



City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing

July 2019

Stan Suenaga has been on the job as **City Manager** since the beginning of June and is doing a great job. Please stop in to meet him if you haven't already.

We will be interviewing and hiring a new **Librarian** for the **Southern Wasco County Library** early in July. Applications closed June 28.

VERY IMPORTANT Fiber Connections If you have been unable to get connected to the new fiber, please let City Hall know. We are working with the ISPs (LS Networks & GorgeNet) to determine what it would actually take to get some properties connected even though they have some unusual circumstances. Please call if you are having issues so we can get everyone connected that wants to be. I met with Q-Life last week to finalize plans for completion of our fiber network. 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.

The Civic Center is over halfway completed. The roof is on and siding is being installed. Sheetrock is going in and will be finished soon. We are operating under a construction loan from RCAC as we await the results of foundation grant requests. The Rose E. Tucker foundation sent us a check for \$10,000 for the library. The Reser Foundation contributed \$50,000 directed primarily at the meeting space. The Ford Family Foundation made a visit to Maupin in May and we should hear from them very soon. Councilor Susan Wright is doing an amazing job managing the construction on behalf of the City and we will soon have a subcommittee to select furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the new facility.

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. Fire Chief Tom Troutman and Christine Wolfe researched many options. Our old siren will be moved to a location near the Fire Hall and rebuilt. That siren and the one near the lower reservoir will provide for the needs of the Fire Department and will be set to announce the noon hour, just as in the past. Sorry for those who have missed lunch recently.

Many of you may be aware that Warm Springs Reservation has been suffering through a water crisis and a "boil water" notice. They are making needed repairs but they also need to bring in bottled water. If you would like to help, we are collecting donations at City Hall. We will send those donations directly to the water company delivering the water, to assist the Warm Springs residents.

We met with Superintendent Ryan Wraught, several community members and personnel from the **Oregon National Guard** Army Corps of Engineers last week. They are considering holding their spring two-week camp in Maupin next year. They would be providing fill work and leveling to enable the creation of an oval track. The City is involved because former Mayor Ross made contact with the ONG several years ago, but the project was mothballed when the Gulf War began. We have been asked to stay involved to assist with logistics and contacts that may be able to help. Our Public Works crew may be able to assist with some preliminary work as available. Holly Miles is making efforts to secure preliminary funding for survey and engineering work. Then she will be working to secure grants and donations to re-sod the football field and build an 8-lane asphalt track. This should be a project that will benefit the community as well as the school district.

Last week I met with Ron Nelson, the new head of the **Deschutes River Conservancy**. He is working primarily in the upper and middle sections of the river, where their two main goals are to 1) Get much of the irrigation water into pipes instead of ditches and canals and 2) Clean up the Crooked River. The Conservancy would like to get some coordination with the City of Maupin and the Deschutes River Alliance. We will be hearing more from him in the future.

We will be meeting in early July with Representative Bonham, PGE personnel, and Tribal representatives to review data on their Selective Water Withdrawal system at Round Butte Dam. I do not expect any changes in their efforts. They do admit that we have more temperature fluctuation and increased algae growth as a result of the project. The results of their study are available online at: <https://www.portlandgeneral.com/corporate-responsibility/environmental-stewardship/water-quality-habitat-protection/deschutes-river/deschutes-water-quality>

The City Council has adopted our **City Budget** for the coming year (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020). 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 classifications of users. For full details, stop by City Hall.

The Council has directed the Planning Commission and the City Planner to develop rules for and draft language to allow **mixed use development** in our downtown core. This would allow buildings with retail on the Deschutes Avenue to also have second floor apartments for rent. This makes construction loans more affordable for the builder and also helps alleviate our housing shortage. In conjunction with this planning effort, the Council has temporarily removed the City Hall and Library property from the market and will seek input from potential developers on how to achieve a mixed use project. You can learn more about this at our July meetings.

On July 17, the City Council and the City Planning Commission will hold a joint meeting to discuss some **zoning issues** and revisit the idea of **vacation rentals in non-residential zones**. There will also be some discussion of possible future zoning changes.

Have a safe and happy Independence Day! City Hall will be closed July 4.

<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 Council @ City Park Community Building 6:00 pm</p> <p>Council Meeting @ City Park Community Building 6:30 pm</p>	<p>7/17/19</p> <p>7/26/19</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)</p> <p>Executive Sessions ORS192.640</p> <p>Notice of Meetings ORS192.640(1)</p>		