



*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](http://cityoforegon.org)

To: Mayor Ken Williams & Oregon City Council

From: Darin J. DeHaan, City Manager & Staff

**DATE: Jan 27, 2026**

**I am pleased to provide Mayor Williams and the Oregon City Council with the following synopsis of City Business for – Jan 10, 2026 – Jan 23, 2026**

### Submitted by Darin DeHaan - City Manager

- I attended the Sustainability committee. The committee is working diligently to complete the ECO Oregon program. This program will recognize local businesses who have implemented sustainable practices.
- Met with the Depot Museum board members to assist them with a grant application.
- We held an executive committee meeting to discuss economic development strategies as well as working on some vision planning for 2026.
- At our last Team Leadership meeting I asked all department heads to come up with at least one goal for 2026. Personal, department or citywide. I got some good feedback and shared **my goal** which is to Improve: Improve personally, improve my service to others, improve as a leader, improve the reputation and services as a city and I need their help to accomplish that. My expectation is we become THE premier city that other cities look at as an example on how to serve citizens. That's my goal for Oregon in 2026. Be the best, lead the way!
- I held a meeting to continue to strategize on housing for Oregon. I am working with OCEDC Director Liz Hiemstra to create a prospectus for housing opportunities for builders in Oregon and Ogle County.
- I've begun discussions and planning for our 2026 marketing campaign. It's important to the City that we create a campaign that supports our local businesses, services and other entities that make Oregon such a great place to live, visit and shop.
- I am working with Street Foreman Jordan Plock to figure out a plan to replace the winter Christmas lights for the light poles. They are relatively costly but it's clearly time to get them replaced. The team has worked hard to keep them pieced together and working over the years.
- Continue work on the Safe Routes to School grant.
- We continue to work on the few open rental spaces in Oregon looking for potential businesses to fill those spaces.
- Work on various employee related matters.

- Work to coordinate several business related matters.
- Mayor Williams and I had a great meeting with Kunes and I have given Liz (OCEDC) pictures to get the site posted on LOIS. I was impressed with their representative (Dax) who has a good background and is working hard to try and get the building sold or occupied. The property is now listed on LOIS.



“As always I want to remind the community that I am always open to hearing your perspectives if there are things you feel need addressed. I’m available via phone, email,

or you can always message me via facebook messenger from the City page. We work for you and your input and communication is vital for our success.” - Darin DeHaan

**City Hall - Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk**

- Garbage and recycling schedules for 2026 are available on the city website and City Hall.

**MEETING INFORMATION**

**Sustainability Committee:**

Next meeting: Feb 9, 2026 at 9am Oregon City Hall Conference Room

**City Council Meeting:**

Next meeting Feb 10, 2026 at 5:30pm Oregon City Hall Council Chambers.

**Planning & Zoning:**

Next meeting Feb 17, 2026 at 5:30pm Oregon City Hall Council Chambers

**Tree Board:**

Next meeting Mar 18, 2026 at 5:30pm at Oregon City Hall Conference Room

**Economic and Community Development Committee:**

The Ogle County Economic Development Corporation held its annual meeting at the Oregon Depot. Thank you to Roger Cain for hosting us and providing such a fantastic space to discuss the future of Economic Development for Oregon and Ogle County. \*Pictures from OCEDC

Linkedin







**Public Art Commission:**

Next meeting TBD - Waiting for the weather to improve to continue the work on the City welcome sign re-design.



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## **PUBLIC WORKS**

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### ***Director of Public Works Submitted by Bill Covell***

#### **Daily Tasks**

- a. Help Schedule
- b. Approve Bills
- c. Purchased supplies
- d. Monthly Fuel Reports
- e. Safety Training

#### **Projects**

- a. Headworks Project—nothing new
- b. Lead Service Inventory—Review List for potholing
- c. 2026 Local Road Project—Preliminary planning for next summer, review cost estimate, review road conditions.
- d. 2026 MFT Project—City Hall Parking Lot, Street Garage Parking Lot, Adams Street
- e. 2025 East Side Sidewalk—Followed up with Fehr Graham
- f. Pedestrian Crossing—nothing new
- g. FY2026 Budget Requests
- h. Review water main break procedures
- i. Put together power point on working with public

#### **Meetings**

- a. Department Head
- b. Safety Meeting
- c. Workshop Meeting

#### **Miscellaneous**

- a. Worked on Fulcrum reports

### ***Street Department Submitted by Jordan Plock***

#### **Daily Tasks**

- a. Trash pickup of city trash cans
- b. City mechanic working on daily maintenance tasks

