

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday October 14th, 2025, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday October 14th, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.

The meeting was held at City Hall in the 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
Police Chief Matt Kalnins
City Attorney Paul Chadwick
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Also Present: Taylor Buckwalter, Josh Cofield, Bill Covell, John Dickson, Mary Elliott,
Eric Higby, John Kaltenbach and family, and Cassie Rogers.

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

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

Council Member Josiah Flanagan started the pledge of allegiance.

Presentation

None.

Proclamations, Commendations, Swear In, Etc.

Chief Matt Kalnins introduced John Kaltenbach. He has twenty years of experience and is currently an officer for the Rochelle police department. Mayor Ken Williams swore in John Kaltenbach as a part time police officer for the City of Oregon.

Public Comment

John Dickson thanked the City of Oregon for the tremendous support and services for Autumn on Parade.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve September 23rd, 2025, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Josiah Flanagan.

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

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$69,569.04 and the current warrants as listed:

4th & Long, LLC	\$5,000.00
a5 Group Inc	\$2,007.75
Amazon Capital Services Inc	\$148.10
APWA Illinois Chapter	\$850.00

Axon Enterprises Inc	\$9,456.30
Beesing Welding	\$3,795.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$24,920.67
Box Materials LLC	\$1,096.25
Butitta Bros Automotive-Oregon	\$367.41
Coliseum Museum Art, Antiques & Americana	\$6,908.00
Comcast	\$277.68
ComEd	\$8,839.55
Dekalb Implement	\$70.54
Dixon Paint Co	\$409.28
Ecolab	\$316.46
Envision Healthcare	\$235.00
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$53.17
Fidelity Security Life Insurance	\$164.64
Fischer's	\$1,964.33
Frontier	\$114.33
Frontier	\$296.97
Gall's LLC	\$74.49
Hackbarth Truck & Equipment	\$10,724.80
Hawkins, Inc	\$1,047.42
Helm Electric	\$719.00
Illinois EPA	\$58,374.60
James Taylor	\$520.00
Kaleel's Clothing	\$1,524.00
Ken Williams	\$241.68
Martin and Company Excavating	\$4,323.00
MCS	\$140.00
Menards	\$18.95
Menards	\$67.40
Morton Salt	\$3,413.38
NAPA	\$55.51
Nicor	\$7.14
Northern Illinois Disposal Services	\$24,639.40
Ogle County Clerk and Recorder	\$73.00
Ogle County Clerk and Recorder	\$73.00
Pace Analytical Services	\$694.00
Polo Cooperative Association	\$4,388.28
Postmaster	\$96.45
Quill	\$33.99
Rat Worx, Inc	\$97.00
Ray O'Herron Co	\$11.99
Sauk Valley Plumbing	\$3,500.00
Share Corporation	\$889.49
Shawn Melville	\$250.00
Snyder's Pharmacy	\$851.02
Standard Equipment	\$952.57
Stratus Network Inc	\$65.26
SundogIT	\$2,768.05
SundogIT	\$9,253.30
Terry Schuster	\$171.00

Traffic Safety Warehouse	\$935.20
Verizon	\$723.31
Village of Progress	\$1,280.00
Visa	\$338.45
Water Solutions Unlimited Inc	\$2,505.00
Willett Hofmann & Associates	\$12,828.20
Wipfli	\$9,010.00
Zoro Tools	\$411.38
	\$225,382.14

Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

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

Ordinances

None.

Resolutions

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve Resolution 2025-07 authorizing the Temporary Intermittent closing of Route 2 at the intersection of Franklin Street to allow Carriage Rides for Candlelight Walk, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

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

Motions

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve the annual Treasurer's Report, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: The report is an annual requirement and will be published in the newspaper.

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

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve a lease with the Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce and authorize the City Manager to sign on behalf of the city, Seconded by Council Member Josiah Flanagan.

