

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday November 25th, 2025, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday November 25th, 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 Josiah Flanagan
City Manager Darin DeHaan
Police Chief Matt Kalnins
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton
City Attorney Paul Chadwick

Absent: Council Member Tim Krug

Also Present: Skyler Bethel, Tim Brechon, Andrew Bonilla, Josh Cofield, Bill Covell, Mary Elliott, Earleen Hinton, Aaron Montoya, Kevin Most, Jeff Pennington, Josh Pickering, Jordan Plock, and Scott Wallace.

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

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

Council Member Melanie Cozzi started the pledge of allegiance.

Presentation

None.

Proclamations, Commendations, Swear In, Etc.

Mayor Ken Williams said we are missing someone who attended the city meetings all the time for the press, Mr. George Howe. He had a great sense of humor, and we always enjoyed having him as a part of the city family. He will be missed.

Detective Kevin Most was sworn in as a Sergeant for the City of Oregon Police Department. Chief Matt Kalnins said the department is very happy to have him.

The Public Works Department was recognized by Public Works Director Bill Covell for their outstanding performance, dedication, and contributions to the city. Their contributions have had a significant impact on the citizens of the City of Oregon. He thanked the department for all they do and the sacrifices they make for the city. City Manager Darin DeHaan said he echoes what Bill said. He said these guys are out there in emergencies and dangerous weather situations clearing the streets. He said the city is receiving positive responses from the community. Mayor Ken Williams said these guys really keep the city going. He also thanked Bill for his leadership.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Josiah Flanagan moved to approve November 12th, 2025, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

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

Approval of Warrants & Payroll

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$67,585.03 and the current warrants as listed:

a5Group Inc	\$1,859.50
Ace Hardware & Outdoor Center	\$519.99
Advanced Automation & Controls	\$360.00
Airgas USA, LLC	\$306.95
Ancel Glink, P.C.	\$715.00
Ancel Glink, P.C.	\$2,915.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$22,329.58
Butitta Bros Automotive - Oregon	\$322.60
Caspers Home Inspection LLC	\$1,550.00
CDW Government	\$2,862.50
Cintas	\$301.70
City of Oregon	\$5,500.00
Comcast	\$934.40
Comcast	\$1,032.60
ComEd	\$479.70
Dixon IL Well Now Urgent Care	\$400.00
Dixon Paint Co	\$1,261.02
Ecolab	\$166.46
Ehmen	\$3,198.36
EM Benefits	\$1,918.43
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$39.74
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$2,279.58
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$5,235.42
Hach Company	\$38.85
Hidden Timber Gardens	\$140.00
Hometown Trophies	\$60.00
Ken Williams	\$50.00
Kevin Most	\$80.00
MCS	\$145.00
Melanie Cozzi	\$50.00
Menards	\$59.45
Nicor	\$258.00
Ogle County Clerk and Recorder	\$73.00
Oregon Fire Protection District	\$7,033.28
Pines Meadow	\$723.50
Polo Cooperative Association	\$4,399.54
Postmaster	\$818.01
Shawn Melville	\$250.00
Sterling Environmental, LLC	\$1,700.00

Stillman BancCorp	\$4,047.16
Sun Life Financial	\$419.18
SynConn Solutions Inc	\$1,125.00
Synder's Pharmacy	\$519.42
Verizon	\$721.30
Visa	\$508.55
Visa	\$892.23
Visa	\$1,780.10
Waste Water Management of Northern Illinois	\$17,640.00
Zoro Tools Inc	\$62.58
	\$100,082.68

Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

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

Ordinances

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve Ordinance 2025-020 Tax Levy, Seconded by Council Member Josiah Flanagan.

Discussion: There were no changes to the ordinance, it is as it was presented at the last City Council meeting. Council Member Terry Schuster said the city tax rate is lower than last year and the year before that.

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

Resolutions

None.

Motions

Mayor Ken Williams moved to table a Rezoning Request submitted by Edwin Buttens for the property located at 708 W. Washington Street, Parcel #16-04-292-004, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

Discussion: Mayor Ken Williams said the city received a request from the petitioner for the City Council to table the request.

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

Discussion Items

None.

Committee Reports

Economic and Community Development: Mayor Ken Williams and Council Member Terry Schuster attended the Main Street Illinois conference.

Finance: City Manager Darin DeHaan has begun work on the budget for next fiscal year.

Sustainability: Next meeting is in December. The Council also discussed usage of the EV Charging station located in the 5th Street parking lot.

Tree Board: City Manager Darin DeHaan said Caleb Jenks has resigned from the Tree Board. He thanked him for his service. The city will be looking for a new member. Caleb asked to remain a consultant on the Bird City designation for the city. Council Member Terry Schuster said Caleb also restarted the Kiwanis Club in town. He said for a while there were only three or four members, and

then the club started to grow. He encouraged anyone who has a place in their heart to serve the community to join the Kiwanis Club.

Public Art Commission: Working on a date to get together. They continue to work on welcome signs.

Department Reports

Chief of Police Matt Kalnins: He thanked the Public Works Department for all they do for the city and residents. He said they make the police department's job easier.

Public Works Director Bill Covell: He thanked Cheryl for her hard work. He said she is constantly there to assist anybody.

City Manager Darin DeHaan: He is working on a plan of action with Bill on gutter issues at the Coliseum. They are also looking into updates to the basement. The council will be receiving a packet of policy changes. A couple of years ago when the policy was presented the direction from the Mayor was any minor updates could be made by the City Manager. The city policy is now at a point where it needs be reviewed by the council. He asked the City Council to review the policies and to reach out with any questions or recommendations. He is also working on IGA agreements with the school and park districts for the Safe Routes to School project. He said parts of the project fall on their property. The agreements work out long-term maintenance plans. The IGA's will go before all the boards for approval, and a public hearing will be held at the school. He said Candlelight Walk is Saturday from 6pm to 8pm. He gave the Public Works Department accolades for helping to set up the Christmas tree and they will also be helping to get things set up downtown. He said he is thankful to the Mayor and the council for their vision and everything they do for the city, as well as department heads and staff. He said we are seeing a positive reflection from the community. He thanked everyone involved.

Council Reports

Council Member Terry Schuster: He encouraged everyone to come out to Candlelight Walk this Saturday.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi: She said the public works department really does have a great team dynamic going on. She said it is nice to see the consistency and progress throughout town.

Council Member Josiah Flanagan: He said thank you to all employees of the city. He said this city cannot be run without all the people in these positions.

Mayor Ken Williams: He thanked everyone.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Council Member Josiah Flanagan.

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

Adjourn: 5:48 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk