



City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing

December 1, 2021

The holiday season is here and **City Hall and the Library will be closed on Friday, December 24 and Friday, December 31** for Christmas and New Year's.

The **Christmas Tree Lighting** is scheduled for **Saturday, December 4 at 5 p.m.** at the Civic Center and Kaiser Park. Come and enjoy the lights and treats and sing a few Christmas carols with your friends and neighbors. The **Holiday Bazaar** is back this season! Mark your calendars for **December 11-12** from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Legion Hall. Rumor has it the guy in the red suit will be there from 1-3 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, contact Leslie at Keyofsea78@gmail.com. We would also like to see Maupin decorated for the holidays with Christmas lights all over town. We especially encourage businesses and houses along Deschutes Ave./Highway 197 to decorate their storefronts and homes!

In October, Maupin was accepted into the **Oregon Main Street Network!** Our application included all commercial properties in Maupin and was accepted by the state organization. This makes property owners eligible for planning assistance, training, and more to help revitalize our business district. This also makes grant funds available to those businesses who wish to participate in crafting a cohesive revitalization plan. Business owners **are invited to attend** an organizational and planning process meeting on **Monday, December 9 at 2 p.m.** at the Civic Center.

Every year the **City of Maupin awards three \$1,000 grants** to area charities and nonprofits. With additional funds from the Feds this year, we are able to increase that to **five grants** for this year only. The application is open online. Any nonprofit located in Maupin may complete the form for a \$1,000 grant request. The requested funds must go to **benefit the people of Maupin**. The link to the request form is located on our City of Maupin Website under the City Government tab and then the Office of the Mayor page. Or use this link: cityofmaupin.org/mayor. Applications will be reviewed and recipients announced after our February Council Meeting.

I was asked to serve on the **Small Business Development Center** Board and attended a meeting in The Dalles in mid-November. The SBDC, working out of CGCC, serves all of Wasco, Sherman, and Hood River Counties. They have been instrumental in helping to move Maupin forward. They offer a variety of free services to entrepreneurs and small business owners such as: business plan development, loan application packaging, marketing plan strategies, hiring and managing employees, navigating the business regulatory process, and managing cash flow challenges. Classes through the Community College are also available at a nominal cost to assist those business owners and startups. They can do some workshops or one-day classes in Maupin but also do meetings and other services in-person in The Dalles and online through Zoom. <https://bizcenter.org/centers/columbia-gorge-sbdc/>

The **Wasco County Economic Development Commission** met at the Maupin Civic Center to hear from the City and others about planned and ongoing projects within the City. As a result, they listed the following five projects to be considered for inclusion in the Waco County Top 10: Deschutes Rim Clinic, Deschutes River Athletic Complex, Maupin City Park Boat Ramp, Maupin Wastewater Treatment Plant, and a New Maupin Reservoir. They were selected in that order partially due to how likely they were to be completed in the near future. Although there are no dollars attached to inclusion, grant funders often consider that inclusion as showing broad support within the County. Our Civic Center was in the Top 3 for a couple of years prior to being built.

The City is applying for a grant from the Oregon State Marine Board to fund a consultant to design, fund, and permit a **new boat ramp at Maupin City Park**. The riverbank there has severely eroded and deteriorated over the past few years. The City would like letters of support from any that wish to provide them. Contact City Hall for a sample and with questions. Letters should be returned to City Hall by December 9.

City Manager Kevin Lewis and I will be virtually attending the Wasco County Commissioners' meeting on December 1. They will be considering the **sale of 20+ acres** to the City of Maupin. The property became county-owned as a result of back taxes and paying those taxes would give the City ownership of that property for future development. The property adjoins 30 acres already owned by the City at the western edge of our City Limits boundary.

Kevin and I will also be **meeting with ODOT** in mid-December to hear about their plans for several local projects. Those include the Donkey Trail, the Riverwalk path, the 197 bridge, and downtown ADA improvements. Scope of work and timing will be important parts of this discussion.

New contractors have started working on the **South Wasco Community Health** clinic site this week. Plumbing and electrical is scheduled next week. New doors and windows have been delivered and are ready to be installed. Dr. LaPlante is accepting patients for appointments now at 541-395-1626. Please leave your name and number; they will return your call. South Wasco Community Health is financially supported only by patient revenue, donations and grants. You can send a donation (tax free, as we are a 501(c)(3) charity) to South Wasco Community Health, P.O. Box 70, Maupin, Oregon 97037.

Construction has also kicked off at the **Deschutes Rim Clinic** for their new updated facility. Expect to see a lot of activity in that area over the winter and into the spring. Completion is set for spring or summer of 2022.

The **DRAC (Deschutes River Athletic Complex)** has the curbs and the base road surface in. The hydro-seeding has been done on the infield. It is fantastic to see this great new addition to the school and community take shape and people are already walking around it for exercise. The track surface will most likely go in next spring. DRAC is still looking for donations to fully complete Phase 1 and to develop Phase 2 of the facility. <https://www.maupindracc.org/>

Brett Wesson, the City’s Community Liaison, has taken on some **long-standing code violations** in Maupin. Most citizens have responded well to removing **junk cars** parked on city streets. Clearing these vehicles out increases available parking and spruces up the neighborhoods. Progress has been made! Huge thanks to Barnett’s and to Rod Woodside for the obvious efforts they have put into clearing what they have control over. Next on the list will be **RVs that are being used as dwellings** in residential or commercial zones where they are not permitted. There are still spaces available at W.E. Hunt Park in Tygh Valley and may be some openings at the Deschutes RV Park.

Our **Planning Commission** is working on some **zoning issues** and considering language to allow **Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)** on some residential properties as well as rezoning some land as **Light Industrial/Commercial**. If you want to learn more, contact City Hall or attend a PC Meeting.

Planning is already beginning for **Maupin Daze 2022 and the Maupin Centennial Celebration!** Maupin was incorporated as a city in 1922 after a devastating fire in 1921. **If you would like to volunteer** to assist with the planning and/or execution of a great community event, please contact the **Maupin Chamber**. Also, if you have **mementos from Maupin’s early days**, we would love to see photos, documents, or anything else related to the history of Maupin to display at City Hall and the Library. Contact Suze Riley at the Chamber for more information. 541-993-1708 or director@maupinoregon.com

The City is wrapping up work this month to complete a Travel Oregon grant of over \$35,000 for **Kaiser Park** improvements. We have installed an irrigation system and sidewalks at Kaiser Park. Work is complete on two “bump-out” picnic areas along the alley. One is wired for use as a stage when needed. A grape arbor (as requested by the Kaiser family) over the new sidewalk, some signage, and few additional features will be going in as soon as practical. By spring Kaiser Park will be a great space to host the Centennial celebration.

Have a joyous and amazing Christmas and let’s hope for a normal New Year!

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 p.m. 12/14/2021</p> <p>Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. 12/15/2021</p> <p>Meetings are being held on Zoom that allows participation via phone or computer. Find the link to join on the meeting agendas. Please note date changes due to the holidays.</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) Executive ORS192.640</p>	