



*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 Council Agenda,  
Tuesday April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 5:30 P.M.  
115 N 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**

**Public Option: Join Meeting via Zoom**

**Meeting ID: 876 3660 0114**

**Passcode: 515204**

**One tap mobile**

**+13092053325**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
4. **PRESENTATIONS**
5. **PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, SWEAR IN, ETC**
  - a. Matt Kalnins – Employee Recognition – 20 Years of Service
  - b. Bird City Official Proclamation
6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - a. March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026
8. **APPROVAL OF WARRANTS AND PAYROLL**
9. **ORDINANCES**
10. **RESOLUTIONS**
  - a. 2026-07 Electric Municipal Aggregation Program authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to seek bids and enter a contract on behalf of the city
11. **MOTIONS**
  - a. Approve Mutual Release and Settlement Agreement with Civil Constructors, Inc. dba Helm Civil
  - b. Approve New City Welcome Sign Design and Authorize the City Manager to issue an RFP for the replacement of one sign

- c. **Approve the Mainstreet Director Position and Authorize the City Manager to advertise and fill the position**

## **12. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

## **13. BOARD AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

- a. **PLANNING**
- b. **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
- c. **FINANCE**
- d. **SUSTAINABILITY**
- e. **TREE BOARD**
- f. **PUBLIC ART COMMISSION**
- g. **250<sup>th</sup> COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE**
- h. **OTHER**

## **14. DEPARTMENT AND OFFICER REPORTS**

- a. **POLICE**
- b. **PUBLIC WORKS**
- c. **CITY CLERK**
- d. **CITY ATTORNEY**
- e. **CITY MANAGER**  
City Manager's Report

## **15. COUNCIL REPORTS**

- a. **MEMBER SCHUSTER**
- b. **MEMBER COZZI**
- c. **MEMBER KRUG**
- d. **MEMBER FLANAGAN**
- e. **MAYOR WILLIAMS**

## **16. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

## **17. ADJOURNMENT**

**\*People may attend the meeting in person at City Hall or may watch and participate via Zoom.**

The City of Oregon, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that persons with disabilities, who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in the meeting(s) or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting(s) or facilities, contact the City Manager Darin DeHaan at 815-732-6321 at least 24 hours before a scheduled meeting to allow the City to make reasonable accommodations for these persons.

A portion of the meeting maybe closed to the Public, immediately as permitted by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the City of Oregon, and as permitted by 5 ILCS 102/2 (c)(11) to discuss litigation against, affecting, or on behalf of the City which has been filed and is pending in a court or administrative tribunal of which is imminent and as permitted by 5 ILCS (c)(21) to review and approve closed session minutes and as permitted by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 2 Collective negotiating matters. **Possible action after executive session**



# THE CITY OF OREGON, ILLINOIS

## Bird City Official Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, birds are some of the most beautiful and easily observed wildlife that share our communities, and

**WHEREAS**, many citizens recognize and value birds that are residents and those that pass through during their migration seasons, and

**WHEREAS**, birds play an important ecological role in our community, controlling insect pests and contributing to pollination and seed dispersal, and

**WHEREAS**, birds and their habitats are declining throughout Illinois and North America, facing a growing number of threats on their migration routes and in both their summer and winter habitat, and

**WHEREAS**, public education, awareness, and concern are crucial components of bird conservation, and

**WHEREAS**, citizens enthusiastic about birds, informed about the threats they face, and empowered to help address those threats can directly contribute to maintaining healthy bird populations, and

**WHEREAS**, birds contribute to an increase to the economy by attracting tourists and generating revenue, and

**WHEREAS**, climate change is the number one threat to birds and local leaders should adopt environmentally sound policies and practices that protect birds and their habitat, and

**WHEREAS**, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 is important legislation that we need to continue to uphold in our local communities to ensure the protection of migratory birds, and

**WHEREAS**, Bird City Illinois is an initiative to build relationships with local municipalities and citizens of the community for a call to action to protect and conserve birds.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ken Williams, Mayor of the City of Oregon, Illinois, do hereby proclaim May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 as World Migratory Bird Day in the City of Oregon.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Oregon to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026.

*(Seal)*

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*Ken Williams, Mayor*



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 5:30 P.M.  
City Hall Council Chambers  
115 N 3<sup>rd</sup> Street

The Council of the City of Oregon met Tuesday March 24<sup>th</sup>, 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  
City Manager Darin DeHaan  
Chief of Police Matt Kalnins  
City Clerk Cheryl Hilton

Also Present: Mike Arians, Jessica Cash, Bill Covell, John Dickson, Vicki Farbo, Earleen Hinton, and Josh Pickering.

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 Tim Krug started the pledge of allegiance.

**Presentations**

None.

**Proclamations, Commendations, Swear In, Etc.**

Mayor Ken Williams proclaimed the month of April as National Child Abuse and Awareness Prevention month in the City of Oregon. Jessica Cash with Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center and Vicki Farbo with CASA were present. Jessica said she appreciated the City Council for proclaiming the month of April as National Child Abuse and Awareness Prevention month and helping to raise awareness. Jessica stated Shining Star will be holding the Hands Around the City event on April 17<sup>th</sup> at the Rochelle City Hall at 12 pm. The Hope of Ogle County event will be held at River's Edge Experience in Oregon on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Shining Star will be opening a large office here in Oregon and has secured a location on Pines Road. She said they are happy to be able to operate in the same county as the people they serve.

