



# Tradin' Crows'

February 2024 Edition



## City of Rogue River

133 Broadway Street  
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Rogue River, Oregon 97537  
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Fax (541) 582-0937  
Police (541) 582-4931  
[www.cityofrogueriver.org](http://www.cityofrogueriver.org)

## City Hall Staffing Hours:

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to  
5:00 p.m. and closed for lunch from  
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

## City Council Meetings:

4th Thursday of every month at  
6:00 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 all meetings

**Mayor:** Pam VanArsdale

## City Council Members:

- Sharie Davis
- Grace Howell
- Rick Kempa
- Barb Hilty
- Sherrie Moss
- Barb Gregory

## Planning Commission Members:

- Jay Chick
- Dee Copley
- Dean Stirm
- Debbie Kenney
- Jonna Strauss
- Mark Minegar
- Vacant

**City Administrator:** Ryan Nolan

**Chief of Police:** Jim Williams

**Public Works Director:** Michael Bollweg



**We will be Closed Monday,  
February 19, 2024**



## City Council Update



Mayor Pam VanArsdale opened the first meeting of the year welcoming Larry Hamblin who delivered the Invocation. After the Pledge of Allegiance the Mayor and City Councilors delivered their committee reports.

The first item on the agenda was for the Mayor to deliver her 2023 *State of the City Message* which can be found in it's entirety on the back page.

The City Council then took action on the following agenda items:

- ♥ Recognized Corporal Ty Darr for 5 years of service to the City of Rogue River.
- ♥ Awarded a contract for City Attorney Services to Jarvis, Glatte, Bunck, LLP.
- ♥ Approved a letter of support for Legislative Capital Project Funds for Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon (ECISO, 911).
- ♥ Recommended approval of an OLCC permit for a change of ownership for H&S Stations LLC at 95 Pine Street.
- ♥ Accepted the annual "clean audit opinion" audit report from KDP Certified Public Accountants, LLP.

- ♥ Accepted a resignation from Ginny Chabot (Tree City Committee Member).
- ♥ Approved a Resolution establishing a fee schedule as provided in Ordinance No. 98-275-Q, also known as RRM Title 13.10, the City of Rogue River Sewer Ordinance, and rescinding Resolution No. 23-1406-R.
- ♥ Approved a Resolution establishing a fee schedule as provided in Ordinance No. 97-241-Q, also known as RRM Title 13.15, the City of Rogue River Water Ordinance, and rescinding Resolution No. 23-1421-R.
- ♥ Accepted the January 11, 2024 Tree City Committee minutes.



*The next City Council meeting will be held on  
Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.*

## !!!ATTENTION!!!

The water and sewer bill that you will be receiving next month will be increasing by 3.53%. That is a total of \$2.05 on a monthly minimum bill, for a single family household. The increase was determined by the December 2023 Engineering News Record (ENR) Construction Price Index. This increase allows the City to continue to effectively operate and maintain the water and sewer systems. Feel free to contact the staff at City Hall if you have any questions or concerns regarding your bill and we will review it with you.

## Is Your Contact Information Up to Date?

Many water and sewer customers have provided us with phone numbers and e-mail contact information. The City uses that information to contact property owners and renters when there is important information to relay such as a potential health hazard, an identified leak, or other issue. Please consider dropping by City Hall or calling to confirm that we have current and accurate contact information for property owners and current renters.

City Hall: 541-582-4401

You can also write your current contact info on your payment coupon in the lower third of your bill when you return payment.



# February

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18		20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

# March

				1	2	3
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## Scheduled Events February 2024

1st	9:30 AM	Personnel Committee
	10:00 AM	Council and Staff Workshop
	11:30 AM	Finance Committee
6th	9:00 AM	Safety Committee
8th	11:00 AM	Tree City Committee
13th	10:00 AM	Planning Commission Workshop
15th	10:00 AM	Council and Staff Workshop
	11:30 AM	Finance Committee
19th	<b>CLOSED</b>	<b>IN OBSERVATION OF PRESIDENTS' DAY</b>
22nd	4:30 PM	Citizen Advisory Committee
	5:30 PM	Finance Committee
	6:00 PM	City Council Meeting
27th	6:00 PM	Planning Commission Meeting
<b>First Week of March</b>		
5th	9:00AM	Safety Committee
7th	9:00 AM	Personnel Committee
	10:00 AM	Council/Staff Workshop
	11:30 AM	Finance Committee



## State of the City January 2024

It is a pleasure to present my State of the City message. If there's one word that I would use to describe this past year for the city it would be "stability". It finally felt like the upheavals of the pandemic were well behind us and we undertook the business of the city with a new energy and a renewed optimism.

Some of our accomplishments were small, some were significant but all were meaningful to the future of our city. From the Council's work on written policies and procedures to the monumental task our staff faced with the water meter project, our combined dedication to the people of Rogue River was evident.

Taking a new, simpler approach to negotiating our Collective Bargaining Agreement with the employee's union, we were able to reach an agreement without hard feelings and harsh words and we did it in an unprecedented timeframe of just a couple of hours, reaffirming our commitment to and appreciation for all of our employees while still keeping within our limited budget and fiscal responsibility to our citizens.

We still have some unfinished goals that we tried to get done in 2023. Online bill-pay has taken longer to implement than I had imagined but we're nearly there with a target of sometime in February for availability to the public. Our website has had some updates but still needs more work and most likely will need to be replaced by a completely new one. I believe that we can transition to more efficient and modern systems while still maintaining our small town identity and charm. As I've said before, I don't want to be "like" any other town, I want to be the best Rogue River that we can be. And I know that the City Council and each and every city employee and volunteer feels the same. Working together, we will continue to serve the city we love.

Respectfully Submitted this 25<sup>th</sup> of January, 2024,  
Mayor Pam

### Coming Soon: BILL PAY OPTIONS

- The first wave of new bill pay options will be "direct debit".
  - The second wave will include online bill pay options.
  - And last we will be rolling out credit card options at City Hall.
- Look for more information in next months billing...



**Do you want to get involved with City Government? We are currently accepting applications for positions on the City Budget Committee.**

**If you have any questions regarding these positions please contact the City Recorder. Applications are available at City Hall.**



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

### Did You Know!!!

*Well we are now one month into the New Year and new things are happening.*

*You may have noticed the Bears are gone. They were picked up and moved back to the Grants Pass area. We only have them from October until the New Year. So- We will wait patiently for their return.*

*I will be posting some great new updates on Rooster Park as we get into Spring...Stay Tuned.*

Councilor Sherrie Moss