

City of Union Oregon Newsletter

"PROMOTE RURAL VALUES, PROTECT LOCAL ASSETS AND FOSTER COMMUNITY PRIDE"

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CITY HALL Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Open During Lunch

UNION CARNEGIE LIBRARY Monday - Friday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

July 2020



July already?! So much going on here in the City since the last newsletter. At the Ranger Station we have begun movement again on our project. Finally found a company to come in and abate our asbestos problem on the first house and we now await approval from the building inspector to proceed with our interior construction. At the sewer plant we finally placed our primary digester back online and have begun a chlorination and de-chlorination treatment upgrade. With the recent acquisition of the old ODOT buildings on the east side of the City we have been diligently working at moving our public works shops from the Ranger station to these buildings and cleaning up the property.

On June 23, 2020, the City has now issued \$29,600 in forgivable loans to our local businesses. Together we will all succeed and cannot thank our businesses enough for continuing to contribute to the betterment of Union. This leaves the City of Union just over \$10,000 left to award. We are evaluating an additional \$20,000 we are entitled through Business Oregon to be given as grants to qualifying local businesses. The problem here is the restrictions on the grant are very tight and as I sit here and evaluate the situation, we may only have three businesses known to qualify.

With the recent uptick of COVID-19 reported cases in Union County the City continues to evaluate when to again open our lobby to the public. We thank you for your patience and truly grateful for the understanding as we move through this period. We anticipate the possibility of opening the lobby and library again after the 4th of July holiday.

The Council approved the \$4.8 million budget sent by the budget committee. We continue to monitor closely our finances with the current fiscal outlook due to COVID-19 and are prepared to adjust accordingly as needed.

On a bright note we did make it through the first round of grant elimination for the light upgrade at the park. We hope to hear more soon, but the state has delayed a bit on answering the grant applications given COVID-19.

Stay safe and keep hydrated as the heat should come on heavy this month.

Water Rate Increase:

Effective July 1, 2020 per Resolution #2020-05 water rates will increase by 2.5%, a total of .57cents. Your water billing will change from \$22.79 to \$23.36 for 1000 cubic feet and an additional .01 cent per cubic foot over. There is **no** increase in sewer rates.

You will notice this rate increase on your bill you receive on August 1st.

COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics Include:

- ⇒ Water/Sewer Rate Study
- ⇒ Further reviews of new ATV ordinance
- ⇒ Kennon Court Subdivision
- ⇒ COVID-19 Updates
- ⇒ City Fire/Rural Fire



BURN BAN

**NO BURNING IN CITY LIMITS
EFFECTIVE DURING THE MONTHS OF
JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER.**

Remember.....

All that June rain has really caused those weeds and grass grow!! Please remember that grass can be no taller than 10" and noxious weeds must be eliminated. If you do get a letter notifying you that you have tall grass, noxious weeds or other ordinance violations, you have 10 days to come into compliance. If you need additional time, please call the city ordinance officer to discuss possible extension. Let's work together to make Union a beautiful place to live.

Summer Reading Program?

The Union Carnegie Public Library's annual Summer Reading Program has been postponed and hopefully will be scheduled for August.

Watch the city's newsletter, Facebook page or website for updates as they happen. Or call the library at 541-562-5811 for information.



We all love our furr-babies, and want to be with them as much as we can. But you can show more of your love by leaving your pet at home. On a 78 degree day the temperature inside a vehicle can reach **160 degrees in minutes**. Even opening windows or parking in the shade won't prevent a pet from overheating and possibly die of heat-stroke. If you are making a trip that requires you to leave your pet at home.....show them some love and Leave

OPEN SEATS AVAILABLE FOR GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 3rd, 2020

- ◆ MAYOR 2 YEAR TERM
- ◆ COUNCIL SEAT #1 4 YEAR TERM
- ◆ COUNCIL SEAT #3 4 YEAR TERM
- ◆ COUNCIL SEAT #5 4 YEAR TERM

If you would like more information regarding the duties of an office, or the process of filing, call City Hall at 541-562-5197.

Candidate filing packets (forms and signature sheets) are available at City Hall, if you would like to pick one up please call to make an appointment.

Deadline for filing is Friday, August 10th. All filing paperwork must be returned to City Hall by

City Hall hours: Monday ~ Thursday 10:00am to 5:00pm
Friday 10:00am to Noon

STUDENT COUNCIL LIAISON

The City of Union acknowledges the importance of our youth and their participation in local government. The student liaison seat is the perfect way for your student to become involved in his/her community and local government.

Students must be entering 11th grade and be available to attend monthly City Council Meetings. City Council meetings are held monthly, on the second Monday, at 7:00pm.

The City of Union will grant a \$500 scholarship to the college student will be attending at the completion of a successful one-year term.

Applications for the 2020-2021 school year student liaison can be picked up at City Hall - please call for an appointment for pick up

Applications can also be email or mailed.

What Is So Special About July?

Well....other than Independence Day that is! Did you know that the month of July is:

- ◇ National Anti-Boredom Month
- ◇ National Hot Dog Month
- ◇ National Ice Cream Month
- ◇ National Picnic Month

And....the first Saturday of July is International Cherry Pit Spitting Day! July 5th is National Bikini Day! July 6th is National Fried Chicken Day! July 15th is National Cow Appreciation Day (go out and give a cow a hug)! July 22nd is Hammock Day! The fourth Saturday in July is National Day of the Cowboy! And July 31st is Mutt's Day!

Bring on the sunshine and celebrate all that July has to offer!

Are you registered to vote?

To register to vote in Oregon, you must be a US Citizen, and Oregon resident and at least 16 years old. If you are not yet 18 years of age, you will not receive a ballot until an election occurs on or after your 18th birthday. Online registration requires a current Oregon drivers license or state ID card.

If you have moved, had a name change, or wish to change or select a party affiliation you should update your registration.

A new registrant must submit their online registration by 11:59:59pm Pacific Time on the 21st calendar day before an election to be eligible to vote in that election.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

It is the time of year for fire hydrant maintenance and flushing. From June 29th to July 17th the Public Works crew will be flushing hydrants around the city.

Citizens that experience any unusual water issues, such as discoloration or pressure problems, are encouraged to turn on an outside water faucet and let the water run freely for 5-10 minutes. In most cases this will clear up any discoloration and restore water pressure.



Public Works asks that you use caution as the crew works at maintaining and flushing hydrants.

Thank you for your patience.

Just a reminder....

Right-of-ways are the responsibility of property owners or tenants.

Right-of-ways are to be mowed and clear of debris.

Per City ordinance, vehicles and trailers parked on the right-of-way are not to be parked for more than 72 hours. Non-operating vehicles cannot be stored on the right-of-way

Violations of this ordinance can result in a fine



Summer Projects?

Don't forget....CALL BEFORE YOU DIG! Know what's below before you start digging. It's not just a good idea...It's the Law. Plus, it's free!!



