



City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing
October 2019

The Civic Center should be completed late this month. The first week of October will include sidewalk building on Grant Avenue. Alley and Grant Avenue paving should take place the following week. If you have an area you would like to have paved at that time, please contact 7 Peaks Paving. Call Eric at 541-550-5989 or email ericf@7peakspaving.com

The rest of the building is in the **final stages** of completion and cleanup. It is looking fantastic! Carpet and window coverings are in; the juniper countertops look amazing; lighting has been installed and is operational. We are awaiting news from just a few more foundations and the sale of the old library to complete the final total funding of the \$1.8 million library and meeting space. Library shelving has been ordered and we are working toward selecting appropriate furnishings to make the building functional. Some **local artists** have submitted proposals to produce artwork both inside and outside the building. A selection will be made early this month.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! A **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony** and **Furnishings Fundraiser** is in the planning stages and scheduled **on Sunday, December 8**. Everyone will be welcome and you will get a chance to see the building prior to it being furnished and staffed. You will also get a chance to “buy” some books or a piece of furniture for the building. An opportunity to support our local school children will also be available. The Chamber’s Annual Tree Lighting celebration will follow in Kaiser Park. A **Grand Opening** with everything in place is being planned for late March or early April.

We have extended the deadline to the end of October for the **Request for Proposals (RFP)** for the **City Hall and Library properties**. This will give investors a chance to propose what they feel would be the best use of those properties and give the City the chance to have some input into the development. If you or someone you know is interested in these properties, see the City website or call City Hall.

Fall Cleanup has been scheduled for **Saturday, October 26**. This should be timely for fall yard debris and general cleanup before the winter weather arrives. Paper yard debris bags are available at City Hall if you need some. Yard debris in plastic bags **IS NOT** acceptable. Dumpsters and a garbage truck will be positioned at the parking lot across from City Park, down by the river.

Interested individuals continue to meet regarding the proposed **school track facility** at the high school. The group is looking at needed engineering, surveying, and fundraising possibilities as they move forward. The hope is to have preliminary work done so the Oregon National Guard Army Corps can hold a Spring training here to level the area. One of the members of the unit is a former SWC student and track star, Virgil Newberry. Stan Kelsay is also deeply involved in design and engineering of the fill work. Bob Larsell has agreed to donate fill material which has been approved for use by Mr. Kelsay. The school has already done some tree removal in preparation for the work ahead. Contact Rob, Susie, or Holly Miles to contribute or be involved.

JOB OPENINGS: Due to health issues, our **City Manager**, Stan Suenaga, has resigned. We have posted the opening and hope to have a replacement lined up by early November. We also have posted openings for **Nuisance Abatement Officer**, and for **Park Managers**. If you or someone you know would be interested in these positions, please contact City Hall.

I attended the **League or Oregon Cities Conference** in Bend during the last week of September. It was great to visit with officials from other cities, large and small and I was proud to represent Maupin. I learned a lot about housing, water, emergency preparedness and many other topics. Natural disasters such as wildfires, earthquakes, tsunamis, and other weather events were featured discussions throughout the sessions. All of the mayors in attendance learned more about the Cascadia subduction zone and the impact an event could have on the coast, as well as the rest of the state. One highlight was a talk by Darby Allen, who was Fire Chief of Fort McMurray during a devastating fire in 2016. He and his team successfully evacuated 88,000 people with no loss of life despite a wildfire overrunning the town.

Wasco County has appointed me to represent the cities in the county on the **Regional Solutions Advisory Board**. The Advisory Board appointed me to the Housing Authority Sub-Committee. My first meeting as a member was last Monday. Looking forward to serving with this group.

In October, I will be in attendance at the **Infrastructure Summit** being convened by Regional Solutions and Business Oregon in Salem on October 20-21. This is an opportunity to learn more about funding sources for all types of infrastructure such as water, wastewater, stormwater, streets, and broadband.

Later that week, I will be in Ashland at the **Oregon Broadband Telecommunications Conference**. At both of these conferences, I will serve on panels to discuss Broadband and have a chance to describe what is being referred to as “The Maupin Model” of development and deployment.

The City is working with a developer to create a new **City Website**. They have asked for photos of Maupin, but not just river shots. They want pictures of the actual town to include on the new site. If you wish to be involved, please contact the Mayor.

FIBER PROJECT The City of Maupin received a million-dollar high speed network for a local investment of less than \$20,000. We are now seen as an example for rural and frontier communities throughout Oregon and the nation. Many other communities are watching Maupin to see how we use the fiber and to see how it might change our community. A small group has been meeting monthly at the Chamber office to talk about our fiber and what it can do for us. The next meeting is at 10:00 AM on Friday, Oct. 4. We are looking at four basic areas: 1) Training for community members; 2) Training for local businesses; 3) Recruiting new community members who can work from home; and 4) Recruiting small companies who could take advantage of **Maupin’s new High-speed Internet**. Please call if you have any related ideas or if you are having issues getting connected to fiber. So far, about 60% of possible customers are connected through GorgeNet or LSN. Maupin is now a topic of conversation at tech conferences across Oregon and the country.

The **2020 Census** is coming next Spring. We will soon have more info regarding that undertaking. The Census is very important to each state, county, and region as those numbers are used to determine seats in the House of Representatives and for many grant opportunities. If you would like to work for the Census Bureau, they have openings. <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.html>

To stay informed in case of weather, fire, or other emergencies in Wasco County, be sure to sign up for the Citizen Alert. You can find the link on the Wasco County home page or use this one: <https://member.everbridge.net/index/453003085612392#/login> The system can use phone calls, text messages, or emails to notify you when there is an emergency in our area.

<p><u>Phone Numbers & Email Addresses</u></p> <p>Mayor Lynn Ewing Office: 541-395-2811 Cell: 541-993-5956 City Hall 541-395-2698 maupinmayor@gmail.com Visit our City of Maupin Website @ www.cityofmaupin.org</p>	<p><u>Meeting Schedules</u></p> <p>Planning Commission @ City Park Community Building 6:00 pm</p> <p>Council Meeting @ City Park Community Building 6:30 pm</p>	<p>10/8/19</p> <p>10/30/19</p>	<p><i>We are a safe, progressive community that cares for all our citizens and visitors while protecting our natural resources and maintaining our rural heritage."</i></p>
	<p>Public Meetings Law ORS192.640(2)</p> <p>Notice of Meetings ORS192.640(1)</p>	<p>Executive Sessions ORS192.640</p>	