



City of Maupin Newsletter

By Mayor Lynn Ewing

July 1, 2022

BURN BAN and **FIREWORKS BAN** are both in full force as of **July 1**. No open burning, no barrel burning, and no fireworks are allowed until Wasco County and our Fire Chief declare an end to the bans. Save the fireworks for New Year's Eve when there is little chance of fire. Also be sure to cut down all dry vegetation.

We're going into fire season, and our **Volunteer Fire Department** is still seeking new members. If you are interested in becoming a trained volunteer, stop by City Hall. The fire trucks are being updated to make sure all pumps and valves are in good working order. City employees and a local contractor have replaced all outdated fire hydrants around the city to bring those up to date.

The City has received a **\$60,000 grant** from the **Oregon State Marine Board** for the studies and planning involved in building a new **boat ramp** at City Park. This will cover required environmental, archaeological, and other studies as well as the design consultant. By this time next year, we should have everything in place to apply for a grant to actually build the boat ramp.

RECYCLING IS BACK! Our recycling center is open every Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We can accept cardboard, glass bottles (no other glass), yard debris, and co-mingle. The co-mingle may contain paper, cans, and plastic bottles. Staff will be on hand to help you learn what is acceptable and what is not. The Recycling Center is located in the reservoir yard on Water Avenue next to Mt. Fir Park.

As part of the 2022-2023 Maupin City Budget, **sewer rates will be increasing by \$2.00** per month beginning July 1. The additional funds will be a part of the sewer replacement fund. This fund can be used for repairs or as matching funds for grants for larger projects. We recognize that any increase can be difficult for some residents. However, we have made it a practice to do a small increase each year so that we do not have to have gigantic increases when a project must be done as has happened in many other small cities. Our engineers, Anderson-Perry, have completed a **water system study** and a **wastewater system study**. These two major documents will help in guiding necessary but expensive updates to both city systems in the coming years.

This is an election year for the City of Maupin. Every two years we elect one mayor, who serves a two-year term, and three councilors, who serve four-year terms. Paperwork for filing to run is available at City Hall, with a mid-August deadline. Any permanent resident who has lived in Maupin city limits for at least 12 months is eligible to run. If you are interested in learning more, please stop by City Hall. Check your voter registration status at SOS.OREGON.GOV/VOTING

Planning Commission is working on **zoning issues** and the many **land use applications** that have been coming in. Last month the Planning Commission and Council added "Employee Bunkhouse" to the possible uses of Recreation-Commercial (RC) properties and rezoned the location where River Drifters has their business as RC. By allowing dedicated employee housing on these properties, the hope is to free up some homes in residential areas currently in use for that purpose. The next Planning Commission meeting is on **Tuesday, July 12** at 6 p.m. and will be conducted in person and virtually.

The **Legion Hall Restoration Committee** has been meeting every two weeks to discuss plans for the building. Councilor Susan Wright is taking the lead to work with all parties and with designers to determine a step-by-step plan to completely update the building in phases moving forward. Currently building systems are being evaluated for lifespan and needs. If you would like to be part of the planning, the next meeting is at **10 a.m. on July 6** at the Legion Hall. We know the Legion Hall is important to many different groups for many different reasons and would like to see all parties represented in the plan.

FAQs about ODOT work being done on the Highway 197/Deschutes Avenue curb ramps:

1. **Why are they replacing the curb ramps?** In order to bring the curb ramps into compliance with ADA regulations, ODOT has to replace the pavers on all the curb ramps with smooth concrete. This is happening throughout the State of Oregon.
2. **Why are they tearing up so much of the street?** The lines on the street are marking the work area, not a larger curb ramp. The contractors need to cut into the street to make the repairs. The footprint of the bump-outs will remain the same.
3. **Why is the work being done now?** The City met with ODOT several times during the planning phase last year and were assured that the work would happen after our summer season. Unfortunately, there were deadlines to complete the work, and with just about every city in Oregon needing their curb ramps replaced, the contractor had to be working in Maupin in June. We have spoken with the contractor and they are working with residents and business/property owners to meet everyone's needs while they complete the work. The construction will most likely continue into September.

Maupin Madness Motorcycle Rally was a success with over 200 entrants despite the showery weather. In addition to the road events, there was a **Bike Show** and **Raffles** among other fun. The Rally began at Kaiser Park downtown and finished with live music and festivities at the Imperial. Several thousand dollars were raised to benefit Veterans' charities.

You may see some **food carts** around Maupin this summer. Our brick & mortar restaurants have consented to allowing food carts for the summer to keep up with demand during the high tourist season. The Planning Commission and the City Council have agreed to a trial period lasting through the summer that would allow food carts on existing business properties. Rules and applications are available at City Hall.

The **Donkey Trail** and **Riverwalk** projects have hit a big snag with ODOT and the Federal Lands Access Program (**FLAP**). Since applying for funds, costs have increased exponentially. The previous budget of \$650,000 will not nearly cover the current estimate of nearly \$3 million. **ODOT** has determined that they will go back to FLAP for additional funds in order to complete the Riverwalk from the upper access road to about the driveway at Imperial. This construction would take place starting in the Fall of 2024. The Donkey Trail cannot be constructed in compliance with ADA requirements without significant expansion of the trail area. Because of this, ODOT recommends we seek a local solution. They would continue to assist in helping to find funds to provide safe access across 197 to access the trail at the upper end.

The **Southern Wasco County Library** still has copies of the new edition of *Chaff in the Wind*, which chronicles the history of the Maupin area through the memories of many local residents, past and current. The updated version includes several new chapters to help cover the 40+ years from the initial printing to now. Be sure to stop by and pick up a copy at the library. Proceeds benefit the **Southern Wasco County Library Foundation**.

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> Planning Commission @ 6 p.m. Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Meetings are being held in person and on Zoom that allows participation via phone or computer. Find the link to join on the meeting agendas.</p>	<p>7/12/2022 7/27/2022</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>	