**Public Comment**

John Dickson asked about the Mainstreet position that was discussed at the last meeting. He commented on the use of tax revenue to fund the position and if the revenue goes up when does the government downsize tax assessments, gaming fees, or something similar. He also asked about a peaceful protest being held on March 28<sup>th</sup> and vendors being involved. City Manager Darin DeHaan said they had attempted to secure space on the courthouse lawn; however, they could not find insurance carriers. He also asked about the Abbey Road style photo on the crosswalk in front of City Hall. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the picture has been completed. Mayor Ken Williams said he will share the photo.

**Approval of Minutes**

Council Member Terry Schuster moved to approve March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026, minutes, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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 \$64,008.26 and the current warrants as listed:

Amazon Capital Services, Inc	\$301.98
Ancel Glink, P.C.	\$4,090.00
Butitta Bros Automotive - Oregon	\$356.93
Caspers Home Inspection LLC	\$1,550.00
Cintas	\$150.85
City of Oregon	\$5,500.00
Comcast	\$833.46
Comcast	\$1,031.25
Corboy & Demetrio, PC	\$30.00
Ecolab	\$316.46
EM Benefits	\$1,822.66
Eric Higby	\$14.55
Fehr Graham & Associates, LLC	\$10,401.00
Frontier	\$139.35
Illinois EPA	\$10.00
Illinois Municipal Treasures Association	\$100.00
Ken Williams	\$58.07
Melanie Cozzi	\$25.00
Menards	\$201.79
MPSG	\$3,601.00
Pace Analytical Service	\$725.00
Polo Cooperative Association	\$2,245.23
Postmaster	\$813.74
Radar Man Inc.	\$250.00
Sun Life Financial	\$415.51
Sutton Ford Inc	\$133,123.84
Verizon	\$843.15
Visa	\$1,539.20
Visa	\$1,781.87
	<b>\$172,271.89</b>

Seconded by Council Member Terry Schuster.

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

**Ordinances**

None.

**Resolutions**

None.

### **Motions**

Council Member Tim Krug moved to approve the Engineering Agreement with Fehr Graham for the Bridge-to-Bridge Walking/Bike path and authorize the City Manager to sign all documents on behalf of the City of Oregon, Seconded by Council Member Melanie Cozzi.

**Discussion:** This is an ongoing project and is part of the city's long-range plans. The Bridge-to-Bridge project is a partnership between multiple entities to create a walking/bike path from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street by the Trestle Ridge subdivision to RT 64. The city was unsuccessful in securing ITEP grant funding several cycles ago because the engineering had not been completed.

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

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to approve the Appointment of Steve Rypkema to the Tree Board, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

**Discussion:** Mayor Ken Williams said he is glad to see Steve stepping into this role; he will be very valuable to the Tree Board. City Manager Darin DeHaan said Steve will be filling the vacancy left by Caleb Jenks.

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

### **Discussion Items**

**Main Street:** Mayor Ken Williams said the city will be taking time with this decision. City Manager Darin DeHaan presented the City Council with a budget and funding options for the position. He said most Main Street programs are 501c3 nonprofit. There are a multitude of municipalities, including Dixon, who help with funding Main Street programs. These communities combined the Chamber, Economic Development, and Main Street under one umbrella.

If approved by the City Council, funding for the program would be with economic development funds. He provided the City Council a breakdown of the revenue and expenses for the Economic Development Fund. Total revenue is approximately two hundred and ninety-seven thousand dollars, total expense approximately two hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars, leaving an ending fund balance of approximately forty-seven thousand dollars. All revenue from gaming would be moved into economic development, approximately two hundred and forty thousand dollars for fiscal year 2027. Previously the gaming revenue was split between general, capital building, and economic development funds. He stated funding for the program would come from video gaming revenue, not tax dollars. The breakdown included the cost for personnel and program expenses for the Mainstreet Program.

Council Member Terry Schuster asked how long the program has been in effect. City Manager Darin DeHaan said the program has been in existence since the mid 90's. He said it shows the program is sustainable over decades. He said the Chamber format has been struggling for many years. Mayor Ken Williams said the Mainstreet Program is much broader in scope. The program will work on sustainability of existing merchants and will do much more in the form of economic development such as working with building owners to make repairs to buildings, work with potential new businesses, and work with the county to attract new businesses that are looking for locations in town. Businesses come and go and it is normal, but we need people in place to make sure the process continues. The Chamber of Commerce had a very low membership. With the Mainstreet Program, every business will get the same amount of support. He also stated Economic Development in the city started with volunteers. The city was later able to bring in a contract employee. Council Member Melanie Cozzi said she sees the program as a way to streamline all the agencies the city currently works with. By putting them under one directive, it makes the city more efficient. City Council

Member Josiah Flanagan said he could not see why the city needed to create a full-time director position. He said we could try to save some money; we are a small town. Mayor Ken Williams said the city could also look into hiring a contract employee. He stated the city would have more control and direction for the position if the city hired a full-time employee. He said it will come down to cost and how to save money, and if we save money, where does it go. Council Member Terry Schuster said he would like to see a list of job responsibilities and duties in terms of what the person will be expected to do, expertise and knowledge, and the time they would have to do those things. He said we want to be able to support the businesses with skills to help them be more successful. You need to have someone who understands marketing, budgeting, and bookkeeping. He said he feels the program will need a full-time person. The City Council asked Darin to provide them with the duties and responsibilities list for them to review.

