



Tradin' Crows

February 2016 Edition



City of Rogue River

133 Broadway Street
PO Box 1137
Rogue River, OR 97537
Phone (541) 582-4401
Fax (541) 582-0937
Police (541) 582-4931
www.cityofrogueriver.org

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:

- Bill Jones
- Fred England
- Robert Catherwood
- Shelli Spencer
- Don Daugherty
- Mark Poling

Planning Commission Members:

- John Schaeffer
- Dean Stirm
- Cindy England
- Rick Kempa
- Don Collins
- Evan Goeglein

City Administrator: Mark Reagles

Chief of Police: Ken Lewis

Public Works Director/City Engineer: John Krawczyk

City Council Update

The Regular January Council meeting opened with an Invocation delivered by Dale Schaffner from New Beginnings Christian Center. Following the Committee Reports the first item on the agenda was the Mayor delivering the State of The City Message which can be found on the back page of this newsletter. Other agenda items dealt with by the City Council consisted of the following:

- Adopted an Ordinance amending the regulations for Medical Marijuana Dispensaries
- Adopted a Resolution rescinding the Marijuana and Marijuana-Infused Product Tax
- Adopted a Resolution establishing the 2016 Sewer Usage Fee
- Adopted a Resolution establishing the 2016 Water Usage Fee
- Approved a two-month leave of absence request from City Councilor Shelli Spenser
- Regretfully accepted a resignation from Planning Commissioner Jo Anne Mead
- Authorized the Mayor to sign a Liquor License Application for Off-Premise Sales for the Best Western Inn at the Rogue Hotel
- Authorized the Mayor to sign a Liquor License Application for Off-Premise Sales for the Dollar General Store
- Authorized the Mayor to sign a request to waive the Liquor License

Application Fee for the Miss Rogue River Scholarship Pageant to hold the "Eleventh Annual Crab Feed Dinner" Fund Raiser being held at the Live Oak Grange on February 13, 2016

- Authorized the Mayor to sign a Liquor License Application for Tarasco's Mexican Restaurant to serve alcohol at the "Eleventh Annual Crab Feed Dinner"
- Authorized the Mayor to sign a District Funds Agreement with Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District for the Rogue River Riparian Planting Demonstration and Learning Site at John F. Fleming Memorial Park

In other business, City Engineer/Public Works Director, John Krawczyk announced his retirement effective October 1, 2016.



The City Council will be reviewing regulations for Recreational Marijuana for the development of an Ordinance and Ballot Measure for the citizens to consider taxing Recreational Marijuana. You will be hearing more about this in future newsletters.

WORKSHOP MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! The City Council encourages you as a citizen to get involved and be a part of how your city is ran. Agendas are posted at City Hall, the post office and the City's web-site for meeting dates and times.

UTILITY DEPARTMENT NOTICE:

The water and sewer bill that you are receiving this month has been increased by 1.82%. That is a total of .75 cents for a single family household base rate. For those customers with water service only the increase is .25 cents a month and sewer only customers is .50 cents a month. The increase was determined by the November 2015 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 2016						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
 	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					
MARCH 2016						
		1	2	3	4	5

Scheduled Events February 2016		
3rd	9:00am	Sign Review Board
	10:00am	Safety Committee
	6:30 pm	Tree City Committee
4th	9:30am	Personnel Committee
	10:00am	Council / Staff Workshop
9th	10:00am	Planning Commission Meeting
	10:30am	Planning Commission Workshop
12th	2:00pm	Finance Committee
15th	CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS DAY	
17th	9:00am	Sign Review Board
18th	10:00am	Council / Staff Workshop
23rd	10:00am	Planning Commission Meeting
25th	6:00pm	Council Advisory Committee
	7:00pm	City Council Meeting
29th	2:00pm	Finance Committee

**THE CITY OF ROGUE RIVER INVITES YOU
TO OUR STREAM SIDE
PLANTING COMMUNITY CLASS**



The City is hosting a Stream Side Planting Community Class. The class will feature local guest expert speakers from Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District and Seven Basins Watershed Council.

The class will focus on how to protect and enhance your own property as well as general education for protecting water quality. No prior experience needed to participate.

The Stream Side Planting Community Class will be on Thursday, February 11, 2016 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. The class will be held at the City Hall Council Chambers. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by February 9, 2016.

Mayor's State of The City Address

Although 2015 was a relatively quiet year for Rogue River, there were still some notable events along the way.

Early in the year, we hosted a series of town hall style meetings to update our Strategic Plan. We learned that your vision of Rogue River now and in the future hasn't changed much since our first Strategic Plan was compiled - that our sense of community is what matters most to us, and moderate growth is necessary but not at the expense of our small town identity.

We welcomed some new faces this past year. Molly Bradley joined our team as City Planner and Public Works Assistant. Elisa Dawson began a one year RARE program with us thanks in part to an AmeriCorps grant (RARE being the acronym for Resource Assistance to Rural Environments). And Nathan Staller became the newest member of our police department, first as a reserve officer in April, and then in September he was sworn in as a full time member of the force.

Signs of the improving economy were evident as new home construction continued to be robust in Foothill Estates and Dollar General finally broke ground and nearly completed their new store. Thanks to Louise Wall's generous land donation, Habitat for Humanity began plans for a small subdivision, and we saw continued improvements to commercial buildings and other properties around town including the completion of the Mural Society's 5th mural on the side of the Homestead building.

We ended the year with one of the rainiest Decembers on record, a welcome change and hopefully a harbinger of the end of the drought conditions we've endured the past couple of years.

We look forward to another productive year for our city. The street improvement project will be completed this year and Elisa Dawson is working on plans for a riparian garden in Fleming Park as well as updating our zoning and land use codes. I am hoping to be able to apply for a State Parks grant to fund improvements to our property at First and Pine.

And once again, your Council, city staff and I will continue to work with unified purpose for the betterment of our community.

 *Respectfully submitted,*

Mayor Pam 