

City of Union Oregon Newsletter

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

342 South Main Street P.O. Box 529 Union, OR 97883 541-562-5197 Fax 541-562-5196 cityhall@CityOfUnion.com www.CityOfUnion.com

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

UNION CARNEGIE LIBRARY Monday 10am-6pm
Tues ~ Thurs 10am-5pm Friday 10am-4pm

October 2022



From The Desk Of
Doug Wiggins
City Administrator

September moved so fast, where has the time gone?

Many updates for September at the Ranger Station, siding on all three homes has been nearly completed and painting has been completed on two of the three homes. Starting September 30, 2022, we will begin our Airbnb venture. Within 15 minutes of posting the first building's vacancy, it began booking. It feels great to see the efforts of this project begin to come into fruition. The goal of the Council has been to get this property to sustain itself without help from the general fund and maybe even provide some money back to the general fund to aid in economic development for Union. The second building (middle), we will begin working on this winter. The hope will be to have it up and going next summer.

Activities in the park have slowed down with school in session and the slow turn of the weather. That has not slowed the park committee as they continue forward in working at the development of a master plan. If you have ideas, please stop in at City Hall and share them and we will be sure to pass the information on to the committee.

The wastewater plant screening process is progressing inch by inch. We were informed through our City Engineer that it appears we will begin construction for this project in the middle of winter. This is the ideal time given our groundwater levels and historically this is when they are at their lowest. Our main clarifier shaft broke this past month and with some plumbing reworks, we were able to isolate the clarifier and take it offline. Upon draining and disassembly of the shaft we are in the midst of getting it fixed and hope to have the clarifier back up by mid-October.

As with last month, negotiations continue with the contractor and Business Oregon on the big water contract so we can meet our construction budget. Due to this, construction continues to be delayed. Council has set a deadline of another 30 days to get this negotiation wrapped up or we will be looking to put it back out to bid.

Should you have any questions about the Library Levy that has been placed on the ballot at a rate of \$1.05/\$1000 for the general election, please stop in and see Tiffany at the Library to see the valuable services offered. Even with school in session, while it has slowed, we are still busy at the library with programs.

East Chestnut Street should be underway with construction by mid-October with the contractor stating that barring weather, it should be done within 2 weeks. The City will be getting notices out to the residences in the area asking them to watch parking in the right of way during this time.

Yes, the fire ban has been lifted for the City of Union, but please burn responsibly. It is still dry out and fire can spread quickly, please monitor your fires closely and watch the wind.

Welcome to fall and we pray for some much-needed moisture.



TRUNK OR TREAT

UNION HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT

5PM ~ 7:30PM

COME JOIN IN THE FUN!

Burning Now Permitted ~ But Please Use Caution As It Is Still Very Dry!

As of October 1st you may now burn if you have a current burn permit. If you don't have a burn permit, one can be purchased at City Hall. Burn permits are valid for one calendar year, January through December, and are \$10.00.

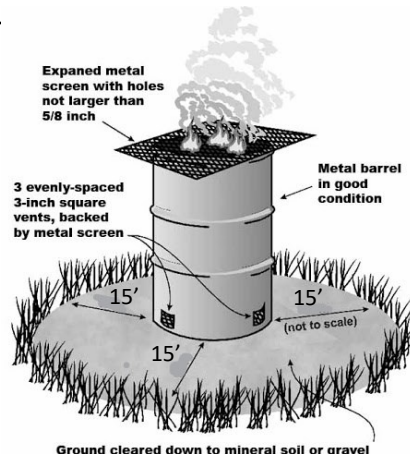
Reminder You can only burn the following:

Dry leaves, clippings, unwaxed paper or cardboard, untreated wood

Absolutely No Garbage!

All fires, open and/or burn barrel, must be completely out at dusk.

Burning regulation pamphlets are available at City Hall



A VOLUNTEER.....SOMEONE WHO GIVES OF THEIR TIME, EFFORTS, AND TALENTS TO MEET A NEED OR MISSION.

