



# City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing

April 1, 2021

Avangrid Renewables is set to start construction on the **Bakeoven Solar Project** beginning April 5. They will begin with a crew of a dozen people, gradually increasing to about 250 people a year from now. Openings may be available for locals, though many of the positions require a union membership. They do have a plan in place that will send all heavy trucks to the site via Highway 97 in Sherman County and then down Bakeoven Road. This avoids the bridge and the very sharp corner at the end of the bridge.

The City is working with local business and property owners to provide **temporary housing space** for the work crews so that their per diem funds might be spent locally rather than out of town. With possible beginning of construction at the Clinic and at the school on the near horizon, it could be a very busy couple of years in Maupin. We have put together a FAQ sheet for home and property owners highlighting the rules should you wish to rent all or a portion of your home or property to help house this influx of temporary workers.

You may have seen a personnel change at City Hall. Kristy Kurtz has moved to a job with Crook County in Prineville nearer her home. We are thrilled to now have Christine Wolfe as our City Recorder! Christine has been with the City since 2016 in the front office and has stepped up to the new duties in a remarkable fashion. This means that the Billing Clerk position in the front office is now available. This is a full time position with benefits. If you are interested, see the City website for details and to apply.

The **Southern Wasco County Library** has ongoing take-home craft projects available and some outdoor events are being planned for Spring. One of those will be a **Seed Exchange** planned for April 3. Watch the Library Facebook Page for more details.

Our Annual **Hazardous Waste Cleanup** Event is scheduled for Saturday, April 3. It will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the High School from 10:00 Am – 2:00 PM. Some of the items collected include: Oil & Latex Paint; Yard & Garden Products; Household Cleaners & Chemicals; Automotive Fluids; Old Gas & Kerosene; Pool & Spa Chemicals; Hobby Solvents & Glues; Propane Bottles & Tanks; All Batteries; Ballasts and Fluorescent Tubes & CFL Bulbs; Thermostats & Thermometers; Fire Extinguishers, Computers, Printers, and other E-waste.

Our annual **Spring Cleanup** is scheduled for Saturday, April 17. Once again we will have a metal dumpster, a yard debris dumpster, and a general junk dumpster. Remember, no wet garbage is allowed. They will be located across Bakeoven Road from the City Park. Many thanks again to The Dalles Disposal for providing the dumpsters and the garbage truck and to Dirt Huggers for taking the yard debris. The Salvation Army will also be here to collect any usable furniture, clothing, books, etc so clean out your attic, basement, and garage! Yard debris bags will be available at Maupin City Hall. Once we run out, you may purchase more from Maupin Country Market and Hardware.

The annual motorcycle event, **Maupin Madness**, will go on this year with some modifications for COVID safety. It will be limited to 200 participants which more than complies with state mandates for outdoor events. The Bike Show has been left off to prevent large crowds gathering. It will begin at Kaiser Park and end at **The Imperial**.

A **GoFundMe** effort to raise money for **art** to be placed in the **Civic Center** has been established by the Chamber of Commerce. Emphasis will be on local pieces and local artists. This will hopefully include a bronze by Greg O'Neil, some glasswork from Nichol's Art Gallery in The Dalles and many additional pieces.

**MAUPIN DAZE** will happen this year! A decision was made to hold Maupin Daze, with some limitations, this spring. It will include vendors in Kaiser Park, community yard sales, and a few other fun things for the community. Mark Saturday, May 15 on your calendars and contact the Chamber of Commerce for more information.

In **COVID News**, if you need any **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** the City has an extensive supply provided by the federal and state governments. You can pick up masks, hand sanitizer, gloves, wipes and other items at the Civic Center for free. Items are located on a table in the Lobby. It has also been great to be able to eat indoors at our local restaurants!

Most of our **City Ordinances** should be available online by summer. Our City Attorney, City Manager, and the Council have been working for about a year to eliminate contradictory, outdated, or unnecessary ordinances including those that call for City Law Enforcement or a City Judge. Having these ordinances online will make them more accessible to the public.

It has been pointed out that the average age of our **Maupin Volunteer Fire Department** is a little over 60 and some members over 70. While there are many roles to fill in the event of a fire, we still need a core group who are in great physical condition to pack the gear and actually battle the blaze. If you have an interest in serving the community and being part of this vital organization, please contact City Hall for more information.

At our March Council Meeting, the Council voted to lift the ban and allow **Vacation Rental Homes**, but ONLY in the **Recreational-Commercial** zone within the City Limits of Maupin. These properties are mostly in East Maupin, at the west end of the bridge, and near the Deschutes Motel. Applications for establishing a vacation home rental business should be available at City Hall around May 1<sup>st</sup>. Many thanks to the Planning Commission, local citizens, and the Council, who have all worked on this for several years to craft a workable plan to protect local values while still allowing this popular alternative in our tourist-oriented economy.

We are now fully set up to take **credit card and ACH payments** online for any City bills such as water and sewer. There will be a small charge to cover banking fees, but we know this will be a great convenience for some of our out-of-town property owners. You can also still set up automatic withdrawals directly from your bank or drop off your bill in the payment slot at City Hall for no extra cost.

Wasco County is reminding all to sign up for the **Citizen Alert Program**. In case of wildfires or other emergencies, this is an extremely important link to have. The link for signing up for Citizens Alert is: <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085612392/login> For Fire prevention and defensible space please follow the following link: <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/Pages/fireprevention.aspx>

While some have no desire to get the **vaccine**, other have anxiously awaited an opportunity. If you are interested, you can go to <https://www.ncphd.org/phase-notifications> and sign up to learn when you are eligible and when there are appointments available. This only requires basic information like name, address, phone, birthdate, etc. If you do not have an email address, you can use that of a friend or relative. If you have difficulty with web-based forms, feel free to come in to our Library for assistance in filling out the form. **Deschutes Rim Clinic** also is receiving a batch of vaccines each week. If you call them (541-395-2911) you can be placed on their list to be contacted when you are eligible and a vaccine is available for you. Frontline workers, people with underlying conditions, and members of multi-generational households are all eligible as of April 5.

We have openings on the **Budget Committee** (meets one to three times each spring). If you are interested in becoming more involved in our City, this is a great place to start. To qualify, you must have been a resident of Maupin for a year or longer. Please pick up an application at City Hall.

Currently, there is only one **home listed for sale** in Maupin and rentals are as scarce as weekend campsites in the summertime. If you or someone you know has a home that is not in use, now may be the best time to sell or make it available to rent. It takes time to build new ones, so existing homes are in huge demand right now. In the right price range, they sell quickly.

**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!**

<u><b>Phone Numbers &amp; Email Addresses</b></u>  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>	<u><b>Meeting Schedules</b></u> <b>Planning Commission @ 6:00 PM</b> 4/13/2021  <b>Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm</b> 4/28/2021	<p style="text-align: center;"><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>
	Under shutdown conditions, meetings are being held using remote software that allows participation via phone or computer.	
	Public Meetings Law Sessions ORS192.640(2)	Executive ORS192.640