### **Board & Commission Reports**

**Planning:** Will be holding a public hearing to consider changes to the city zoning code to allow hotels as a permitted use in the Commercial District.

**Economic Development:** The annual TIF review was held. Laura McKee with the Oregon Fire Protection District was present. All taxing bodies are invited to attend the meeting.

**Finance:** The City Council was provided the current budget worksheet for review. Preparations for next fiscal year's budget have begun.

**Tree Board:** A tree planting will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup> in observance of Arbor Day. The tree will be planted by the north end of town's welcome sign.

**250<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Committee:** John Dickson said the committee has discussed holding events over three days, including Flag Day. Ideas are still in the concept phase and include events being held at Conover Square, the Depot Museum, and CMAAA. Mayor Ken Williams provided John Dickson contact information for the VFW.

### **Department & Officer Reports**

**Chief of Police Matt Kalnins:** He said it has been amazing to work with Jessica Cash and Shining Star. He also complimented the public works department on the fantastic job of clearing the snow after the recent weather event.

**Public Works Director Bill Covell:** The public works department will be cleaning catch basins. He reminded everyone to slow down and give extra attention and space to workers.

**City Manager Darin DeHaan:** Thanked CASA and Shining Star for everything their organizations do.

### **Council Reports**

**Mayor Ken Williams:** Thanked the public works department for cleaning up the downtown in short order. City Manager Darin DeHaan reminded the community that snow clean-up in the downtown is a partnership with the business owners. Business owners still need to remove snow and apply salt if necessary. Mayor Ken Williams thanked Shining Star Advocacy Center for their work. He is very happy they will be in town.

Mayor Ken Williams said the City Council will be going into Executive Session to discuss litigation and the potential purchase of property. No action will be taken after they reconvene to regular session.

Council Member Melanie Cozzi moved to go into Executive Session at 6:18 p.m. to discuss litigation and potential purchase of property, Seconded by Council Member Tim Krug.

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

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: 6:46 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Williams, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk



April 14, 2026

Payroll in amount \$67,120.21

3 D Trailer & Auto	\$13,518.00
A.M. Leonard, Inc	\$761.25
A5 Group Inc	\$2,887.50
Amazon Capital Services, Inc	\$35.29
Bill Covell	\$113.00
Bill Covell	\$331.52
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$21,531.13
Boss Roofing Siding Experts	\$1,317.03
Central Square	\$5,903.45
Cintas	\$150.85
Coliseum Museum Art, Antiques & Americana	\$3,454.00
Comcast	\$284.86
Comcast	\$1,031.82
Darin DeHaan	\$169.90
Deb Fane	\$75.00
Ecolab	\$150.00
Envision Healthcare	\$227.00
Epic Insurance Midwest	\$500.00
Fehr Graham & Associates LLC	\$690.25
Fehr Graham & Associates LLC	\$4,875.00
Fehr Graham & Associates LLC	\$5,500.00
Fehr Graham & Associates LLC	\$12,677.00
Fidelity Security Life Insurance	\$175.40
Fischer's	\$135.14
Frontier	\$299.12
Hach Company	\$2,023.90
Hawkins, Inc	\$1,491.02
Helm Electric	\$485.00
Illinois Department of Agriculture	\$180.00
Illinois EPA	\$58,374.60
Jacob & Klein, Ltd	\$788.20
Manheim Solutions	\$2,082.50
Mariani Plants	\$696.60
MCS	\$145.00
NAPA	\$14.69
Nicor	\$627.60
Northern Illinois Disposal Services	\$51,195.84
NW Illinois Criminal Justice Commission	\$886.40
Oregon Community Unit School District #220	\$12,688.63
Oregon Park District	\$2,500.00

Oregon Rotary Club	\$115.00
Pace Analytical Services	\$3,212.00
Pines Meadow	\$515.50
Polo Cooperative Association	\$5,342.96
Postmaster	\$10.77
Scott Wallace	\$113.00
Shaw Media/Oregon Republican Reporter	\$343.29
Shawn Melville	\$250.00
Snyder's Pharmacy	\$22.82
Steve Benesh & Sons	\$3,760.00
Stillman BancCorp	\$4,047.16
Stratus Network Inc	\$77.08
SundogIT	\$2,719.91
Sutton Ford	\$65,241.57
The Economic Development Group	\$3,152.80
Village of Progress	\$1,280.00
WRHL/WYOT	\$998.00

