



City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing
September 1, 2020

City Hall and Southern Wasco County Library will be closed Monday, September 7 for Labor Day.

FIRE DANGER !! Please be aware that fire danger is extremely high. Fire information boards are up at Kaiser Park and Maupin City Park. Cut down dry grass and weeds. Remove dried or dead shrubs and trees. Make sure any equipment or tools that could emit sparks are in good working order and use them wisely, with a water source at hand. Maupin has been hosting evacuees from the White River Fire at the school, the Community Church, a few campsites, and private homes. Pine Grove and Juniper Flat are in the most danger at this time, but Rock Creek, Pine Hollow, and Wamic could be next depending on weather and fire behavior. We want to make sure we do not have any more stress on our fire crews and help our neighbors as much as possible. See the City Facebook for links to more information about the WR Fire.

We are making progress on the **Coronavirus**. Wasco County is no longer on the State Watch List. Keep up the good work and stay healthy. School will be opening with an online only option, but continued progress would allow them to open, at least part-time, for face-to-face instruction. If you need face coverings, we have them at City Hall, including special bandanas.

In case you have not heard, the school district is going to be seeking a **\$4 million bond** for updating and remodeling the schools here in Maupin. None of this bond would be involved in the track project, but in badly needed updates to the buildings. The great news is that if the bond passes, the school is eligible for another \$4 million from the state as well as additional funds for earthquake retro-fitting. \$4 million locally could produce nearly \$10 in renovations. You are encouraged to take a survey regarding the bond at this site: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/92KHSDK> For more information, go to the school website <http://www.swasco.net>

The City has openings on **City Council** and on the **Planning Commission**. Each group generally meets once per month. Council acts as the governing body for the City, making decisions regarding the present and future operations and plans of Maupin. Duties of Planning Commission include acting on Conditional Use Permits, making recommendations to Council for Zone changes and amendments, recommending changes to any Ordinance related to Land Use, and providing initial approval of building or commercial use site plans and subdivision plat plans. Please contact City Hall to apply for a position on either body.

The **Deschutes River Athletic Complex (DRAC)** project is well underway with the completion of leveling work by the Oregon National Guard Army Corps of Engineers. Many thanks to them for their amazing work and to the Warnock Ranch for their donation of fill material. See the DRAC Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/DeschutesRiverAthleticComplex>) or their web page (<https://www.maupindracc.org/>) for more details.

The City of Maupin needs to update the **Community Vision**. This was last done in 2004 under the leadership of Denny Ross. The goals centered around creating jobs and improving the quality of life for our citizens. Some of those goals included: playground, trees, and restrooms at Mt Fir Park; creating a Chamber of Commerce and building a medical clinic; building an assisted living facility; replacing the City Hall & Library; and improving Internet access. These and many other goals have been met, so it is time to make some new ones. With current meeting restrictions, we are working on ideas for online groups, paper and digital surveys, and different ways to meet and tap into the collective ideas and opinions of as many citizens and community members as possible. Let us know if you have ideas! Keep watching for some surveys online and in written form to help the Council know what the community wants for the future of Maupin.

OSU's Data Science for the Public Good program conducted an online presentation last week. Directly related to our area was a presentation on the Health of the Deschutes River. While the river study did confirm that the river is warmer and that the warmer water is not good for fish, it also confirmed a claim by PGE that the river is closer in temperature to what it was before the dam. Due to a pending lawsuit, some data related to Ph levels and aquatic insects was withheld from the OSU study, so conclusions could not be drawn. They also had data regarding **Economic Mobility and Food Availability in South Wasco County** as well as other interesting presentations from small cities around the state and country.

Council awarded a donation of \$1000 to the **South Wasco Youth Program** to assist in the funding of their school assistance program for Kindergarten through seventh grade students while they must participate in online school. Students (limited to 10) will be able to attend either a morning or afternoon session to get help with keeping up with online assignments.

One Maupin park you may have missed is the small triangle in front of Henry’s Deli known as the **Blue Star Memorial Garden**. The **Maupin Dig and Hoe Garden Club** has been working for months on this beautiful gem that honors our Veterans. Stop by and read the plaque, sit on the bench, and take in the sights, sounds, and smells of this great little spot.

The **U.S. Census** is still underway, but time is running out. You can complete it from home (Takes only a few minutes) and make sure you are counted. The Census will be used for 10 years to determine House & Senate District boundaries and the information is needed for many grants for local projects. <https://2020census.gov/>

Planning ahead, we will have our **Fall Cleanup Day** on Saturday, October 24. As usual, this will be held at the parking area across Bakeoven Road from the City Park. We will plan on dumpsters from **Waste Connections** for Yard Debris, Metal, and general garbage as well as a garbage truck. Yard debris bags will be available at City Hall and some other locations around town. As an added bonus, the **Salvation Army** will be here with a truck to collect usable furniture, clothing, books, etc.

The **Southern Wasco County Library** is open, but you are asked to drop all books being returned into the book drop on the patio on the Kaiser Park side of the Civic Center. That way the books can be sanitized before being made available to the public. When coming into the Civic Center, ring the bell for admission, sanitize hands, and wear a mask. Thank you.

SLOW DOWN Several people have mentioned excessive speed on some of our streets, particularly Dufur Avenue and Elrod Avenue. Please remember that there are children playing and riding bikes as well as adults out for a walk that could be injured if everyone is not careful. Speed limits are 25 mph in residential areas and 15 mph in alleys. Speed has also been a problem on the section of 197 from the bridge up to the sharp corner. Slow down and watch out for each other.

All **City Meetings** (Council or Planning Commission) that take place during this time will be held online using Zoom software (<https://zoom.us/>). Please call City Hall if you need help with this. **City Hall** has a payment drop on the Grant Avenue side of the building. It can be used for City Utility, Wasco Electric, or Waste Connections payments if you want to save a stamp. You can also come inside to the office window or make an appointment to meet with the City Manager, City Recorder, or Mayor.

Please comply with any COVID-19 requirements spelled out by any open business such as staying 6 feet apart, wearing a mask, and limiting the number of people, as well as your own time, in the business. Businesses must follow State Guidelines or they will be closed, so do your part to keep them open. A coronavirus infection of a single employee at a business could cause the business to close so that all employees can be isolated for 14 days. **Help them stay open and help yourself stay safe!** If you have any concerns about exposure, please call the business and ask for curbside or home delivery to avoid going out in public.

As **information** becomes available, it is being posted on the **City’s Facebook page**. If you have Facebook, please pass the information on to your friends who do not. If you do not have Facebook, you may want to set up an account and “Like” the City of Maupin to keep up. <https://www.facebook.com/City-of-Maupin-Oregon-135772286912061>

From the desk of Kevin Lewis, City Manager:

Maupin Civic Center will be requiring masks and the use of hand sanitizer before doing any business in the building.

If you would like a digital copy of the city newsletter, please email any of us at City Hall. It will make it easier to use all of those links!

<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 @ 6:00 pm Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm</p> <p>Under shutdown conditions, meetings are being held using remote software (Zoom) that allows participation via phone or computer.</p>	<p>9/15/2020 9/23/2020</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 Sessions ORS192.640(2)</p>	<p>Executive ORS192.640</p>	