



We are a safe, progressive community that cares for all our citizens and visitors while protecting our natural resources and maintaining our rural heritage.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Planning Commission

Tues., July 11 at 4:30 p.m.

City Council

Wed., July 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Meetings are being held in person at the Maupin Civic Center (507 Grant Ave.) and virtually on Zoom. Find the links to join on the agendas. Meetings are ADA accessible. For special accommodations, please contact the City Recorder in advance.

CONTACT US

Mayor Carol Beatty

541-395-2811

mayorbeatty@cityofmaupin.org

Maupin Civic Center

507 Grant Ave. | PO Box 308

Maupin, OR 97037

541-395-2698

CITYOFMAUPIN.ORG

CITY HALL NEWS

- The Civic Center will be closed on Tues., July 4 for Independence Day
- You can access many services on our website, including:
 - Utility payments
 - Facility rental requests
 - Burn permits
 - Maupin Municipal Code
 - Meeting agendas and minutes
 - Planning and land use forms
 - Code compliance information

LETTER FROM MAYOR CAROL BEATTY

Each morning around 9:30 a.m., my husband Don and I sit in Kaiser Park and drink our coffee together. It's a tradition we started during the pandemic so we could continue to socialize with our friends and the community while staying safe. We continue the tradition today because we enjoy chatting with our friends, welcoming visitors, and getting to talk to members of the community. Consider it my unofficial office hours; feel free to grab a coffee and join us to talk about what's on your mind.

In June, City staff received updates on two important infrastructure projects. KPFF, the consultants working on the boat ramp improvement project to improve access and address the significant erosion issues, provided staff with a summary of their research and potential new designs for the boat ramp. We will share more updates about the project and the timeline for improvements at future public meetings.

Business Oregon and Mid-Columbia Economic Development District came to Maupin to map out a plan for funding improvements for our aging water system. In order for the City to qualify for low interest loans and grants, water rates will have to increase. Over the next few months, staff and councilors will prioritize improvements and finalize a plan for funding. Look out for information about future public meetings where you can learn more about the water system improvement project and future rates.

This summer work is also beginning on ODOT's Highway 197 Riverwalk Project. This has been in the planning stages for a few years. For many years, the City's goal has been to connect all levels of town with safe walkways for pedestrians. ODOT is providing a solution from the east side of the 197 bridge to the upriver access road. This will improve safety, increase walkability, and provide more foot traffic to local businesses on the east side. The City will receive an update from ODOT at the end of July and will provide more details about the project after.

With help with our Fire Department volunteers, the City received a \$95,000 grant from the Oregon State Fire Marshal to reduce the risk of wildfires by clearing debris, brush, grass, and other potential fire fuel from properties in city limits. City staff is developing a program to administer the funds and ensure that high-risk areas are addressed in the cleanup efforts. This work will be vital to mitigate wildfire risk in Maupin. Watch for more information about the project this fall and how you can receive assistance to remove hazardous trees and shrubs. In the meantime, our Recycle Depot accepts household yard debris year-round.

Have a safe and fun summer in Maupin. We look forward to seeing you around town, on the river, and in Kaiser Park for coffee.

Burn Ban in Effect

Following guidance from Wasco County and the Oregon Department of Forestry, the City of Maupin enacted a burn ban on June 12. All burning (open brush and burn barrel) is now prohibited. Fireworks are also prohibited. Residents are encouraged to use other methods of disposal for yard debris such as composting or chipping. Yard debris disposal is available year-round at the Recycle Depot.

We thank everyone for their cooperation in keeping our community safe and fire-free.

Library Donor Wall

The Southern Wasco County Library is making progress on the design and installation of a donor wall to celebrate everyone that donated money to build the Southern Wasco County Library. They have put together a list of donors, based on the cards that were filled out when the donations were made. Please stop by City Hall or the Library and check that your name is spelled correctly. The list will be handed over at the end of July and the donor wall will be installed in early September. Please contact the Southern Wasco County Library Foundation if you have any questions.

Utility Rate Increases

In May, City Council passed Resolution No. 05312023-01, which increased water and sewer rates by \$2 each and recycle rates by \$0.50. These changes will be reflected in your July statement. The increase is consistent with CPI rates and will help the city cover the costs of operation and maintenance of our water and sewer systems and help our eligibility for grants and loans that will cover major upcoming improvements. The recycle rates cover the cost of hauling fees from the Recycle Depot.

Seasonal Food Carts

City Council and Planning Commission approved a second season of the Food Cart Pilot Program in Maupin. This will allow food carts to operate through September on private property in commercial zones. If you have any questions about this program, please contact City Hall.

Utility Bill Assistance

Do you need help paying your water bill? MCCAC may be able to help even if you already received a water bill assistance payment. You may apply even if you do not have a past due bill. Call MCCAC at 541-298-5131, ext. 206 or apply online at MCCAC.COM.

Free Outdoor Summer Movies

Maupin City Parks will be hosting free outdoor movies in the city parks all summer. Movies will be on a big screen and family-friendly.

Movie schedule:

July 5: City Park
July 18: Mt. Fir Park
Aug. 1: Kaiser Park
Aug. 15: Mt. Fir Park
Aug. 29: City Park
Sept. 8: Mt. Fir Park

Movies begin at 8 p.m. Attendees will vote for the next movie to be shown. Bring a blanket, low-profile chairs, and snacks. Call City Park at 541-395-2252 with any questions.

Planning and Land Use

City Council and Planning Commission will be meeting together in July or August in a joint work session to discuss issues such as zoning issues and short term rental regulations in Maupin. The meeting will be open to the public. Watch our social media pages and website for information about the meeting and how to join once it's scheduled.

The City is also working on developing a utility and streets plan for the Staats Avenue-First Street area of town that is seeing more residential development.

Legion Hall Update

Councilor Wright and staff are working with the Legion Hall Restoration Committee, Ben Gates, and Margo Rettig on a master plan to update the building. While they seek more information about the construction needs of the space to keep it safe and functioning in the future, the building will not be open to the public to use for any events or meetings. If you have any questions about other facility space available in town, please contact City Hall.

Wildfire Risk Reduction

The heat of summer brings with it the increased risk of fire in South Wasco County. Overgrown vegetation, compost and rubbish piles, and the use of machinery and equipment all increase the risk of wildfire in our community. It is the responsibility of property owners to cut down and destroy grass, shrubbery, brush and weeds as often as needed in order to prevent them from becoming a fire hazard and to prevent noxious weeds, such as knapweed, from going to seed.

Letters to residents whose properties have been flagged for overgrown or noxious vegetation will be mailed in early July, per Fire Chief Troutman. The Recycle Depot is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for household yard debris drop off. Commercially collected yard debris cannot be accepted at this time.

City programs exist for residents who may be unable to address property issues due to age, ability, or financial hardship. Applications for assistance are available at City Hall. Please contact Melissa Napoli at communityliaison@cityofmaupin.org for more information.

Wasco County Volunteer Opportunity

The Wasco County Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) provides Wasco County with information about the community's special transportation needs, with a focus on how projects will benefit seniors and persons with disabilities. The PTAC reviews transportation grant applications, requests and updates on the required Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan, and considers how transportation funds should be spent.

The current vacancy seeks a resident from South Wasco County who can represent that section of the county.

The PTAC meets quarterly, but at times may need extra meetings as projects dictate. Find the application and more information online at MCEDD.ORG