CALL BEFORE YOU DIG! CALL 811

City Of Union
ORD No. 2020-560

In the matter of permitting use of some All-Terrain Vehicles

1. Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance and Oregon State Law, Class I, II, and IV all-terrain vehicles may be operated on designated City streets subject to the conditions and restrictions set forth under ORS 821.200. This ordinance does not apply to or restrict vehicles under ORS 821.191 used for agricultural purposes.
2. **Public roads within the City limits** and not accepted as and designated as City streets and any road under the jurisdiction of another governmental entity or agency are excluded from and not covered by this Ordinance. All-terrain vehicles prohibited from operating under this Ordinance or Oregon State Highway 203 and Highway 237 as located within the city limits of Union, except that a person may, while operating an ATV, cross the above highway to the extent permitted under applicable Oregon law, including, without limitation, ORS 821.200(1). Designation of closed roadways will be at the sole discretion of the Union City Council.
3. **Operator Requirement:**
 - a) The operator of the allowed all-terrain vehicle must be 16 years of age or older and hold a valid state issued Driver's License. Licensed drivers must comply with all license restrictions. A person may not operate an ATV under this Ordinance while the person's driving privileges (i.e. Driver's License) are suspended or revoked.
 - b) The operator must have received and passed a safety certification and have an Oregon ATV Safety Education Card.
 - c) A person operating a Class I All-terrain vehicle under this Ordinance must hold a valid Class I ATV Operator Permit issued under ORS 390.570. A person operating a Class IV All-terrain vehicle under this Ordinance must hold a valid Class IV ATV Operator Permit issued under ORS 390.577
4. **Vehicle Requirements**
 - a) All-terrain vehicles operated under this Ordinance must be equipped with the safety equipment required under all applicable Traffic Laws, including, without limitation, ORS 821.030, ORS 821.040, ORS 821.220, ORS 821.230, and OAR 735-116-0000.
 - b) The All-terrain vehicle must be equipped with rearview mirrors, brakes, display headlights and taillights, horns, minimum of 1500cc engine capability, and pennant to attract attention.
 - c) Mufflers in Oregon must be maintained at 99 decibel (db) and be in compliance with ORS 467.030 and OAR 340-035-0030.
 - d) All-terrain vehicles operated under this Ordinance must meet the financial responsibility requirements under ORS 806.060. For purposes of this ordinance, 'financial responsibility requirements' means the ability to respond in damages for liability, on account of accidents arising out of the ownership, operation, maintenance and or use of an ATV, in a manner provided under ORS 806.060.
5. **Vehicle Operation**
 - a) All-terrain vehicles operating under this Ordinance must be operated in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, and ordinances, including, without limitation, all applicable Traffic Law requirements and all posted speed limits. It is the responsibility of the operator to be aware of which City streets are open to use by all-terrain vehicles.
 - b) Any operator or passenger must wear a Motor-cycle helmet with a fastened chin strap while operating or riding as a passenger on an ATV without seatbelts and roll bars or cages when operated under this Ordinance. All operators and passenger under the age of 18 must wear a Motor-cycle helmet with a fastened chin strap while operating or riding as a passenger on any ATV, whether equipped with seatbelts or roll bars or cages, operated under this Ordinance.
 - c) A person must be properly secured with a safety belt or safety harness while operating or riding as a passenger on an ATV operated under this Ordinance if such ATV was required to be equipped with safety belts or safety harnesses at the time the ATV was manufactured or safety belts or safety harnesses have been installed on the ATV.
 - d) All-terrain vehicles operated under this Ordinance must be operated in compliance with all posted speed limits and may no be operated (a) at a rate of speed greater than reasonable under the existing conditions, or (b) in a negligent manner so as to endanger or cause injury, death and/or damage to the operator or person or property of another.
 - e) All-terrain vehicles operated under this Ordinance shall be equipped with headlights and taillights, which must be illuminated at all times when the ATV is operated under this Ordinance. All-terrain vehicles may only be operated during daylight hours unless equipped with lighted turn signals. For purposes of this section, daylight hours mean one-half hour after sunrise to one-half hour before sunset.
6. **Liability.** The operation of an ATV will be undertaken at the sole risk and responsibility of the owner/operator. City of Union, in adopting this Ordinance assumes no responsibility for the operation of such ATV's and will be held harmless in any action arising from the operation of such ATV's on or off any public way within City of Union, including, without limitation, roadways.
7. **Enforcement and Penalties**
 - a) Enforcement of this Ordinance may be through City of Union Ordinance 10.99 or by civil action as provided in ORS 30.310, 30.315, or ORS Chapter 203, or by any means allowed under Oregon Law.
 - b) Any violation of this Ordinance that constitutes a violation of a Traffic Law, the penalty for the same shall be as provided for by Oregon statute.
 - c) The failure or omission to comply with any section of this Ordinance shall be deemed a violation and may be so prosecuted, subject to the fines provided in this Ordinance and Ordinance 10.99
8. **Definitions.** For the purpose of this Ordinance the following definitions are established:
 - a) All-terrain Vehicle (ATV) means Class I All-terrain vehicles, Class II All-terrain Vehicles, and/or Class IV All-terrain Vehicles as such Classes are defined under ORS Chapter 801
 - b) ATV Operator Permit means the ATV Safety Education Card issued upon completion of an Oregon Parks and Recreation Department approved ATV Safety Education course and passage of the minimum standards test of ATV Safety Education competency as established by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department as set forth in OAR 736-004-0015(10)
 - c) Driver License, has the meaning given that term under ORS 801.245
 - d) Motorcycle Helmet, has the meaning given under ORS 801.366. Said ordinance defines a motorcycle helmet as a protective covering for the head consisting of a hard out shell, adding adjacent to and inside the outer shell and a chin strap type retention system with a sticker indicating that the motorcycle helmet meets standards established by the United States Department of Transportation.
 - e) Traffic Law(s) means any and all Oregon statutes and regulations relating in any way to the operation or use of motorized vehicles, including, without limitation, the Oregon Vehicle Code and any regulations or administrative rules promulgated thereunder.
9. The City will post signs giving notice that the operation of ATV's is permitted under certain City streets under the provisions of this Ordinance. The City will post such signs at locations necessary to inform the public that ATV's are permitted, which sign locations will be determined by the City in its sole discretion.
10. **Referenced Statutes and Rules.** All references to particular laws, statutes, or rules include that law, statute or file as now in effect or as may be amended from time to time.
11. **Severability.** If any section, subsection, or part of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid, unenforceable or unconstitutional, such holding will not affect the validity, enforceable or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.
12. **Snowmobiles.** Nothing contained in this Ordinance applies to the operation of snowmobiles.
13. **Responsibility.** It is the responsibility of the ATV operator to be aware of the roadways **designated as 'closed'** as may be so designated in the future.



Planning To Build This Summer?

Regardless of what you plan to build you need to check with City Hall Planning Department. The city requires all new construction, either delivered or built on site, to have a City of Union pre-build permit.

We can then determine if you need to obtain a building permit from the County.

For all your Planning questions call City Hall at 541-562-5197