MINUTES

City Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 26, 2026
Maupin Civic Center (507 Grant Avenue) and virtually on Zoom

Call to Order / Roll call of City Council and Staff / Pledge of Allegiance	Mayor Beatty called the regular session meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll call of City Council and Staff was conducted by City Recorder Van Dolah, Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Beatty. *Presiding*: Mayor Beatty *Council Present*: Tom Troutman, Mike Foreaker, Kathy Peck, Matthias Kesler, Randy Bechtol *Council Absent*: Shelby Dumire *Staff Present*: City Manager Nick Smith, Recorder Doni Van Dolah, Attorney Ruben Cleaveland, Planner Jamie Crawford *Staff Absent*: N/A *Visitors Present*: Suze Riley, Allison Bechtol, Jon Helquist, Paula Latasa, Betty Odom, Vicki Ballou, Michael Miller, Heather John, Jeff Hurt, Mark John, Ron Walp, Rod Woodside, Rich Sutliff, Kathleen Kelsay, Christine Fruehling, Ken Hemphill, Ray Kindley, Lindsay Forepaugh, Dixie Bergin, Madeline Rhoades, Ed Glad
Consent Agenda	Councilor Bechtol moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilor Kesler second. The motion passed unanimously on a 6-0 vote. (Ayes: Carol Beatty, Tom Troutman, Mike Foreaker, Kathy Peck, Matthias Kesler, Randy Bechtol. Nays: None).
Public Comment	Ed Glad, representing the Lions Club of Oregon, addressed Council regarding Lions Club service programs and the possibility of reestablishing a Lions Club in Maupin. Glad discussed the Oregon Lions vision-screening program for school-age children and reported that approximately 130 students in the local district were screened during the prior school year. He stated that the Lions organization supports vision and hearing services. Council members recalled the community's former Lions Club and expressed support for exploring the possibility of reestablishing a local chapter.
Public Hearing: Lighting	Mayor Beatty opened the legislative public hearing on the proposed outdoor lighting ordinance. City Planner Jamie Crawford presented the staff report and explained that the Planning Commission had worked on the proposal over multiple public meetings. Crawford emphasized that the proposal was not a Dark Sky ordinance but was intended to provide clearer and more objective standards for existing site plan review requirements applicable to commercial, industrial, and public facility development. The proposed standards focused on shielding, downward-directed lighting, and preventing light trespass beyond property lines.

	Council discussed how the standards would apply to existing businesses and code compliance. Crawford explained that the proposal clarified standards already associated with prior site plan approvals. Typical enforcement would begin with education and voluntary correction. Council discussed the City's complaint-driven enforcement process and concerns regarding consistency under future administrations. Council also discussed public safety, street lighting, dark-sky tourism, and the City's own lighting. Members noted areas where additional lighting may be needed for pedestrians and motorists. A streetlight shield was demonstrated as an example of a relatively simple method for reducing glare and light trespass. During public testimony, speakers discussed the effects of excessive lighting on neighboring properties, safety, tourism, wildlife, energy conservation, and quality of life. Testimony also emphasized that any adopted standards should be objective and consistently applied. Following public testimony, Council deliberated on the proposed ordinance. City Attorney Cleaveland and Planner Crawford identified several edits and clarifications that should be made before adoption, including language regarding applicability within the public right-of-way and references to the ordinance's lighting figure.
Discussion: Chickens	Planner Crawford provided an overview of the proposed chicken ordinance. She explained that the proposal would operate as a stand-alone permissive ordinance applicable to residential properties and was developed by the Planning Commission after several months of discussion. The proposal included health and safety standards, limits on the number of chickens, enclosure and setback requirements, and provisions intended to support youth participation in 4-H and animal husbandry. Mayor Beatty opened the matter for public input, noting that it was not a formal public hearing. Betty Odom spoke regarding the value of animal care and husbandry for children and youth, including the responsibility learned through caring for animals. Other public comments reflected both support and concern. Supporters discussed educational opportunities, responsibility, 4-H participation, and the benefits of allowing residents to keep hens under reasonable standards. Concerns included small lot sizes, impacts on neighbors, predators, odor, noise, enforcement, and the City's ability to administer the program. Following public input, Council discussed the proposed standards in detail. The draft included a seven-foot setback from property lines, placement of coops behind the primary residence, and minimum enclosure space. Council discussed the number of hens allowed, additional chickens associated with 4-H participation, existing nonconforming chicken ownership, permit fees, inspection procedures, repeat violations, nuisance provisions, and the administrative workload for the City Manager.

	Councilor Peck stated that she would prefer to review the permit application and written administrative procedures before voting on the ordinance. Council also discussed adding language providing that the permit fee would be established by Council resolution and clarifying consequences for repeat violations. Because the ordinance before Council was still a draft and additional substantive changes were identified, Council reached consensus to have the permit materials and revised ordinance language prepared for consideration at a future meeting. No final action was taken on the chicken ordinance.
Discussion: Wasco Electric	Lindsay Forpaugh, General Manager of Wasco Electric Cooperative and Ray Kindley, Legal Counsel for Wasco Electric Cooperative, addressed Council regarding the proposed right-of-way ordinance and the City's prior discussions with the cooperative regarding a franchise agreement. Council discussed the purpose and potential benefits of a franchise agreement, possible liability issues within the public right-of-way, insurance requirements, and the distinction between an ordinance of general application and a negotiated franchise agreement. Ray Kindley discussed the cooperative's concerns with provisions of the draft ordinance and stated that some regulatory provisions applicable to investor-owned public utilities may not apply in the same manner to electric cooperatives. Council and the Wasco Electric representatives discussed the City's long-standing positive relationship with the cooperative and expressed interest in finding a workable compromise. Council agreed to allow the parties additional time to exchange information and work toward mutually acceptable language before returning the matter for further direction. City Attorney Cleaveland and Mr. Kindley disagreed whether Mr. Kindley had sent redlined documents to the City for review. Mr. Cleaveland requested that Mr. Kindley send him such documents. Mr. Kindley stated that he had sent prior redline documents to the City and agreed to send them.
Banking Resolutions	Council considered banking Resolution No. 08262026-01 Councilor Kesler moved to approve Resolution No. 08262026-01 as written. Councilor Foreaker second. The motion passed unanimously on a 6-0 vote. (Ayes: Carol Beatty, Tom Troutman, Mike Foreaker, Kathy Peck, Matthias Kesler, Randy Bechtol. Nays: None). Council considered banking Resolution No. 08262026-02 Councilor Kesler moved to approve Resolution No. 08262026-02 as written. Councilor Foreaker second. The motion passed unanimously on a 6-0 vote. (Ayes: Carol Beatty, Tom Troutman, Mike Foreaker, Kathy Peck, Matthias Kesler, Randy Bechtol. Nays: None).
Communications	Recorder Van Dolah will be absent at the next council meeting on September 23, 2026.

Adjourn	The next regular meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Beatty adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Doni Van Dolah, City Recorder

Signed: _____
Carol Beatty, Mayor

Attest: _____
Doni Van Dolah, City Recorder