## Projects

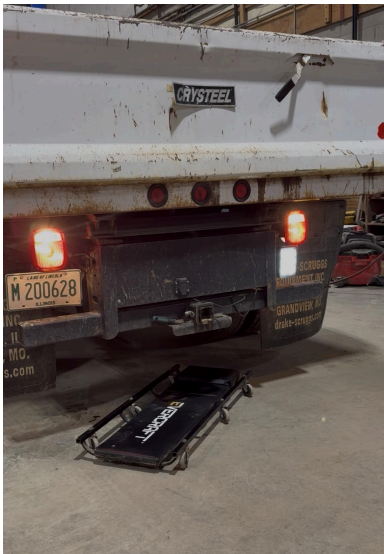
- a. Crew is working on sign replacement program to replace old and worn out signs within the city.
- b. Crew worked on replacing some wear items on plow trucks for the continuing season.
- c. Crew worked on setting up a detour for the closure on Oregon Trail Rd.
- d. Crew assisted the WS departments with a water main break on Oregon Trail and 13th St.

## Training

- a. Street Foreman led safety classes on Fall Protection.
- b. Worked on weekly safety training
- c. Foreman worked on continuing education classes
- d. Worked on updating our list of required OSHA training for the year.

## General

- a. Street Foreman attended the department head meeting.
- b. Street Foreman worked on gathering information on the possibility of replacing the old worn out Christmas decorations. We continue to work to beautify the City.
- c. Crew assisted the police department with their annual training.
- d. Street Foreman worked with Water Operator on cross training of some of the daily tasks for the Water Department.
- e. Crew worked tirelessly during a few of the recent snow/ice storms to keep the city streets/downtown sidewalks clear and safe.



## *Sewer Department Submitted by Scott Wallace*

### **Daily tasks**

- a. Daily chores
- b. Testing full set (process control/EPA Required Monitoring)
- c. Half testing (process control)
- d. Pumped Sludge
- e. Cleaned bar screens, netting of tanks, multiple times daily due to rags, debris
- f. Daily reporting of National Weather Service recordings
- g. Lift Station usage recording
- h. Assisted the Water Department
- i. Monthly reports to the EPA
- j. Generator/ Well checks
- k. Worked with various customers on water and sewer issues (leaks, sewer backups)

### **Head Works**

- a. No new updates at this time

### **Training**

- a. Still working to schedule/plan for upcoming wastewater spring conference
- b. Weekly safety training

### **General**

- a. WEATHER RELATED ISSUES (frozen lines and valves)
- b. Metro Cloud scheduled for end of this week
- c. Blower maintenance to begin next week
- d. Fire hosed and cleaned clarifiers ahead of cold snap (perfect timing)
- e. Water main break on Oregon Trail rd
- f. Pulled RAS pump due to rags/rubber gloves

## *Water Department Submitted by Jeff Pennington*

### **Daily Tasks**

- a. Chores
- b. Daily Testing
- c. Julie Locates
- d. Final reads
- e. Water turn-ons
- f. Water shut-offs
- g. Generator checks

### **Wells**

- a. Repaired Chemical feed pump parts as needed
- b. Scheduled Chemical delivery from Hawkins for process/control
- c. Worked with Public Works Director on acquiring pricing for replacement Pressure tank for well #5 water service.



## **Meter Replacement Program**

- a. Been scheduling and replacing meters as time allows

## **EPA compliance**

- a. Completed Monthly operating reports for Epa compliance.

## **Training**

- a. Worked with Public works on Excellent service in Public Works presentation.
- b. Safety meetings with the Public Works Director and staff.
- c. Worked on cross training Street manager on Well checks and operations.

## **General**

- a. Repaired Water main break on Oregon Trail and 13th St. intersection.
- b. Assisted the Sewer department when needed
- c. Worked with customers on water leaks and sewer issues at numerous locations.
- d. Aidan took his Class C water exam for certification and is awaiting results.
- e. Finished cleaning, organizing, and inventory of supplies for water and wastewater and reported to the Public Works Director.
- f. Inspected Manhole at Kane Property.
- g. Investigated hit valve box on Martin Ave.





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## Oregon Police Department

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### *Police Department Submitted by Chief Matthew Kalnins*

- On 01/20/2026 and 01/22/2026 the Oregon Police Department conducted their annual taser training. This training consisted on getting all the officers certified in the use of their new taser 10 duty weapons. We would like to thank the Oregon Street Department for letting us train in their building and utilize the size of their training room. A special thanks to Aaron and Andrew for helping us by putting on the halt suit that allows the officers to shoot practice rounds that stick to the suit when deployed. This provides officers with great training and real time deployments.

