

City of Oregon Planning Commission Meeting

The Planning Commission met Thursday March 19th, 2026, at 6:00 pm.

Members Present: Roger Cain, Randy Cropp, Jeff Hallock, Liz Hiemstra, Mark Herman, Rick Ryland, and Karly Spell.

Also, Present: City Manager Darin DeHaan, City Clerk Cheryl Hilton, and Mayor Ken Williams.

Mark Herman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

No public comment.

Jeff Hallock moved to approve January 20th, 2026, minutes, Seconded by Rick Ryland.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Karly Spell moved to approve a Public Hearing be held on April 21st, 2026 to add Hotel as a Permitted Use in Commercial Zoning, Seconded by Randy Cropp.

Discussion: A short-term rental application was submitted for 122 N 3rd Street, the previous location of the Patchwork Inn. The Patchwork Inn operated as a bed and breakfast. Mayor Ken Williams stated according to city code, a short-term rental falls under bed and breakfast requirements. Bed and breakfast establishments are limited to five guest rooms, where hotel establishments have five or more guest rooms. Operation of a hotel is not listed as a permitted use in commercial zoning. Roger Cain said adding hotel to the permitted list seems like a natural fit. Mark Herman asked about the tax obligations. Mayor Ken Williams stated taxes would continue to be collected by the owner and paid to the county.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Rick Ryland moved to table indefinitely a Public Hearing date of April 21st, 2026 for a Special Use Permit for a Short-Term Rental located at 122 N. 3rd Street parcel #16-03-160-006 submitted by Michele Girgis, Seconded by Liz Hiemstra.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Other business: City Manager Darin DeHaan said the EPA will be on-site at the old Moring property in April. The city has a very good chance of receiving federal funding for the cleanup of the property. The developer who reached out about redeveloping the property is no longer interested but the city has a couple of potential developers in mind to reach out to.

Mayor Ken Williams said the city has been working on retail related items. He said there are one hundred and thirty-eight brick and mortar retail sites within the city. Each of those locations contributes to retail sales tax.

Rick Ryland complimented the street department on the slurry seal application to the streets this previous year. City Manager Darin DeHaan gave credit to Bill Covell for researching this option

for the city. Mayor Ken Williams said both 2026 and 2027 street projects will be completed this year. The committee also discussed the deterioration of streets in the Fairground subdivision, snow removal in the downtown area, and scrap and rubbish being left out around homes throughout town.

Karly Spell moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 pm, Seconded by Rick Ryland.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Submitted by Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk