



Tradin' Crows

February 2018 Edition



City of Rogue River
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City Hall Hours:
Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed for Lunch from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

City Council Meetings:
4th Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers

City Council Workshops:
1st & 3rd Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers

See Calendar (page 2) for other meetings

Mayor: Pam VanArsdale

City Council Members:

- Bob Pascalar
- Fred England
- Vacant
- Vacant
- Don Daugherty
- Mark Poling

Planning Commission Members:

- Dean Stirm
- Cindy England
- Rick Kempa
- Don Collins
- Carolynn Riley
- Barb Hilty
- Ryan Hess

City Administrator: Mark Reagles

Chief of Police: Chris Snyder

Public Works Director: Michael Bollweg



City Council Update



Mayor Pam VanArsdale opened the January Council Meeting welcoming Pastor Dan O'Donnell with Calvary Crossroads Church who delivered the Invocation then the Mayor led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

After hearing the committee reports the City Council dealt with the following items on their agenda:

- ♥ The second reading of an Ordinance changing the time of the City Council meetings to 6:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month. This change will take effect in March.
- ♥ The second reading of an Ordinance to correct garage requirements to two-car garages. This change will take effect in March.
- ♥ The first reading of an Ordinance combining both the medical and recreational marijuana regulations for the city limits. This item will be on the agenda this month.
- ♥ A Resolution was adopted electing PERS Tier One and Tier Two employees be compensated for accumulated unused sick leave at time of retirement or disability retirement.
- ♥ A Resolution was adopted establishing a fee schedule for the City Water Ordinance.
- ♥ A Resolution was adopted establishing a fee schedule for the City Sewer Ordinance.
- ♥ The Mayor presented Maggie & Rick Clark with the Mayor's Beautification Award for their work remodeling the Live Oak Grange.
- ♥ The City Council approved the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Bob Pascalar to the Personnel Commission.
- ♥ The Goals and Policies were adopted for the 2018-2019 budget year.
- ♥ An agreement between the City and the

Rogue River Kiwanis was approved allowing them to hold the "65th Annual National Rooster Crowing Contest" weekend event.

- ♥ A request was approved for Southern Oregon Sanitation for a 2.59% rate increase for their services conducted in the City limits.
- ♥ A request was denied for the Rogue River Seventh-Day Adventist Church to hang a banner across Depot Street.
- ♥ A request was approved for the Boozefighters to hang a banner across Depot Street to hold the "6th Annual Connie Fiske Memorial Poker Walk" being held on March 10, 2018 at the VFW Hall.
- ♥ And, two resignations were regretfully accepted from City Councilors Bob Catherwood and Shelli Spencer and declaring a vacancy of each position.

ANNOUNCEMENT!

The City Council has declared two City Council seats vacant and will be accepting applications. If you are interested in serving on the City Council and have been a resident of the City for more than a year stop by the City Recorders Office and pick up an application. She is available to answer any of your questions or concerns about holding one of these elected positions.



UTILITY DEPARTMENT NOTICE:

The water and sewer bill that you are receiving this month has been increased by 4.0%. That is a total of \$1.70 for a single family household base rate. For those customers with water service only the increase is .60 cents a month and sewer only customers is 1.10 cents a month. The increase was determined by the November 2017 Engineering News Record (ENR) Report by averaging the Construction Cost Index, Building Cost Index and Materials Cost Index. The City reviews other cities utility fees but does not do rate comparisons because each city has to consider their infrastructure, costs to run the facilities, population and funding when setting their rates. The City Council realized that the past cost increases were not keeping up with the increase cost of running both the water and sewer systems and made the hard decision to step up and do the right thing. If you have any questions or concerns about your bill please contact the Utility Department at City Hall.



 FEBRUARY 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13		15	16	17
18		20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			
MARCH 2018 						
				1	2	3

Scheduled Events February 2018

1st	9:30 AM	Personnel Committee
	10:00 AM	Council/Staff Workshop
7th	9:00 AM	Sign Review Board
	10:00 AM	Safety Committee
13th	10:00 AM	Planning/Staff Workshop
14th	6:30 PM	Tree City Committee
15th	10:00 AM	Council/Staff Workshop
	2:00 PM	Finance Committee
19th	CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS DAY	
20th	10:00 AM	Police Commission
21st	9:00 AM	Sign Review Board
22nd	6:00 PM	Council Advisory Committee
	7:00 PM	City Council Meeting
27th	6:00 PM	Planning Commission Meeting
28th	2:00 PM	Finance Committee

ROGUE RIVER TREE PRUNING CLASS

Saturday, February 17th (weather permitting)

or

Saturday, February 24th

9 a.m. to 12 noon

The Rogue River Tree City Committee and City of Rogue River invite all community members to a class on basic pruning. We will meet in the City Hall Council Chambers for the introduction, followed by pruning demonstrations on the trees at City Hall and some street trees nearby. This class will be led by Bruce Ziegler, Certified Arborist, of A to Z Tree Service. Anyone attending is invited to bring their favorite hand pruning clippers or loppers and get hands-on experience. Please join us for this talk and demonstration.

Mayor's State of The City Message

It is always a pleasure to deliver the State of The City Message. For some Mayors, it can be a difficult and dubious task, especially if they've experienced far more negative than positive situations in the preceding year.

But not so for Rogue River!

We continued to enjoy the improved economy which was evident in the new businesses that opened this past year and construction on both the residential and commercial fronts. Foothill Estates is now nearly complete and the new First Community Credit Union building started going up this past fall. Besides for the 13-new home permits in Foothill Estates, we issued an additional 7-permits for new homes in various locations around town, including the

Habitat for Humanity project.

In April, we welcomed Mike Bollweg as our new Public Works Director. He hit the ground running and hasn't had much chance to slow down since! Not only is Mike a dedicated professional but he's a truly nice person and fits our "family" atmosphere here at city hall perfectly. The Council officially named the park at First and Pine Street "Rooster Park" and adopted the Park Master Plan that was designed by landscape architects Galbraith & Associates and paid for with a planning grant from Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept. Now we can finally apply for a grant for construction of the park.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of The Mural Society, the 6th mural was completed on the side of the Rogue Pharmacy building and I'm told that plans for a 7th mural are already underway.

Our police department gained not only a new human officer but a K-9 named Koda. Koda will assist in both public relations by visiting the schools and other events but hopefully aid our department in drug trafficking arrests. And in December, we took possession of three new SUVs for patrol vehicles. After last winter's record snowfall, it was obvious that our two-wheel drive cars limited our response capabilities.

Although we had much to crow about this last year, we were also struck by deep sorrow at the sudden passing of our long time public works employee Tom Farrell. He was a friend to many and his smile and bushy mustache will long be remembered by the community he served so well.

As we have done in the past, we will continue to meet any challenges ahead with dedicated and unified purpose, always mindful that we must be good stewards for the present and future citizens of Rogue River.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Pam

Happy Valentine's Day