**\$302,175.35**

**City Manager**

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RESOLUTION NO.: 2026-07

Whereas, the current electric municipal aggregation program to all residential and qualified small businesses will expire in September 2026; and

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Oregon, Illinois has determined that it is desirable to continue the municipal electric aggregation program so long as the City can secure a competitive supply rate; and

Whereas, the City would like to combine their electrical aggregation loads with similar communities for cost efficiencies to provide a favorable energy rate; and

Whereas, City Council and Village Boards meetings of these communities meet at different times and dates; and

Whereas, the energy markets move each day and suppliers do not have the ability to hold competitive prices for an extended time;

Now therefore, be it resolved that by the adoption of this Resolution, the Mayor or City Manager is authorized and directed to seek bids from responsible low bidders in order to negotiate and enter into a wholesale electricity supply contract for the City on terms as deemed appropriate and with said contract to be in the best interest of the City. This process and potential contract shall include residents, qualified small businesses and not exceed three (3) years in length and the Mayor or City Manager will report to the City Council the outcome of the solicitation as soon as is reasonable possible.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Oregon on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

MOTION:

SECOND:

VOTING: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor:

Attest: City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## MUTUAL RELEASE AND SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

THIS MUTUAL RELEASE AND SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) is made and entered into this \_\_\_ day of April, 2026, by and between the City of Oregon (“Oregon”) and Civil Constructors, Inc., d/b/a Helm Civil (“Helm Civil”). Oregon and Helm Civil are individually referred to herein as a “party” and collectively referred to herein as the “parties”.

### W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, by written contract dated on or about May 17, 2023, the parties entered into an agreement (the “contract”) wherein Helm Civil was to provide labor and materials for a seal coat project on various streets in Oregon, Illinois as per the plans and specifications prepared by Oregon’s engineer, Willett Hofmann & Associates, Inc. (“WHA”) (the “project”); and

WHEREAS, certain disputes and controversies arose between the parties relating to Helm Civil’s work under the contract for the project; and

WHEREAS, Oregon instituted suit in the case known as *City of Oregon v. Civil Constructors, Inc., d/b/a Helm Civil*, in the Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Ogle County, Illinois, Case No. 2024 LA 15 (the “lawsuit”). Helm Civil denied the allegations and asserted affirmative defenses; and

WHEREAS, Oregon amended the lawsuit and added WHA as a defendant asserting errors and omissions in WHA’s professional services for the project; and

WHEREAS, the parties voluntarily participated in mediation in order to attempt to settle all claims, disputes, and differences among them and the parties reached an accord in mediation; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the following terms and conditions, Oregon and Helm Civil desire to compromise and settle all claims and disputes between them related to the contract, the project and the lawsuit as provided herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the following agreements, covenants, promises and payments, the adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged by the parties hereto, Oregon and Helm Civil hereby agree as follows:

1. (a) In full compromise and settlement of the claims asserted or unasserted against the other in the lawsuit and all other costs, demands and suits of whatever nature arising from the contract and the project, Helm Civil agrees to pay to Oregon the sum of \$55,000.00 within fourteen (14) calendar days after (i) execution of this Agreement by both parties hereto; and (ii) Oregon providing written notice to Helm Civil’s attorney that the Agreement has been validly approved and accepted by the Oregon governing authority.

(b) Oregon agrees to cause to be entered in the lawsuit a Stipulation and Order to Dismiss the lawsuit against Helm Civil, with prejudice, within seven (7) calendar days after receipt of the payment provided in paragraph 1(a).

(c) Oregon agrees that if a deposition of any Helm Civil employees is requested by either Oregon or WHA in continuing litigation between Oregon and WHA, Oregon shall depose Helm Civil employees via Zoom and Oregon will not oppose WHA deposing Helm Civil employees via Zoom.

(d) Oregon agrees that it shall not, at any time, make, publish, or communicate to any person or entity any false, misleading, or disparaging remarks, comments, or statements concerning Helm Civil, its affiliates, officers, directors, employees, agents, products, or services. This provision applies to both oral and written communications, including those made via social media or other online platforms. Nothing in this clause shall be construed to limit Oregon's rights or obligations under applicable law, including the right to provide truthful information as required by law, regulation, or legal process.

(e) Helm Civil agrees that it shall not, at any time, make, publish, or communicate to any person or entity any false, misleading, or disparaging remarks, comments, or statements concerning Oregon, its officials, officers, directors, employees, volunteers, or agents. This provision applies to both oral and written communications, including those made via social media or other online platforms. Nothing in this clause shall be construed to limit Helm Civil's rights or obligations under applicable law, including the right to provide truthful information as required by law, regulation, or legal process.

2. (a) For, and in consideration, of the payment, promises and exchanges set forth in paragraph 1 of this Agreement, each party hereto, for itself and for its venturers and the successors and assigns of all of them, hereby remises, releases and forever discharges the other, its present and former officials, officers, directors, members, insurers, agents, volunteers, servants, and employees, and their administrators, executors, successors and assigns, from any and all claims, demands, rights, causes of action, actions, suits, damages, losses and expenses of whatever kind of nature, arising from or by reason of any and all known and unknown, foreseen and unforeseen, losses, costs and damages, and the consequences thereof, relating to and resulting on account of anything that has heretofore occurred in connection with the contract and the project, except with respect to the promises and conditions expressly set forth in this Agreement.

