



City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing
December 2019

The Civic Center construction is complete. MARK YOUR CALENDARS! A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Furnishings Fundraiser is scheduled on Sunday, December 8 from 3:00-5:00. 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 and on the front patio of the Civic Center. A **Grand Opening** with everything in place is being planned for late March or early April. We will begin the move from the old library and then from City Hall to the Civic Center in January.

One of the very important donors to our library was the **Oregon Cultural Trust**. By making a donation to the library and a matching gift to Oregon Cultural Trust, you become eligible for Oregon’s cultural tax credit. You will get 100% of your OCT gift back as a refund (up to \$500 for an individual, \$1,000 for couples filing jointly, and \$2,500 for corporations). To learn more, go to culturaltrust.org/get-involved/donate/

Artwork! New Public Buildings are required to set aside a percentage for public art. We have some incredibly talented local artists who would like to have their work appear in our new building.. David Kinker has completed his first mural painting. Greg O’Neal donated a small bronze and has plans for a large life-size bronze for the patio. Glass sculpture by Andy Nichols, wood carvings by John Zipprich, and a metal sculpture by Jay Long are also planned along with another possible mural, but we are in need of patrons to fund those works. If you would like to be a sponsor or patron of a particular art installation or art in general, please contact City Hall for donation details.

The first **Business Tech Training** was held on **November 6 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at The Imperial Resort**. Business owners and employees attended and got to hear from multiple local presenters. It is impressive how some are using the new high-speed system for their businesses. The Fiber Project Committee is working to create future sessions for training both businesses and individuals as well as promoting Maupin as a Gigabit City.

Not Connected to the new Fiber? If you are planning to do so, please contact GorgeNet or LS Networks right away. They have had a crew in the Maupin area and have been able to get connections done quickly up until now, but if you are not connected soon, there may be a longer wait time as a crew will have to come from out of the area. The new Oregon Broadband Office would like everyone in the state, especially in rural areas to take their survey. Any household can still participate by going to the web page at <https://sngroup.com/Oregon-Broadband-Assessment/>

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. Preliminary work is getting done so that the Oregon National Guard Army Corps can hold a Spring training here in 2020 to level the area. The **Deschutes River Athletic Complex** will be one more asset drawing people to our community and will provide a long-needed facility for our students. Contact Rob, Susie, or Holly Miles to contribute or be involved. The next meeting is **December 9th at 9:00 AM** in the High School Board Room.

The **Oregon Department of Energy and Avangrid Renewables** held a public information session at The Imperial in November. This will be a very large facility and will be constructed in three phases over three years, eventually providing over 300 Megawatts of electricity to the grid via the BPA’s Maupin Substation, located a few miles out of town. The tax dollars and other payments generated by this facility will have a positive financial impact on both Wasco County and the City of Maupin. In the meantime, look up “Bakeoven Solar” on the DOE site and watch for a public comment period in December.

The City Manager position has been posted on the **League of Oregon Cities, Strategic Government Resources Job Board, and Facebook Jobs**. We look forward to getting some top quality applicants.

The League of Oregon Cities’ **Region 8 Small Cities Meeting** will take place at the Civic Center Thursday, December 19 from 10:30-1:30. The RARE Program will be the main topic of discussion. Small cities from Wasco, Hood River, and Sherman counties are invited to attend.

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.

Basketball season is here for the South Wasco County Redsides. The Varsity schedule kicks off with the John Howey Tourney on Friday and Saturday, December 6th and 7th.

Columbia Gorge Community College is one of only two sites in Oregon and Washington that has received a **USDA Grant for Distance Learning**. The **\$489,623 grant** will enable CGCC to develop a specialized classroom in each of the region's high schools, including SWCHS. They will also be developing studio/classrooms at their campus in The Dalles. Students will be able to take dual credit (High school & college) courses via a two-way connection without leaving their school. This opens a host of upper level courses to students in our school. Congratulations to CGCC.

Outdoor Burning can be a great way to get rid of yard debris in the fall and winter. A few people continue to think it is OK to burn plastic and other household garbage. It is not! Another issue is burning when we have an **air stagnation** occurrence. This is usually caused by an inversion and little to no air movement which traps all smoke close to the ground. We have several citizens with COPD, asthma, and other breathing conditions for whom this causes extreme distress. Please check the national weather service or the TV news before burning. If we are under an air stagnation advisory, please delay burning until it passes. Your neighbors will thank you. Obviously, if you rely on wood heat, burning in your woodstove would not be restricted.

Have you checked out the **Legion Hall** lately? It is fully insulated and has new windows and doors. A gigantic honeybee hive was removed from the east wall and the siding was repaired and replaced. By next summer, it will be fully painted. This is largely due to the efforts of the Town & Country Players theater group and the Maupin Community Church. They still have more plans in store to improve this great facility. The T & C Players will also be holding their annual free event – **“An Old Fashioned Christmas”** to be held Sunday, December 15th at 2:00 PM. Come enjoy the music, a fun melodrama, and a Potluck Dessert.

SNOW!! Winter weather is here. Be ready for freezing temperature and occasional snow accumulations. Once snow has stopped falling, it is your responsibility to shovel sidewalks, although we all know that Ed Ingram will take care of what he can. We do appreciate those residents who use their own tractors, 4-wheelers, or other equipment to remove snow from roads and driveways. Please be careful not to block access for others or to block access to fire hydrants. Our city crews will work on snow removal when the depth is at 5 inches or more on the streets. While this removal may create a berm next to your vehicle, it will still be less to shovel than it would be otherwise.

Don't forget that City Hall will be closed December 25 for Christmas and January 1 for New Year's Day.

<p><u>Phone Numbers & Email</u> <u>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> Planning Commission @ City Park Community Building 6:00 pm</p> <p>Council Meeting @ Civic Center 6:30 pm</p>	<p>12/10/19</p> <p>12/18/19</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>	