IN THE PAST THE WORD FOR UNION’S FIRE PROTECTION WAS.....VOLUNTEER. BEFORE THERE WERE VEHICLES, THERE WERE HORSE TEAMS AND HOSE WAGONS...AND CITIZENS WHO VOLUNTEERED. WHEN THE ALARM SOUNDED TEAMSTERS UNHITCHED THEIR OWN TEAMS, MADE A BEELINE FOR THE STATION HOUSE, AND HITCHED THEIR TEAM TO A HOSE WAGON.



FAST FORWARD TO TODAY....THE ONE WORD FOR UNION’S FIRE PROTECTION IS....STILL.....VOLUNTEER.

WHEN THE ALARM SOUNDS OUR VOLUNTEERS GIVE OF THEIR TIME TO SERVE AND PROTECT OUR CITIZENS AND CITY. BUT THE CITY OF UNION IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS. HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO GET INVOLVED AND SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY? DO YOU LIKE LEARNING NEW THINGS? TO BE A PART OF A DEDICATED GROUP OF PROFESSIONAL TEAM? YOU ARE JUST WHAT THE CITY NEEDS!

THE CITY PROVIDES ALL TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT. COME JOIN THIS GREAT GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS WHO PROVIDE EXCELLENT FIRE PROTECTION FOR YOUR COMMUNITY!!

IF YOU HAVE THE DEDICATION AND DRIVE TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER YOU CAN PICK UP A VOLUNTEER APPLICATION AT CITY HALL, REQUEST ONE TO BE EMAILED, OR FIND ONE ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.CITYOFUNION.COM UNDER THE ‘FORMS’ TAB.

Union Carnegie Public Library

Adult Craft Night, October 10th @ 5:00pm: Velvet Pumpkins, all supplies provided

Storytime every Tuesday @ 10:00am

Oct 4th ~ 3 Little Pigs

Oct 11th ~ Dino Excavation

Oct 18th ~ Coffee Filter Bats

Oct 25th ~ Pumpkin Painting

Thank you to Laura Anderson, Kaylynn Meeker, and Ainsley & Karli for help with seasonal decorations!!



**The History of Fire Prevention Week
October 9th ~ 15th**

October 8th ~ 10th

The Great Chicago Fire started when a cow kicked over a lantern in the O’Leary barn in the southwest side of the city.

Destruction

*Over 17,000 buildings and structures destroyed.

*Around 300 people killed

*Roughly \$200 million in damages (this amount would be worth \$4.484 billion today)

~1922~

Fire Prevention Week was started by the Nation Fire Protection Association in 1922 to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire.

~1925~

In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the first National Fire Prevention Week to occur from October 4th through October 10th.

Present Day

Fire Prevention Week is now celebrated every year during the week of October 9th and is the longest running public health observance in our country. For 2022, the theme for Fire Prevention Week is *“Fire Won’t Wait. Plan Your Escape.”*

Take some time to visit firepreventionweek.org to learn more.

Now Is The Time To Prepare!

With the weather still mild it is the perfect time to prepare for our unpredictable winters. We really never know when ‘Old Man Winter’ will make his appearance. So this is the perfect time to check those waterlines under the house and wrap with insulation if possible. When watering season is over, drain hoses, insulate and winterize outdoor faucets. No one wants to be out in the blowing and freezing snow trying to thaw out frozen waterlines. Not to mention the costs of repairing pipes after a break.

Make an appointment now to have your furnace or heat pump inspected. If you act soon, you’ll minimize the wait time of being in line for repairs on the coldest day.

Don’t forget to check windows and doors for areas where winter cold can come inside. If any gap is bigger than the width of a nickel you should apply exterior silicone caulk. Replace any weather-stripping around doors making sure you can’t see any daylight from inside your home.

Before you start a fire, make sure your chimney and vents are clean and in good repair, preventing chimney fires and preventing carbon monoxide from creeping into your home.