Discussion: The city is trying to help the chamber while they revitalize and restructure the organization. They have moved from their old location to the Sarah Phelps Plaza which is owned by the city. The chamber will pay two hundred and fifty dollars per month for the rental of the space. Annual dues paid to the chamber will be reduced by this amount. The lease is a month-to-month lease. The chamber renting the space should not affect the farmer's market or the ability to have food trucks at the location. The restroom will be open more often as well with someone on site unlocking the door.

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

Council Member Josiah Flanagan moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon School District for School Resource Officer and authorized the City Manager to sign on behalf of the city, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: This is an existing contract with the city. There were a few changes made to law enforcement's access to cameras and footage.

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

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve Illinois Municipal League Risk Management Association renewal and authorized the City Manager to sign on behalf of the city, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: The total for next year's renewal is \$107,504.64, about a seven percent increase over the previous year. The city does look at other providers every few years. IML has been extremely easy to work with.

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

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve the purchase of a squad car not to exceed \$55,000.00 for the City of Oregon Police Department and authorize the City Manager to sign on behalf of the city, Seconded by Council Member Josiah Flanagan.

Discussion: One of the squad cars is constantly having issues and being repaired. The city has approximately fifty-three thousand dollars in the Admin Tow fund and twenty-three thousand dollars remaining in the vehicle replacement fund. The purchase of the squad car now would potentially allow the city not to purchase one next year. The old squad car should bring about eight to ten thousand dollars at auction. The new squad is a Ford Interceptor.

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

Discussion Items

None.

Committee Reports

Planning: The committee will be setting a public hearing date for a zoning change request. The request is to change the zoning of a property from single family residential to multifamily. There were single family homes converted into multifamily homes illegally without permitting. When it comes to selling the property, the property cannot be listed as multifamily. The zoning request allows the neighbors to voice their opinion on the request.

Economic and Community Development: City Manager Darin DeHaan said he has seen social media posts stating Oregon is dying. He said the city has wonderful businesses and has had an increase in sales tax revenue. He does not feel the city is dying. He said he works with potential renters for empty locations. Council Member Melanie Cozzi stated it is worthwhile waiting to get the right business in those empty locations. Council Member Terry Schuster said some of the empty locations are privately owned and the city has no say about who leases the building. Mayor Ken Williams said the city is highly active with business owners and provides incentives to new businesses such as façade grants and the lease subsidy grant. The city has worked with the owners of Beam and just approved two façade grants downtown. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the economic development committee had become a reporting committee. To re-establish the committee, a shift focusing on key areas such as housing, business and job creation are being discussed.

Sustainability: Held a meeting this morning. Council Member Melanie Cozzi said the first river sweep was a success. Next year's date for the river sweep is September 12th; rain date is September 19th. They hope to get sponsorships from local businesses for next year. They also plan to extend collaboration to Byron and Dixon in the next couple of years. Other projects being worked on are the EcoOregon program, use of public lands, and working with students from the high school on marketing.

Tree Board: City Manager Darin DeHaan is working on reapplying for Tree USA designation. He stated the city may be able to apply for the growth award this year. Public Works Director Bill Covell said they were able to purchase about twenty trees on auction for about five hundred dollars. They have planted seventy-five to eighty trees this year. He said service berry trees and two red oak trees have been planted at the Coliseum.

Department Reports

Police Chief Matt Kalnins: Thanked the sheriff's department, city police department, city public works department, and other organizations for their help during AOP.

Public Works Director Bill Covell: Also thanked everyone for help with AOP. He said all the planning really helped. The event went smoothly; they have a good system in place now.

City Attorney Paul Chadwick: Has been working on the pending litigation case. He will provide an update at the next city council meeting.

Council Reports

Council Member Terry Schuster: He said Candlelight Walk is coming up and he is looking forward to collaboration with city departments.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi: She said AOP went well. Mr. Eckardt's class provided exceptional help. She said involving the youth of our community helps keep them connected and has a positive impact.

Council Member Tim Krug: He said AOP was very successful.

Council Member Josiah Flanagan: He also stated AOP was successful.

Mayor Ken Williams: He said AOP was a great time.

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: 6:09 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk