



City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing

July 2018

The “**Boxcar Fire**” has dominated the official beginning of Summer. On Wednesday evening, June 20, lightning started several fires across Central Oregon. Initially, the largest of these fires was the “Boxcar Fire” which started about 2 miles south of Maupin. It grew overnight and June 21 dawned with a fire building. Winds shifted constantly most of the day, sending the fire out in every direction, including toward Maupin. The area across the river from the main part of town is East Maupin. For a time, there was a Level 1 (Heads-up warning) Evacuation in place for East Maupin. Thursday afternoon and most of the night, local crews from **Maupin, Juniper Flat, Tygh Valley, Wamic, Pine Hollow, Dufur**, and others worked the fire-lines and protected homes. By morning on Friday, June 22, the threat and possible catastrophe had been averted, largely thanks to these local volunteers and heroes. We all owe them our thanks. They continue to fight the fire as I write this.

In addition, on Thursday evening about 10:00, I received a call that some firefighters had not eaten since morning and were coming in hungry. All businesses were closed. I made some calls and talked to a few people. The Bechtol's offered to open the **Maupin Market** and Donna Troutman opened **Rafter's Mini-Mart**. Sandwiches were provided. Valerie and Geoff White gathered all of the hot dogs they had at the **Imperial Bar & Grill** and set up a grill at **River Trails** to provide hot dogs and water to any that wanted them through the night. We have lots of local heroes.

BLM and USFS have set up a **Level 2 Federal Fire HQ** at South Wasco County High School. They brought in about 500 fire fighters maintained their administrative headquarters there until the fires in the area were under control. As of Thursday, June 28, the fire was about 90% contained and that team was leaving to be replaced by a Level 3 Team to continue mop-up operations.

Current Burning Regulations Fire season is here. **NO BURNING** of any kind is allowed inside city limits and all of Wasco County until sometime in the Fall.

Our City Public Works crew has been putting all available time into preparing the lot above Kaiser Park for our new **Civic Center**. Be sure to mark September 8 on your calendar as the groundbreaking ceremony date. We are working closely with Griffin Construction, Seder Architecture, Anderson-Perry Engineering, and many others to finalize the details of all plans in preparation for that event.

The City Crew has also been working on the play structure for **Mt. Fir Park**. They hope to have the “Pre-School” structure in place in the coming weeks. To volunteer to help, please contact City Hall or Jim Burgett.

Randy Bechtol and I travelled to Salem to make a presentation to OPRD for **Kaiser Park** improvement funds. We have received word that we did not get the funding. OPRD had over 13 million in requests and less than 5 million to award. We can apply again next year. In the meantime, we will look for other funding opportunities and perhaps get some of the work done with volunteers and city staff.

Q-Life awarded the bid on the **Maupin Fiber Project** to Van Dorn Enterprises. They are working with Q-Life and Wasco Electric to finalize some details on pole connections. They are expected to start splicing at the POP building within a week. As each segment is completed, businesses and residents will be able to connect through either GorgeNet or LS Networks and immediately begin taking advantage of the high-speed connection.

Summer is here! While having your friends or relatives park their RV by your house for a few days is just fine, please remember that living in an RV or a tent in any residential neighborhood is against our city ordinances. It does not matter whether that accommodation is on private property or parked on a city street. It is simply not an allowable use. If you see this occurring, please report it to City Hall.

Recycling has been a difficult topic in the past year. Our co-mingled recycling was going directly to the landfill since China changed what they will accept. This is happening all over Oregon. Like many other cities and counties, we have suspended all co-mingled recycling effective July 1, 2018. You may continue to recycle corrugated cardboard at City Park. If you wish to continue to recycle other materials, you may take them to The Dalles Disposal. They are open Monday-Saturday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

ODOT is moving forward with the **Donkey Trail and Riverwalk** projects. A site visit and stakeholder interviews were conducted on Tuesday, May 15. An Outreach and Education Workshop was conducted Tuesday, June 19, 6:00pm-7:30pm @ South Wasco County HS Cafeteria. The suggestions for the City and School to improve student safety were shared with City Council, who has given the “go ahead” with some minor modifications.

MCEDD has been advertising for a **Nuisance Abatement / Code Enforcement** Officer to serve both Maupin and Dufur. If you are looking for a part-time income supplement and can work well with people, this may be for you. It is posted on our website and the websites for Dufur and MCEDD. This should help the City and local residents by providing a way to identify and mitigate a few issues in the community. Contact City Hall if you are interested.

Feel free to stop by or call City Hall if you have questions or concerns. The city staff and I are always glad to help out if we can.

<p><u>Phone Numbers & Email Addresses</u></p> <p>Mayor Lynn Ewing 541-395-2811 Office</p> <p>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 @ the Maupin Legion Hall 6:00 pm</p> <p>Council Meeting @ the Maupin Legion Hall 6:30 pm</p>	<p>7/17/18</p> <p>7/25/18</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>		