3. The recitals at the beginning of this Agreement are incorporated into this Agreement as though herein expressly set forth.

4. The parties hereto warrant that no promise, agreement or inducement not herein expressed has been made to or by either of them. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto and all agreements, understandings and undertakings by and between the parties are hereby incorporated into and superseded by this Agreement.

5. In executing this Agreement neither party is relying upon any statement or representation made by any person or party released or its agents and representatives concerning the legal liability of one to the other.

6. Oregon represents and warrants to Helm Civil that it currently has no claim against Helm Civil which is not being settled and compromised as set forth in this Agreement. Helm Civil represents and warrants to Oregon that it currently has no claim against Oregon which is not being settled and compromised as set forth in this Agreement.

7. The parties hereto covenant, agree and declare that this Agreement is made and executed by it and on its behalf through its respective authorized representatives of its own free will and deed and it is fully informed of the contents and meaning hereof and has so executed this Agreement with full knowledge thereof and with full authority.

8. In the event of ambiguity in or dispute regarding the interpretation of this Agreement, the ambiguity or dispute shall not be resolved by any rule of interpretation providing for interpretation against the party who causes the uncertainty to exist or against the draftsman.

9. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed as an admission of liability on the part of any party hereby released, all of which is expressly denied. This Agreement is entered into to settle and avoid pending and further litigation and to establish peace between the parties.

10. The parties agree that this Agreement and the transaction contemplated herein shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois.

11. No waiver of any breach of any provision of this Agreement shall constitute a waiver of any other breach of that or any other provision hereof.

12. Should a party hereto employ an attorney to enforce any of the provisions of this Agreement or to protect its interests arising under this Agreement or to collect sums due and owing under this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney's fees, costs, charges, and expenses expended or incurred therein.

13. The terms and provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed severable, so that if any term or provision is deemed to be invalid or unenforceable, such term or provision shall be deemed deleted or modified so as to permit the remaining portions of this Agreement to be valid and enforceable to the full extent permitted by applicable law.

14. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which will be deemed to be an original. All counterparts will constitute but one and the same instrument and will be evidenced by any one counterpart. A facsimile, photocopy, or scanned image of a party's original signature shall be as effective as the original.

WHEREFORE, the parties, intending to be legally bound, do hereby execute this Agreement the day and year set forth above.

City of Oregon

Civil Constructors, Inc., d/b/a Helm Civil

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its

# New City Sign Design



## Oregon Public Art Commission

Thank you to:

- Julie Kennelly – Chairperson
- Michael Glenn
- Cheryl Bunton
- Joy Meyer
- Randee Mennenga
- Chloe Metz
- Kate Bunton

Why.....?

- Existing sign has aged from the weather
- Impossible to re-paint due to cracks in the wood.
- E 64 sign fell over
- Company went out of business after covid.
- Plan would be to do one a year over a 4-year period.





RBM

— WELCOME TO —

# Oregon

“A Beautiful Place in the Country”

— Est. 1836 —







RBM



## **About “The Heart of Oregon Main Street”**

The Heart of Oregon Main Street is a city lead initiative dedicated to strengthening Downtown Oregon through strategic investment, business support, placemaking, and community-driven initiatives. With strong tourism assets, local businesses, and growing community momentum, Downtown Oregon is positioned for continued revitalization and long-term success.

The organization operates within the framework of the Illinois Main Street program and is part of a statewide and national network that provides structure, training, and accountability for downtown development. The Main Street Manager will play a key role in implementing this framework locally while helping advance the organization’s goals and visibility.

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## **The Role**

The Main Street Manager is a community-centered leader responsible for coordinating and implementing downtown revitalization efforts. This role focuses on program execution, volunteer and stakeholder engagement, business support, and day-to-day operations that bring energy and consistency to Downtown Oregon.

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## **Core Responsibilities**

### **Key responsibilities include:**

- Expand and develop volunteers throughout the community to advance program goals
- Coordinate and implement Main Street program activities across organization, promotion, design, and economic vitality as an advocate for the commercial district
- Support fundraising efforts through grant writing, sponsorship coordination, and event-based revenue generation
- Serve as a primary point of contact for downtown businesses and property owners, providing resources, support, and connection to opportunities
- Organize and support events, promotions, and placemaking initiatives that enhance downtown vibrancy and attract visitors, while leading marketing across social media, website, email, and media outlets

- Maintain program documentation, reporting, and work plans in alignment with Main Street requirements
  - Conduct weekly business and partner check-ins
  - Manage day-to-day operations including communications, budgeting support, and coordination with vendors and partners
- 

### **What Success Looks Like in the First 12 Months**

- Consistent execution of a clear annual work plan aligned with Main Street priorities
  - Increased engagement from downtown businesses, volunteers, and community partners
  - Successful coordination of events and promotions that drive foot traffic and visibility
  - Progress on key downtown initiatives such as beautification, business support, or placemaking projects
  - Strong organizational systems for tracking activities, reporting, and outcomes
- 

