



# City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing

June 2019

**Theresa and I had an amazing vacation** in our nation's capital and saw as many Smithsonian's as possible in a week. We also had a chance to meet with Greg Walden and had an interesting discussion of water quality on the Deschutes River as well as ideas for dealing with wildfires. Congressman Walden was engaged and asked some great questions to further his understanding of these issues in relation to Maupin. Incidentally, a photograph of Maupin hangs on the wall of his outer office.

**VERY IMPORTANT Fiber Connections** If you have been unable to get connected to the new fiber, please let City Hall know. We have been able to work with the ISPs (LS Networks & GorgeNet) on resolving some issues with some of the more difficult installations. Please call so we can get everyone connected that wants to be.

The mayor has done two **OPB on-air interviews** this month regarding our fast Internet. The first was in regard to current broadband legislation being considered in Salem and the second was about the Digital Divide. Chris Tamarin of the Oregon Broadband Council participated in both and Rep. Pam Marsh was involved in the first. Both broadcasts have been well received and provided an opportunity to let Oregon know what we have here. It has resulted in some business and personal interest in Maupin via phone and email. The broadcasts emphasized the ability to tele-commute from a place that is very much connected to nature and the river. Articles have also appeared or will soon appear in a variety of publications.

**The Civic Center** is over halfway completed. The roof is on and siding is being installed. We are operating under a construction loan from RCAC as we await the results of foundation grant requests. The Oregon Community Foundation sent us a check for \$30,000 for the library in response to our request for \$25,000. Both the Reser Foundation and the Ford Family Foundation made visits to Maupin in May. In each case a local team visited with them, answered questions, and provided a tour of the new building under construction. More to come next month, Councilor Susan Wright is involved in managing the construction and is also in charge of a subcommittee to select furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the new facility.

Need a **commercial property** in Maupin? We have listed our City Hall, the old Library, and the Log Building currently occupied by Canyon Wren Counseling with local realtors. Funds from the sales will go into our building fund for the Civic Center.

I met with the **Mid-Columbia Retired Teachers** group. They hold one meeting per year at the Imperial. They invited me to fill them in on what is happening in Maupin. They are in the process of raising funds for the Criterion School upgrades. The Criterion School (c. 1925) was moved to the Oregon State Fairgrounds in the 1970s. Damper weather there has required a new roof (last year) and new windows this year as part of continuing renovation and upkeep. If you wish to contribute to the upkeep of that local building, contributions can be made to the State Fair with a notation for Criterion School.

**The County Library Board** held their May meeting in Maupin at our library. At the conclusion of the meeting, we took them on a tour of the new facility, which impressed the members. The Council has recommended Mary Beechler to fill their Board position which comes open on July 1 so that we continue to have a South Wasco County representative.

**Maupin Daze 2019** is in the books and was a great success. Kyle Suenaga, Chamber Director, did a great job organizing with a short amount of time for planning. I am already looking forward to next year. The parade was fun and we had a highly qualified announcer, Merle Hlavka of the Wampinrock, stationed near Kaiser Park letting the crowd know who was in the parade (and harassing the mayor). There were a lot of people in town enjoying the events, booths, and other attractions. About 60 people took advantage of a guided tour of the new Civic Center.

The City Council received 12 applications for the **City Manager** position, primarily from Oregon and Washington. We interviewed seven and then asked four to come back for an additional interview. After an extensive background check and the results of in-depth reference checks, we offered the position to Stan Suenaga. He began duties as our very first City Manager on June 1. It is our hope that his professional management skills will be a great asset to a smoothly operating City Government.

The City of Maupin will be posting a job opening in June for a **Librarian** for the **Southern Wasco County Library**. Watch the City Website for details. If you know of someone who has the skills and training as well as a desire to champion our new library, please have them contact the City.

As many of you know, during work to eliminate safety concerns on their system, Wasco Electric had to disconnect our **fire siren** which was located behind City Hall. The City Council authorized Fire Chief Tom Troutman to purchase a new siren to be placed at a location of his choice (probably near the Fire Hall). The new siren will provide for the needs of the Fire Department and will be set to announce the noon hour, just as the old one did. Sorry for those who have missed lunch recently.

The Town and Country Players have an exciting performer coming to Maupin. **Calen Morelli**, son of Tony and Suzie Morelli, of the local Morelli family, has agreed to perform pro bono to benefit our Legion Hall Restoration Project. He will be performing his magic in two shows June 28th and 29th at 8 pm at the Legion Hall in Maupin. PLEASE get your tickets early as this is quite the event for Maupin to have and there may not be seating available if you wait to get your tickets at the door. This is high caliber entertainment right here in Maupin for a reasonable price--don't miss out!! Pre sale tickets -- per person \$30, per couple \$50. For more info call Karletta at 541-993-5691 or Jerri at 541-993-9244. You can get tickets at local merchants and at City Hall.

Our Budget Committee has approved our City Budget for the coming year (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020). It now goes to Council for adoption. The budget includes a \$2.00 per month increase in residential and business sewer rates as well as a comparable percentage increase in sewer bills for other entities. For full details, stop by City Hall or come to the next Council Meeting on June 26.

<p><b><u>Phone Numbers &amp; Email Addresses</u></b></p> <p>Mayor Lynn Ewing Office: 541-395-2811 Cell: 541-993-5956 City Hall 541-395-2698 <a href="mailto:maupinmayor@gmail.com">maupinmayor@gmail.com</a> Visit our City of Maupin Website @ <a href="http://www.cityofmaupin.org">www.cityofmaupin.org</a></p>	<p><b><u>Meeting Schedules</u></b></p> <p><b>Planning Commission</b> @ City Park Community Building 6:00 pm</p> <p><b>Council Meeting</b> @ City Park Community Building 6:30 pm</p>	<p>6/11/19</p> <p>6/26/19</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) Notice of Meetings ORS192.640(1)</p>	<p>Executive Sessions ORS192.640</p>	