Don’t wait for the first winter storm to stock up on salt or ice-melt.

So, while we have some beautiful fall weather take a bit of time and get prepared!

Why all the colored markings.....?

There have been many projects around town, building, landscaping, and even projects by other utility companies. For every project or anything that requires excavation or digging it is the law to call 811....or what is also 'Call Before You Dig' This call sends out a request to all utilities to locate their services within two full working days. So it might be your neighbor who called in, or it might be a utility like OTEC or Avista, but that explains why there are colored markings on or near your street.

Each utility has it's own color for marking:

- ♦ Electricity ~ will be marked in Red
- ♦ Gas/Oil ~ will be marked in Yellow
- ♦ Communications ~ will be marked in Orange
- ♦ Water ~ will be marked in Blue
- ♦ Sewer ~ will be marked in Green
- ♦ Irrigation ~ will be marked in Purple
- ♦ Temporary Survey ~ will be marked in Pink
- ♦ Proposed excavation ~ will be marked in White



Remember....when you plan a project, before you ever start to dig....Call Before You Dig
Dial 811



Starting October 1st, with summer watering at an end, a residential 3/4" meter will be back down to 1000 cubic feet per month at the cost of .005 any cubic foot over the 1000 is at a cost of .0125 per cubic foot.

**allotted cubic feet at a rate of .005 changes with each size of meter.

So how is my utility bill calculated?

Base charges on a 3/4" meter (residential/small business):

Water \$33.99

Sewer \$51.50

EMS \$10.00

In addition to the base charges, each cubic is .005 cents up to 1000 cubic feet.

Every cubic foot above 1000 is .0125 per cubic foot.

If you have questions regarding your bill please feel free to call city hall and we can explain your charges.

The Ranger's House...

We are so excited to say that our first ranger station house has been finished and is now ready for our first Airbnb guests. Our first guests arrive September 30th! And there are already more bookings ahead.

The Ranger's House is a three bedroom, two bathroom, one of which is fully ADA accessible. Can sleep up to 8, Wi-Fi, and laundry.

Do you have family or friends coming to visit? This would be a wonderful place for them to stay. Visit the Airbnb website and search for 'Historic Ranger Station-The Ranger's House' and book a stay today!

Also, we are aggressively working on the second house 'The Office' and look forward to having it finished next summer!



UNDER CONSTRUCTION! EAST CHESTNUT STREET

Beginning mid October the city will be re-paving all of East Chestnut from Main to EOLS grounds.

Letters will be sent out to all residents affected to remove cars, trailers or other items from the right-of-way. Work will take up to two weeks, barring no weather delays.

Traffic will be limited during construction.

Always be aware of construction equipment and workers.



HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

- * It all starts with the costume. Make sure the costume and accessories are fire resistant. If trick-or-treating after dark make sure there is reflective tape or glow sticks for your kids.
- * Plan you night ahead. The route, and an agreed time children, no matter what age, are to return home.
- * A responsible adult should always accompany young children and should accompany children all the way to the door.
- * Teach children not to enter a stranger's home or car.
- * Instruct older children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and to always stick with friends
- * ALWAYS CHECK CANDY BEFORE EATING! TELL CHILDREN TO NOT EAT ANY CANDY BEFORE THEY ARE HOME.

DRIVER SAFETY TRIPS

- * Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs
- * Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully
- * At twilight and later in the evening watch for children in dark clothing and possibly no reflective or glowing clothes
- * Discourage new, inexperienced drivers from driving on Halloween
- * Avoid all devices and distractions while driving

HAVE FUN ~ BE SAFE

Ordinance Education Corner....

ORD. 419
DUTY TO INSTALL NUMBERS.

It shall be the duty of every person, firm or corporation owning, occupying or controlling any structure within the City of Union, to obtain from the Recorder the correct number for the structure and to number the same in accordance with provisions hereof, the same to be done within 30 days of the passage of this subchapter, or within 30 days of the erection of any structure which may be constructed after passage of this subchapter.