### **Qualifications and Expectations**

- Bachelor's degree preferred or equivalent experience
- 2+ years of nonprofit or community development management
- Strong grant writing and grant award management experience
- Self-starter, capable of working in independent situations
- Experience in downtown development, community development, nonprofit management, marketing, or related field
- Strong organizational and project management skills, with the ability to manage multiple initiatives simultaneously
- Effective communication skills and comfort working with a wide range of stakeholders including businesses, volunteers, and local officials
- Self-motivated and able to work independently while collaborating with a city manager and committees
- Familiarity with or willingness to learn the Main Street approach to downtown revitalization

- Flexibility to attend events and meetings, including occasional evenings and weekends
- 

### **Work Environment**

- Office environment with frequent downtown engagement
  - Evening and weekend work required
  - Flexible scheduling during peak seasons.
  - Work Location: In person
- 

### **Compensation & Benefits**

- **\$48,000 - \$53,000 USD**, depending on qualifications
- **Paid time off**
- Additional benefits package, including professional development opportunities and participation in statewide Main Street training programs may be included



*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

To: Mayor Ken Williams & Oregon City Council

From: Darin J. DeHaan, City Manager & Staff

**DATE: Apr 14, 2026**

I am pleased to provide Mayor Williams and the Oregon City Council with the following synopsis of City Business for – **Mar 21, 2026 – Apr 10, 2026**

### Submitted by Darin DeHaan - City Manager

- Congratulations to Chief Matthew Kalnins on his 20th Work Anniversary with the City of Oregon. I appreciate his dedication, loyalty, and service to our community and citizens for the past 20 years!
- We held our annual TIF Annual Board of Review meeting. We continue to strategize on re-development projects, infrastructure planning, as well as support for existing business expansion. A few TIF projects we currently have going is the engineering study for Oregon's eastside looking at storm water drainage. We are also working to incentivize new business prospects for the Kunes property. Lastly we continue working with existing building owners for property improvements for our downtown and other areas.
- I attended a webinar on Sticky HR issues as a learning exercise of any HR challenges for municipalities.
- Cheryl and I held our Pre-Audit meeting with our Auditors.
- I have completed the initial budget projections for FY27 and am currently working closely with each department head to prioritize capital projects and planned purchases for the upcoming fiscal year. At the same time, we are reviewing FY26 expenditures and fund balances to ensure accuracy and fiscal alignment.

Our goal is to responsibly fund and accomplish as many initiatives as possible that benefit the community, while maintaining a balanced and sustainable budget.

- As part of the requirements for the Safe Routes to School Grant we held our required Public Meeting for the Safe Routes to Schools Grant. Thank you to Corey Buck for coordinating this meeting. This project is still under IDOT and Federal review.
- I attended a webinar titled “It’s Complicated: Learn the Truth of ADA Website Compliance and How to Do it Right.” We are starting to work on our existing site to bring it into ADA compliance by the required 2027 date. I’m working with staff as well as with our Webmaster to work through this.

- Liz Hiemestra, the Mayor and I met with a local downtown building owner in an attempt to help them get the empty space rented. We will continue to work with them to help market the space as well as help to facilitate things where we can.
- Follow up meeting with John Dickson Chairman of the 250th Committee. Completed several tasks as it relates to the planning of 250th events.
- Coordinated some items and responses related to the No Kings rally on March 28th.
- Met with a local business owner to discuss City incentive programs as well as go over how TIF works.
- Met with EPA for a walkthrough of the Paragon Foundry for their additional testing. Thank you to Bill, Jordan and the Public Works team for working to clear space they required for accessing the property. This is the next step with the Brownfields project there.
- Attended the 250th Anniversary Committee meeting. Still a work in progress, more information will be shared very soon.
- Follow up with a5 for our upcoming marketing campaign. I've begun coordinating additional marketing efforts as well.
- I contacted a few citizens to work through some minor complaints they had.
- I'm working on updating our Liquor License Municipal Code and continue research and conversations with Mayor Williams.
- Nearly 20 years ago the City Council worked up a new subdivision ordinance that was never codified at the time. I'm in the process of getting a fresh review of that ordinance from a qualified consultant firm before presenting it to the city council for final adoption. Obviously there are no current plans for any additional subdivisions, but this ordinance should be passed and codified for any future potential.
- I continue to research and prepare for the potential Mainstreet program for Oregon. The council will be asked to make a final decision on the potential new position. I've heard from several area business owners that support the decision to move forward.
- I completed several follow ups on potential new business development. Nothing to announce but I'm hopeful we can facilitate a location that meets the standards they are looking for.
- I received a final rendering from the Public Art Committee. Thank you goes out to the entire committee and a special thank you to Randee Mennenga for pulling together the concepts for council's consideration. This will be presented to the council at the next meeting.
- We finalized the State Tourism Grant paperwork. Thank you to Cheryl for all her work coordinating with the DCEO on this.
- I attended the Ogle County Economic Development Corporation Executive Committee meeting. We continue to strategize and work on projects on behalf of Oregon and Ogle County communities.

