

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday June 24th, 2025, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday June 24th, 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 Terry Schuster
Council Member Melanie Cozzi
Council Member Tim Krug
Council Member Josiah Flanagan
City Manager Darin DeHaan
Chief of Police Matt Kalnins
City Attorney Paul Chadwick
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Also Present: Julie Bassett, Bill Covell, and George Howe.

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

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

Council Member Josiah Flanagan started the pledge of allegiance.

Presentation

Julie Bassett spoke about Together For Taft. She explained the impact of Taft on her own life as well as the impact on many members of the community and surrounding areas. The group continues to work towards saving the Lorado Taft campus for the future. She asked the City Council for a letter of support and collaboration moving forward.

Proclamations, Commendations, Etc.

None.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve June 10th, 2025, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Josiah Flanagan.

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

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Josiah Flanagan moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$66,390.93 and the current warrants as listed:

a5 Branding & Digital	\$28,656.26
Alex Sitze	\$200.00
Alexandra Thayer	\$250.00
Amazon Capital Services, Inc	\$2,309.38

Ancel Glink, P.C.	\$2,890.00
Butitta Bros. Automotive- Oregon	\$56.45
Chicago WGN	\$4,550.00
City of Oregon	\$5,500.00
Comcast	\$1,014.51
Comcast	\$1,063.56
ComEd	\$72.59
ComEd	\$4,535.86
Conserv FS Inc	\$179.94
Controlled Force, Inc	\$395.00
Dash Medical Gloves	\$101.90
Department of the Treasury	\$65.93
Fastenal	\$757.41
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$3,665.35
Gasvoda & Associates, Inc	\$74.00
Hawkins, Inc	\$509.02
Helm Civil	\$6,906.76
Illinois State Police	\$10.00
Jennifer Dahm	\$3,270.00
Ken Williams	\$75.00
Kunes Country Auto Group	\$395.11
Lands' End Business Outfitters	\$319.97
Lexipol LLC	\$7,141.31
M & G Graphics	\$427.20
Marques Morel	\$200.00
Martin and Company Excavating	\$12,240.00
Melanie Cozzi	\$25.00
Menards	\$111.22
NAPA	\$998.08
Ogle County Clerk & Recorder	\$60.00
Ogle County Sherriff's Dept	\$1,700.00
Pace Analytical Services	\$1,409.00
Polo Cooperative Assoc	\$5,018.62
Postmaster	\$754.88
Postmaster	\$5,840.00
Quill	\$78.71
Rat Worx, Inc	\$403.00
Ray O'Herron Co., Inc	\$125.04
Ray O'Herron Co., Inc	\$398.17
Rocky Ridge Structures	\$2,640.00
S.J. Smith Co., Inc	\$6.31
Shaw Media	\$270.40
Shawn Melville	\$250.00
Steve Benesh & Sons	\$2,698.26
Stillman BancCorp	\$2,627.01

Sun Life Financial	\$443.01
Terry Schuster	\$25.00
Thomson Reuters- West	\$311.76
Verizon	\$762.42
Village of Progress	\$1,280.00
Visa	\$2,695.53
White Pelican	\$363.10
Zoro Tools, Inc	\$478.68
	\$119,605.71

Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

Ordinances

None.

Resolutions

None.

Motions

Council Member Josiah Flanagan moved to approve to amend the zoning map for 307 S. 2nd Street parcel #16-03-185-007, 309 S. 2nd Street parcel #16-03-185-008, and 311 S. 2nd Street parcel #16-03-185-009 from Industrial to Residential, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Discussion: One of the homeowners brought the zoning issue to the cities attention. The city would like to correct the zoning map for the three parcels listed above on behalf of the citizens. The Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve and recommended the change to the City Council.

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

Council Member Josiah Flanagan moved to approve a Variance request submitted by Eric Kingery 100 S. 7th Street parcel #16-04-296-04 – Request to install an 8-foot fence around the residence to reduce traffic noise and increase privacy, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

Discussion: The request is to increase the height of the fence to eight feet along the Rt. 64 side of the home. The building inspector has reviewed the request and had no issues. Adjoining property owners were also notified, no issues were reported to the city for the request. The Planning Commission approved the variance unanimously and recommended the request to be reviewed by the City Council.

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

Discussion Items

None.

Committee Reports

Economic and Community Development: The meeting scheduled for July 1st has been cancelled.

Finance: City Manager Darin DeHaan is finishing the appropriations ordinance. He will bring it to the City Council for review.

Sustainability: River cleanup is scheduled for September 6th. Butitta Brothers has agreed to waive the fees for any tires that may be recovered during the cleanup. White Pelican is also providing canoes and kayaks. City Manager Darin DeHaan reached out to the city insurance provider. The cities volunteer policy will cover city limits.

Tree Board: Beginning to work on a forestry plan.

Public Art Commission: A new mural request is in the queue. Mayor Ken Williams said the mural on the back of the Toasty Noodles building is underway. Council Member Terry Schuster commented on the poppy field located on Pines Road. The Oregon Park District planted the field. He wondered if there was city property available to do something similar.

Department Reports

Chief of Police Matt Kalnins: The department attended training with the new tasers. These will replace the old ones that have outdated technology. The new ones increase officer safety allowing the officers to have more distance between them and a perpetrator. The new tasers also give warnings and the warning can be done multiple times. The department has five instructors currently. For training purposes, the tasers came with a wearable suit and hook and loop cartridges. The tasers are a great de-escalation tool for the department.

Public Works Director Bill Covell: The public works department continues to make improvements to the city dog park. They have increased the size of the parking area, added a small dog space, and have ordered a new sign to be placed by the road. 10th Street work has also begun.

City Manager Darin DeHaan: Complimented City Clerk Cheryl Hilton on the work she has done for the audit while keeping up with her other tasks. He also complimented Lisa and Lynn for helping keep the office running smoothly.

Council Reports

Council Member Melanie Cozzi: Martin and Company will begin to work on the viewing station to be located at the pull off on Rt 2 across from the Blackhawk statue. The viewer is also equipped to help color blind individuals be able to see in color.

Mayor Ken Williams: He has been working with City Manager Darin DeHaan to live stream the council meetings.

Mayor Ken Williams said the City Council will be going into Executive Session to discuss the potential purchase of real property. There will be no vote after.

Council Member Tim Krug moved to go into Executive Session at 6:02 pm. to discuss the potential purchase of real property, Seconded by Council Member Josiah Flanagan.

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

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

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

Adjourn: 6:48 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk