



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
Mon., Oct. 16 at 4:30 p.m.

City Council
Wed., Oct. 25 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

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CITYOFMAUPIN.ORG

CITY HALL NEWS

- Staff will doing our bi-annual Adopt a Highway Cleanup on Friday, October 20. Please drive slowly on the highway!
- You can access many services on CITYOFMAUPIN.ORG, including:
 - Utility payments
 - Facility rental requests
 - Burn permits
 - Maupin Municipal Code
 - Meeting agendas and minutes
 - Planning and land use forms
 - Code compliance information



Photo by Gabor Gardonyi

LETTER FROM MAYOR CAROL BEATTY

Fall has made a swift arrival in South Wasco County, and we are looking forward to Maupin’s shoulder season. Summer and rafting receive a lot of attention in Maupin, but this time of year provides some of the best opportunities for hunting, fishing, cycling, hiking, and more.

This month, I am looking forward to joining South Wasco Alliance on a tour of South Wasco County that will introduce agencies like Travel Oregon, Visit Central Oregon, and other organizations that support community and economic development to all the current major projects in our area. The tour will showcase the region’s recreation, tourism, and economic opportunities, especially outside of the traditional peak season.

Last month I was excited to join the students in a visit by an army helicopter (pictured above). Students toured the helicopter and were able to wander inside, sit at the pilot’s seat and hear about how the helicopter functions.

The search for a City Manager will officially begin this month. At the September City Council meeting, councilors voted to hire Prothman, an agency that specializes in executive recruitment for the public sector, to coordinate the City Manager recruitment and hiring. The agency will do all the necessary work to find the most qualified candidates who are the best fit for the City, and Council will hire from

their recommendations. Citizens will be kept informed about the process along the way. The recruitment should take a few months.

Staff has made a lot of progress on our upcoming major infrastructure projects. Our Wastewater System Master Plan is in review by the DEQ, and we expect to apply for state funding in the spring. We’ve identified five priority projects from our Water System Master Plan that we will pursue funding for. Funding for these major projects comes mainly from loans and small grants from the state and federal level, in addition to the City’s utility fees. In order to qualify for the state and federal funding and ensure that the City can maintain its improvements, utility rates will have to increase.

We will share more information in public meetings and town halls throughout the process so that citizens are informed of any changes to their rates. These improvements are necessary to the future reliability and safety of our water and wastewater systems.

This time of year also brings back school sports. Don and I enjoy watching the school’s volleyball, football, and basketball games. Say hi to us in the crowd as we cheer on the Redsides. Check out the school’s website for a schedule of events and cheer on our talented local athletes.

Burn Ban Lifts October 16

All burning (open brush and burn barrel) is prohibited until October 16.

Burn permits will be available on our website on October 16. No burning may take place until a burn permit is acquired. 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. Please call City Hall with questions.

Fall Clean-up Day

Fall Clean-up Day will take place on Saturday, October 21 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Waste Connections, as well as City staff and volunteers, will be available to assist residents in disposing of junk, recyclables, scrap metals, and yard debris. This year, volunteers with The Life Raft Pantry will be on site to accept donations of non-perishable food items and refundable cans and bottles.

We encourage all community members to take advantage of this free event by clearing their properties of unwanted junk and debris and dropping off a few non-perishable food items while you're at it. Thank you to Waste Connections for sponsoring this event. And, as always, if you or a neighbor need assistance loading or unloading materials, please call City Hall.

Utility Bill Assistance

Do you need help paying your utility bills? MCCAC may be able to help even if you already received a 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.

South Wasco Reads Author Event

Kelli Estes, Pacific Northwest award-winning author of *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk* will come to the Southern Wasco County Library as a culminating event connected with our South Wasco Reads. Kelli will discuss her book, read excerpts, answer questions, sign books and introduce her latest book *Today We Go Home*. Light refreshments will be provided, all are welcome. The event takes place on Saturday, October 7 at 12 p.m.

Recycling Tips for Local Businesses

The Recycling Depot continues to provide a valuable resource in our community. Businesses in particular have found the service useful for disposing of cardboard boxes and packaging materials from shipments. Here are a few tips for making your business's trip to the recycle center easier:

- Break down cardboard boxes ahead of time. Sort corrugated cardboard and keep separate.
- Rather than saving up cardboard for a less frequent trip to the recycle center, try to bring your items weekly. Extra large loads of cardboard may be turned away if accepting it would fill the bin and prevent others from using the service.
- Recycling must be clean and pre-sorted
- Garbage/trash cannot be accepted at the recycle center at this time. Please save trash items for Fall Clean-up Day, on October 21.

For questions or for more information, contact Community Liaison Melissa Napoli, at mnapoli@cityofmaupin.org or 541-395-2698

Maupin Main Street Facade Improvement Program Opens

Maupin Main Street is planning for the 2024 Main Street Revitalization Grant. If you are a business or property owner in our commercial district interested in the grant, please reach out to City Hall. Business or property owners could receive up to \$200,000 to buy or renovate property that would contribute to a thriving year-round main street in Maupin.

This month, Maupin Main Street is launching the new Façade Improvement Program. This program will provide grants for business or property owners to update the façade of their buildings. Projects could include new paint, windows, siding, signage, or more. The application is now open on our website. The applications will close on October 31 at 4 p.m. If you have any questions about the program or would like to talk about your project ideas, please reach out to City Hall.

Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program

Maupin has been awarded a \$95,000 grant from the Oregon State Fire Marshal's office to fund two wildfire risk reduction projects in our community.

The "Stop the Spread Challenge" will fund the purchase of a trailer to be provided to Maupin's neighborhoods on a rotating basis for residents to deposit yard waste for removal. This project will also fund the purchase of lawn and garden tools which will be made available to residents through the Library of Things at the Southern Wasco County Library. The community debris trailer and tools will be available beginning spring 2024.

Another project provides funding for contractors to perform yard and debris cleanup, dead tree removal and other natural fire fuel removal projects for residents who may be facing financial hardship, physical or health limitations or other challenges which prevent them from creating defensible space around their property. An application for this program will be available on the city website beginning October 2, 2023. Properties will be selected over the coming months, with work to begin spring 2024.

For more information, please contact Community Liaison Melissa Napoli at mnapoli@cityofmaupin.org or 541-395-2698

Short Term Rental License Cap

At the September City Council meeting, councilors discussed Planning Commission's recommendation to place a cap on STR licenses that would limit the number of STRs to 3 percent of residential homes. Council generally agreed to the cap and directed Planning Commission to continue working on the details of the regulations. Council will officially consider the cap by ordinance amendment or resolution at a later date.

Legion Hall Remains Closed

City Staff is working with the Legion Hall Restoration Committee 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 remain closed to the public to use for any events or meetings.