- I want to recognize all of our Water/Waste water employees who work so hard. I wanted to take a second for a special shoutout to Scott Wallace for his efforts during the recent storms. What he does to keep our waste water plant running smoothly and within EPA compliance is always “behind the scenes” but he is constantly working to maintain those high standards and certainly a huge influx of rain water does not make his job any easier. Thanks Scott for your continued expertise and dedication!
- A quick reminder to the public that the Oregon Chamber of Commerce was the organization that put together the Citywide Garage Sale Events. That is not a City event. City Hall staff have been fielding a lot of questions about it. Other than providing your garage sale license we do not organize or advertise that event. This is something we will look into for the future depending if we move forward with a Mainstreet position. That is something that person might be able to coordinate.
- I asked the Public Works Department to repair the walls in the Coliseum basement. I appreciate the fact that we can do this work inhouse which saves the City money. We put new gutters on the building which should stop any further wall issues. Once they finish the project I’ll share some new pictures of the project. Jordan also found that some water was getting into the North stairwell so we are having that looked into.



- A big thank you to the Public Works department for their continued efforts in planting new trees along our beautiful streets. We have had several residents take advantage of our matching funds program for terrace trees. The City of Oregon has a tree replacement program where we will pay 80% of the cost up to \$100.00 with residents for trees planted in the terrace.



<https://cityoforegon.org/tree-related-permits-and-tree-planting-guide/>

“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

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

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**MEETING INFORMATION**

***Public Art Commission:***

Next meeting TBD at Oregon City Hall Council Chambers. I am working to find an artist to complete the new city sign rendering for Council consideration.

***250th Anniversary of US Ad Hoc:***

Next Meeting **Apr 23, 2026 5:00 PM** Oregon City Hall Conference Room. The committee is working to finalize some plans for the 250th celebration event centered around June 14th Flag day. The idea is to have something on Friday, Saturday and Sunday that weekend. More information to come soon.

***Sustainability Committee:***

Next meeting Monday **May 11, 2026 9:00 AM** Oregon City Hall Conference Room.

***City Council Meeting:***

Next meeting Tuesday **Apr 28, 2026 5:30 PM** Oregon City Hall Council Chambers.

***Planning & Zoning:***

Next meeting Tuesday **Apr 21, 2026 5:30 PM** Oregon City Hall Council Chambers. A public hearing is scheduled for April 21st. The public hearing is in regards to adding hotels as a permissible use in commercial zoning.

***Tree Board:***

Next meeting Wednesday **May 20, 2026 4:00 PM** Oregon City Hall Conference Room.

**Arbor day tree planting** near the N. Rt2 welcome sign April 24th. Time: 10:00 a.m. We will be planting a Niobe Weeping Willow behind the sign.

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## Oregon Police Department

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

- From March 29 through March 31, Chief Kalnins attended the Annual Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) Conference in Springfield, Illinois. During the conference, Chief Kalnins participated in a series of professional development seminars covering topics such as Katrina's Law, the Valley Covenant Church shooting, and the Las Vegas music festival shooting.

The conference also provided a valuable opportunity to collaborate and network with law enforcement professionals from across the state. On Tuesday morning, a regional breakfast meeting was held to discuss local events, Mobile Field Force operations, and any equipment-related concerns.

ILEAS was established in 2002 with the original purpose of protecting pharmaceutical stockpiles in the event of a large-scale emergency. Since its inception, the organization has expanded its role to provide mutual aid and support during incidents involving civil unrest, natural disasters, and specialized training initiatives.

The ILEAS Mobile Field Force has been deployed to numerous high-profile events and incidents, including the Republican National Convention (RNC), Democratic National Convention (DNC), G20 Summit, G8 Summit, Hurricane Katrina response efforts, and various regional mutual aid requests. Chief Kalnins served as a member of the Mobile Field Force from 2008 to 2020, during which time he was deployed to both the G8 Summit in Chicago and the G20 Summit in Pittsburgh.



- On April 1, 2026, the Oregon Police Department conducted Active Threat Training at Oregon Elementary School. This training provided officers with the opportunity to enhance tactical response skills while becoming more familiar with the school's layout and environment. The department would like to thank OCUSD for providing the opportunity to conduct this important training.

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## Public Works

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

#### **Daily Tasks**

- Help Schedule
- Approve Bills
- Purchased supplies
- Monthly Fuel Reports
- Safety Training

#### **Projects**

- Headworks
  - Project–nothing new
- Lead Service Inventory
  - Updated Lead Line Inventory
- 2026 Local Road Projects
  - Approve project book
- 2026 MFT Project
  - Reviewed engineers cost estimate
  - Added parking lot area
  - City Hall Parking Lot
  - Street Garage Parking Lot
    - Review site drainage
  - Adams Street
    - Double checked measurements
- 2025 East Side Sidewalk
  - Followed up with Fehr Graham
- Pedestrian Crossing
  - Nothing new
- Assisted in demolition of building
- Helped install cameras a WWTP
- Designed layout of potential future parking lot
- Produced floor plan of building in town
- Start the auctions for city property disposal auction
- Conference in Peoria

#### **Meetings**

- Department Head
- Safety Meeting

#### **Miscellaneous**

- Worked on Fulcrum report

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**Street Department Submitted by Jordan Plock**

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**Daily Tasks**

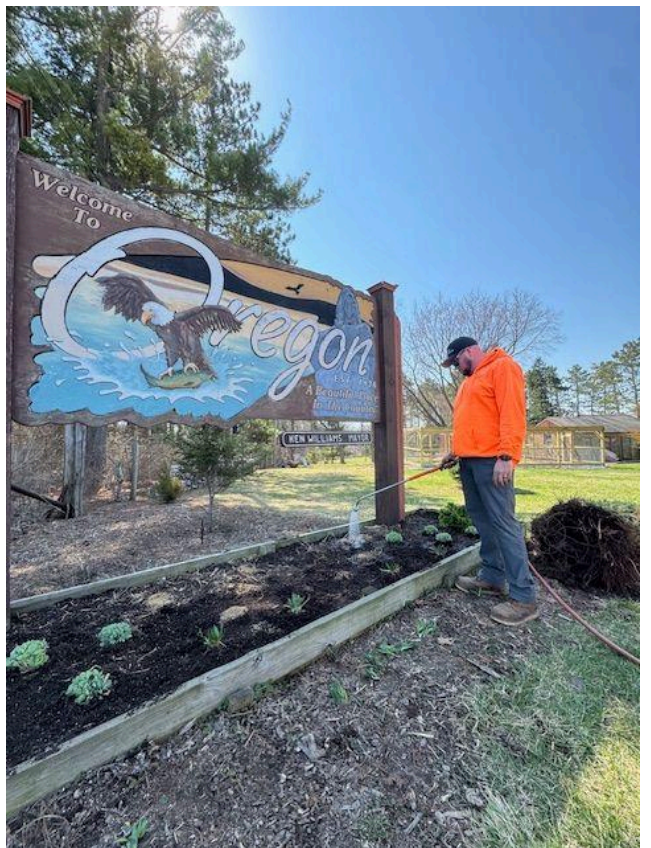
- a. Trash pickup of city trash cans
- b. City mechanic working on daily maintenance tasks

**Projects**

- a. Crew worked on cleaning up some areas around the Paragon Foundry to facilitate the EPA work.
- b. Crew completed the first brush pickup of the season.
- c. Crew cleaned all of the storm sewer catch basins of debris. This is a much needed task every spring to keep the storm sewers flowing smoothly.
- d. Crew has planted 3 trees so far this spring within the city terrace.
- e. Crew removed the arborvitaes from the uptown planters and re planted them at the Sewer Plant to continue the green screen.

**Training**

- a. Street Foreman led safety classes on HazCom.
- 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 along with the Public Works Director held one interview for a summer help position.
- c. Street Foreman along with Bill Covell and Darin DeHaan met with EPA to go over what was needed for them to complete their work.



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## *Sewer Department Submitted by Scott Wallace*

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### 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. Nothing new at this time

### Scada Upgrade

- a. Metro Cloud is up and running! Working on switching everything over

**Training**

- a. Attended Illinois wastewater professionals conference last week

**General**

- a. Washed tanks when weather allowed
- b. Cleaned Effluent channel and contact basin
- c. Byron outage has continued with daily hauling to treatment plant
- d. Weather Related Issues (Higher flows due to rain, lots of leaves with the wind)
- e. Multiple power outages due to wind
- f. Seasonal chemicals were delivered March 30th
- g. Street department made improvements to project green screen



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***Water Department Submitted by Jeff Pennington***

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**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. Received Chemical delivery from Hawkins for process/control
- c. Replaced bad chemical feed pump with new at Well #4

**Meter Replacement Program**

- a. Been scheduling and replacing meters as time allows

### **EPA compliance**

- a. Completed Monthly Bac-t/ Fluoride sampling for Epa compliance
- b. Completed Radium Sampling for Well#5 compliance
- c. Completed Radium Sampling for Well#3 compliance
- d. Completed Radium Sampling for West Reservoir per Public Works Director
- e. Completed Radium Sampling for 901 Daysville Rd per Public Works Director
- f. Submitted Sample Demand Letters to Lab for Epa compliance sampling.

### **Training**

- a. Worked with Aidan on properly filling out and submitting Monthly Epa paperwork.
- b. Worked with Metro cloud on new Scada software

### **General**

- a. Department head is on Intermittent leave for Family medical needs starting 2/2/2025. Will continue to work with the Public Works Director to meet needs for EPA compliance and ensure the department is fulfilling tasks to operate properly.
- b. Assisted the Sewer department when needed
- c. Worked with customers on water leaks and sewer issues.
- d. Worked with customers on meter repairs, and replacement of meters.
- e. Flushed Hydrants in some trouble areas
- f. Cleaned Sewer on S. 2nd St due to homeowner having issues in their line to be proactive to avoid any back-up in the City line.
- g. Aidan worked with the Public Works Director and Railroad to be able to obtain water through a backflow/rpz and meter for metering water use.

