



City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing

February 1, 2022

Mid-Columbia Community Action Council (MCCAC) will be offering **energy assistance** by appointment only in Maupin at City Hall on Tuesday, February 15. Please call 541-298-5131, ext. 200 for an appointment. They now also offer the ability to apply online at www.mccac.com. If you need assistance just **paying your water bill**, MCCAC has a new program with limited funding that is starting soon. Call MCCAC for more information.

Occasionally, **Wasco County** has properties that become county property when the owner fails to pay taxes for an extended period of time. Recently this occurred with a **20-acre parcel** in the far west edge of our City Limits. It happens to adjoin 30 acres that already belong to the City. By paying a little over \$20,000 in back taxes, the **City was able to purchase that property** for future development. Combined with our other property, we now have 50 acres of land for future expansion.

We have a final decision on transfer of ownership of the **Maupin Legion Hall** from Post 73 to the City of Maupin. Ballots were sent to all registered members of Post 73 and have been trickling in. A final count will be made at the end of January, but so far the vote is 7-2 in favor. Once that becomes official, the City, the Legion Hall Restoration Committee, Town & Country Players, and other interested groups can begin formulating an improvement priority plan. Ben Gates of Maupin Works (Old City Hall and Library) has volunteered his architectural and restoration experience to assist in the planning.

Wasco Electric is working with the City of Maupin to install a Level 2 Electric **Vehicle Charging Station** in Maupin. Council has determined that an area near the City Park office would be the most beneficial location. The City will contribute \$5,000 toward the \$18-20,000 cost. Once it is installed and functioning, WEC will donate it to the City along with a full warranty for 5 years.

Our **Planning Commission** is working on some **zoning issues**. They approved language to allow **Accessory Dwelling Units** (ADUs) on some residential properties, and City Council also approved the changes. Some other rezoning such as creation of a **Craft Industrial** area and the rezoning of some of the property west of Spey Road as **General Commercial** are also on their agenda. There are plans in development to create a small commercial zone along the highway and housing beyond. Consideration is also being given to rezoning the Log Home, River Drifters, and the old mill office as Recreation Commercial or some other more appropriate zone than the current Industrial designation. A nearly 24-acre property adjoining 197 and Spey Road is asking for some zone changes to allow a small commercial development along with multiple types of residential development. If you want to learn more, contact City Hall or attend a PC Meeting. The next meeting is on Tuesday, February 8 at 6 p.m. and will be conducted via Zoom.

Winter is here! Please be aware that City Ordinance requires that **property owners clear snow from sidewalks** abutting their property as soon as the snow stops falling. Remember that if you do any snow removal, be sure not to block fire hydrants. In fact, you can **assist the Maupin Volunteer Fire Department** by making sure the hydrant in your neighborhood has a path cleared for access. Please use caution when clearing snow and ice. If you have a little more energy, clear pathways for your neighbors who may need assistance as well.

Do you still use that old **flip-phone**? Do you have a medical alert button or one of the original Kindle devices? If you rely on that device to make a cellular connection, you need to take steps to upgrade. Depending on your carrier, connecting via cell towers on 3G will be phased out between February and December of 2022, For more information see the FCC website: <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/plan-ahead-phase-out-3g-cellular-networks-and-service>

Recycling is coming back. Councilor Foreaker has been working with City Manager Kevin Lewis, Community Liaison Brett Wesson, and Waste Connections to create a viable recycling alternative. The plan is to locate it inside the fence at the lower reservoir yard and open it during limited days and hours with a staff person on duty to ensure “clean” waste. It would include cardboard, mixed recyclable plastics, glass, metal, refundable cans and bottles, and yard debris. We should have more details by the February Council Meeting.

Planning is accelerating 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 the Legion Hall, and Civic Center. Watch for the new banners on Deschutes Avenue.

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 until February 15. 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**.

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! Thanks to Barnett’s Service for all of their help in accomplishing this task. 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 as the new owner works to expand their offerings.

We will soon have an **RV dump station** across from City Park thanks to some cooperative work between the City and the Deschutes RV Park. Visitors and locals alike will be able to empty their waste tanks and refill their fresh water tanks at that location starting this spring. A nominal fee will be charged.

Deschutes Rim Clinic is making great progress on building their new facility. They are also searching for a new medical provider as FNP Madeline Lawrence has moved on to other opportunities.

South Wasco Community Health is now open to see patients. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 8:30 to 5 p.m. The staff and board of directors look forward to meeting you and thanking all those neighbors and patients that helped them succeed in opening services to South Wasco County. The office phone number is 541-395-1626.

BLM has quite a bit going on. They will be installing a new SCAT machine for cleaning port-a-potties for river users at City Park. They have a contractor building new housing at the compound on Bakeoven (adding to the housing shortage). They are also looking for volunteers to man the **Depot House** during the summer. They are hoping to coordinate this through the Chamber of Commerce.

We currently have 3 openings on the City Budget Committee for 3-year terms. The **Budget Committee** typically meets for one to three meetings in the spring to establish the City Budget for the fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). This is a great opportunity to learn more about your city’s operations.

City Hall and the Library will be **closed Monday, Feb. 21** for Presidents’ Day.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE FOR COUNCIL MEETING. Moved from Wednesday, Feb. 23 to Thursday, Feb. 24.

A digital copy of this newsletter is available at cityofmaupin.org/newsletter

<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. 2/8/2022</p> <p>Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. 2/24/2022</p> <p>Meetings are being held on Zoom that allows participation via phone or computer. Find the link to join on the meeting agendas.</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>	