Numbers shall be affixed to the door or door frame of the main entrance to the structure or as near thereto as practical, in a location conspicuous from the street from which the structure faces.

It shall be unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to obtain a number or to place the same on any structure owned, occupied or controlled by the person, firm or corporation. and it shall likewise be unlawful for any person to remove, alter or deface any number, or to substitute any other number therefore; and any person violating any of these provisions shall, upon conviction thereof in the Municipal Court of the City of Union, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined.

****This fall, while the weather is still mild, is the perfect time to install, replace, or repair those house numbers. For just a few dollars you could save EMS and fire personnel precious life saving response time. As an emergency responder it is often they are called to an address only to find that there are no house numbers to help locate the site of the emergency. This can cost precious time that could be used to save your life, or another's life.**

TAKE JUST A FEW MINUTES THIS WEEKEND AND
INSTALL YOUR HOUSE NUMBERS



Happy
Fall y'all

COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics
Include:



- ⇒ Ranger Station project
- ⇒ Wastewater Influent Screen
- ⇒ Water System Update Project
- ⇒ Chestnut Street Project

~City Council Members ~

Susan Hawkins Leslie McMillan
Tim Cox Terra Richter
John Farmer Heidi Denton
Mayor Leonard Flint

October Council Meetings

- October 10th
Council Work Session @ 6:00pm
Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

- October 24th
Council Work Session @ 6:00pm

All meetings are held in the Leonard
Almquist Chambers at City Hall.

Masks are required when attending meetings.

Meetings are live streamed and can be viewed on
our Facebook page. Or you can view them any
time later on our website

www.cityofunion.com



ORGANIZATION	MEETING DATE	LOCATION	TIME	PHONE
Awana	Every Thurs/during school year	Baptist Church	6:30pm	541-562-5870
Catherine Creek Community Center	4th Thursday of month	Community Center	6:00pm	
City of Union Chamber	2nd Thurs of the month		6:00 pm	unionchamber@eoni.com
City Council	2nd Mon of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Council Work Sessions	2 nd & 4 th Mon of month	City Hall	6.00 pm	541-562-5197
CUP Medical Association	2 nd Tues of the month	251 S Main	6:00 pm	541-910-6268
Order of Eastern Star	2nd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:00 pm	541-805-0779
EMS Department	1st Mon of the month	Rural Fire Hall	7:00 pm	541-910-6002
EOLS Board	2nd Tues of the month	EOLS Club House	7:00 pm	541-562-5631
Food Bank	3 rd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek CommCtr	10-11:00am	541-562-2038
Friends of the Library	2 nd Tues January, April, July & November	Union Library	7:00 pm	541-562-5807
Grande Ronde Valley Masonic	3 rd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:30pm	
Historic Preservation	3 rd Wed of the month	City Hall	6:00pm	541-562-5197
Library Board	4 th Wed of July, Oct, Jan, April	Library	4:00 pm	541-562-5811
Lions Club	3 rd Tues of the month	Sports Complex	5:30 pm	PO Box 337
Mainstreet Union & Economic Development	2nd Thursday of the month	Call contact # for location	7:00 pm	541-910-7048
Planning Commission	3rd Wed of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Senior / Community Meals	2nd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek Community Center	12:00 pm	
School Board	2nd Wed of the month	Athletic Complex	6:00 pm	541-562-5166
South County Health Dist	Last Friday of month / Oct, Jan, April, and July	Health Clinic	1:30 pm	541-562-2222
Union Cemetery Board	2 nd Tues of the month	Union Cemetery Office	9:00 am	541-562-5212
Union FFA Alumni & Supporters	3rd Wednesday	EOLS Clubhouse	6:30pm	541-975-9495
VFW Bingo	Every Wednesday night	VFW Hall	6 pm	541-562-6035
VFW Formal meeting	1st Thursday of month	VFW Hall	7 pm	541-562-6035

Community Calendar