

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday February 10th, 2026, 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
115 N 3rd Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday February 10th, 2026, 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
Chief of Police Matt Kalnins
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Present via Zoom: City Manager Darin DeHaan
City Attorney Paul Chadwick

Also Present: Mike Arians, Bill Covell, John Dickson, John Ebens, Matt Pendergrass, Josh Pickering, Jordan Plock, and David Wiesner.

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

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

Council Member Josiah Flanagan started the pledge of allegiance.

Presentations

None.

Proclamations, Commendations, Swear In, Etc.

None.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve January 27th, 2026, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

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 \$64,723.53 and the current warrants as listed:

Amazon Capital Services, Inc	\$115.70
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$21,531.13
Butitta Bros Automotive - Oregon	\$2,190.46
Chile Pepper	\$100.00
Cintas	\$150.85
Comcast	\$284.86

Dixon Paint Co	\$171.98
Dos Amigos	\$50.00
Envision Healthcare	\$251.00
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$257.56
Fidelity Security Life Insurance	\$175.40
Fischer's	\$318.92
Frontier	\$299.12
Fyr Fyter	\$930.40
Hach Company	\$73.55
Hach Company	\$1,894.26
Hawkins, Inc	\$462.00
Illinois Department of Transportation	\$67,643.89
Illinois EPA	\$11,677.38
Illinois EPA	\$72,768.30
Jacob & Klein, LTD	\$955.80
Manheim Solutions	\$1,844.50
Metropolitan Industries Inc	\$1,157.99
Morton Salt	\$8,577.19
Northern Illinois Disposal Services	\$25,648.92
Old National Bank	\$1,925.60
Rat Worx, Inc	\$80.00
Ray O'Herron Co., Inc	\$1,512.98
Rock Salt USA	\$9,346.05
Shaw Media/Oregon Republican Reporter	\$78.00
Shawn Melville	\$250.00
Snyder's Pharmacy	\$338.48
Stillman BancCorp	\$4,047.16
Stratus Network Inc	\$65.26
Sun Life Financial	\$415.51
SundogIT	\$2,693.68
The Economic Development Group	\$7,257.55
Village of Progress	\$1,280.00
Visa	\$681.95
	\$249,503.38

Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

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

Ordinances

2nd Reading – 2026-002 Regulation of Video Gaming: Mayor Ken Williams said this is a second reading of the ordinance only, there will be no vote. Revenue from video gaming goes into the economic development fund to help revitalize downtown. Council Member Terry Schuster stated he understands the business owners' concerns about diluting the market. He said there needs to be more discussion. Mayor Ken Williams said the executive committee will continue to discuss options and hold a public hearing if necessary.

Resolutions

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve Resolution 2026-02 In Support of the Illinois America250 Commemoration, Seconded by Council Member Josiah Flanagan.

Discussion: The state and federal government will be acknowledging the United States of America's 250th anniversary. The Illinois America250 Commission was established to plan the 250th anniversary event. The city will be forming a committee to help coordinate events to celebrate America's 250th anniversary. CMAAA Executive Director Mike Glenn will be leading the committee.

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

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve Resolution 2026-03 Disposal of Surplus Property, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: Public Works Director Bill Covell said the equipment listed is from properties recently acquired by the city. The items will be on Wisconsin Surplus Auction. Mayor Ken Williams asked for the information regarding the auction be made available to the public so residents can bid on the items if they are interested.

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

Motions

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve City Manager Contract, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

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

Council Member Josiah Flanagan moved to approve a Liquor License for Taft's Tavern with defined conditions as presented – 408 E. Washington Street – Matt Pendergrass, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

Discussion: Mayor Ken Williams said the location is the old K's Sports Bar. That location also had gaming and a liquor license. He said the business and floor plan are in the packets. He also stated as part of the agreement, there will be no visible gaming signs at this location. They also discussed the limited amount of parking. Public Works Director Bill Covell said he is working on clearly marking parking spaces. Matt Pendergrass said he has purchased the building and has invested about a half million dollars in the business. He said he wants to create an atmosphere that is different from The Hunt Club and provide more food options. Council Member Terry Schuster said the location will be attractive to people driving into town from that direction. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the city has been working hard on economic development for the east side of town.

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

Discussion Items

Downtown Christmas Lights: Street Foreman Jordan Plock said both companies provided quality proposals. The warranties are similar as well. He recommended choosing a simpler design to make them easier to see. The City Council preferred the candle and wreath designs from the Display Sales Company.

Board & Commission Reports

Economic and Community Development: The city has joined Illinois Mainstreet. The program is designed to help communities preserve and revitalize their downtown.

Department & Officer Reports

City Attorney Paul Chadwick: He said he appreciated the discussion on the topics this evening and he appreciates everyone's input.

City Manager Darin DeHaan: Asked Bill Covell to contact the township commissioner before attending the meeting at the township building regarding parking at Taft's Tavern. Thanked Jordan Plock for the work on the downtown Christmas Lights project. Thanked Matt Kalnins for running Zoom for the Council meeting. He was unable to launch the live feed on Facebook, but he will upload the recording when he returns. He said he received notice on Friday; the federal EPA has approved the Brownsfield application for the Moring property. He is hopeful of getting the property cleaned up and redeveloped. He thanked the City Council for continued support and renewal of his contract. He is nearing his 30th year with the City of Oregon and he still has the same energy and passion for the community. He is looking forward to working department heads, staff, and the City Council.

Council Reports

Mayor Ken Williams: Thanked everyone. He said the council does listen to everyone and are just working through input provided from all over.

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

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

Adjourn: 6:32 P.M.

Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk