.48
Hackbarth Truck & Equipment	\$18,000.00
Hey Tree Services, LLC	\$6,200.00
Hometown Trophies	\$25.00
Jordan Plock	\$61.35
Julie, Inc	\$693.27
Ken Williams	\$25.00
Main Street Machines	\$3,689.60
Menards	\$27.99
Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce	\$4,000.00
Polo Cooperative Association	\$2,425.80
Postmaster	\$754.32
Quill	\$97.99
Shaw Media/ Sauk Valley Media	\$54.50
Shawn Melville	\$250.00
Snyder's Pharmacy	\$546.30
Stillman BancCorp	\$2,036.03
Swedish American Health Management	\$24.00
Terry Schuster	\$25.00
Uniform Den East, Inc	\$281.85
Verizon	\$793.99
Village of Progress	\$1,280.00
WTVO WQRF My Network My Stateline	\$1,000.00
Zoro Tools, Inc	\$682.38
	\$83,452.76

Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Discussion: Council Member Melanie Cozzi asked about the City of Oregon payments. City Clerk Cheryl Hilton stated the payments are internal transfers.

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

Proclamations, Commendations, Etc.

Mayor Ken Williams proclaimed the month of May as Motorcycle Awareness Month.

Ordinances

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve Ordinance 2025-009 Amending Oregon City Code Title 26.16 Fences, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said this is a minor change to the code requested by the city building inspector. He said cattle fencing should not be in a residential neighborhood. Council Member Melanie Cozzi said cattle fencing is easier to see through, may be a cheaper alternative for residents, and is trendy. She proposed requiring the cattle fencing to have a top rail.

Council Member Melanie Cozzie moved to approve Ordinance 2025-009 Amending Oregon City Code Title 26.16 Fences with the amendment to include a top rail on the fencing, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Discussion: Council Member Melanie Cozzi stated she would like to withdraw the amended motion and table until the next meeting.

Council Member Melanie Cozzie moved to table Ordinance 2025-009 Amending Oregon City Code Title 26.16 Fences until the next City Council meeting, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

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

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to table Ordinance 2025-010 Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District Redevelopment Agreement between the City of Oregon and Alexandra Thayer D.B.A FodMART, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: Council Member Terry Schuster said he would like more time to review and discuss this agreement.

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

Ordinance 2025-011 Public Demonstration Permit – First Reading.
City Manager Darin DeHaan stated this ordinance would give the city necessary information and time to prepare for demonstrations. The city is a small community with limited resources. A demonstration permit would allow the city to prepare by having the necessary law enforcement and ambulance services available. He said the last group of demonstrators were great to work with and he fully supports the first amendment and the right to assemble. Council Member Terry Schuster said the city is very good at supporting organizations.

Resolutions

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve Resolution 2025-3 Disposal of Personal Property Owned by the City of Oregon, Seconded by Council Member Kurt Wilson.

Discussion: Mayor Ken Williams stated the items will be available through auction and meet state requirements.

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

Motions

Mayor Ken Williams moved to approve the Appointment of Kate Bunton to the Public Arts Commission, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Discussion: City Manager Darin DeHaan said Kate has a background in the arts. Council Member Melanie Cozzi said she is also a teacher at the junior high school.

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

Committee Reports

Finance: Completed initial review with department heads. New budget will be put together soon for review.

Sustainability: The EV charging station is beginning to make a profit. Council Member Melanie Cozzi asked if signage could be put up to notify people of the location of the EV charging station. City Manager Darin DeHaan said IDOT will not allow the city to put up signage.

Tree Board: Arbor Day Celebration at the City Dog Park Friday at 10 am. This is also the cities 2nd year of receiving the Tree City USA designation. Council Member Terry Schuster stated the city could also apply for Bird City designation. May 10th is World Migratory Bird Day, and he is collaborating with other community members to create a caravan event. The event would include visiting multiple parks in the area.

Department Reports

Chief of Police Matt Kalnins: Thanked the City Council for their support in the promotion of Eric Higby to Sergeant. He also stated Josh Cofield will be graduating from the academy on Thursday. The department will be fully staffed.

Public Works Director Bill Covell: Bid openings for motor fuel tax and 2025 street projects will be held on Monday April 28th at 11 am. The Headworks project is still being reviewed by the EPA.

City Attorney Paul Chadwick: Thanked Kurt Wilson for his service.

City Manager Darin DeHaan: Thanked Kurt Wilson for his service to the community. He said Kurt has always been very passionate about the position he held for the city as well as the community.

Council Reports

Council Member Kurt Wilson: Thanked everyone. He said he is looking forward to what is next and will help where he can.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi: Thank Kurt for his service.

Mayor Ken Williams: Thanked Kurt for his service. He also said he appreciated his volunteerism over the last ten year's.

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: 6:10 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk