

## Mayor's Comments

The City has received a Union County Transient Tax Attraction Grant in the amount of \$11,000. Grant funds are to be used for attractions that will impact or increase economic growth and tourism. Funds from this grant will be used to install electrical infrastructure on the north side of 2nd Street in preparation for adding new street lights from E Street to A Street.

New lights will be purchased and installed as funding becomes available, either in the form of donations or grants.

As winter approaches, please start thinking about snow removal. Please be sure to have alleys and street right-of-ways cleared of vehicles and other debris so that plows can get through and we can keep the streets and alleys as clear and passable as possible. Thank you for your help and consideration.

"Your mind is a powerful thing. When you fill it with positive thoughts, wonderful things will start to happen." - Unknown

## Wastewater Project

Construction on the wastewater project is winding down and very near completion. The wetland has been fenced and seeded. Major repairs have been made to the collection system lines and manholes, including installation of a new manhole in the Café parking lot. We are still waiting on a control panel and a gauge to go in at the treatment plant.

The City still has to install an informational panel and plant some native trees and shrubs around the GM Huckleberry Playground Park as part of our tribal mitigation agreement.

Budget-wise, we received \$1,991,500 in grant funds and were approved for an additional \$340,000 loan for the project (which we have not used at all). To date, we have approximately \$17,000 left in unallocated grant funds. These funds could possibly be used for things such as Section 3 compliance requirements, new computers, monitoring and testing equipment at the lagoons, the single source audit costs, bio-solids removal, or other minor improvements and upgrades to or at the wastewater treatment facility including dredging the sewer ponds. DEQ has given the City until September 2024 to complete the task of dredging.

## New Library Update

Due to the timeliness of the most recent pay request from the wastewater project, we have been invited to apply for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for a new Library after all. CDBG rules would not allow the city to apply for a second grant until we had actually spent at least 60% of the current grant funds. When The Saunders Company submitted their latest payment request on the wastewater project, the last week of August, it put us over 72%. Just in time to meet the deadline for grant invitations.

The grant applications are due by September 30th and grants are generally awarded in December.

The City will apply for just over \$1.2 million to add on to the south end of the old fire station for a new library. The grant will include costs of construction, grant administration, architecture design, environmental studies, and some furnishings.

The Library Board has been raising funds for things that are not covered by grant funds, such as a BOLI (Bureau of Labor and Industry) wage fee. They have also been circulating petitions to show community support of the project.

## Water Line Flushing

Annual water line flushing is scheduled to begin at 9AM on Wednesday, October 11. We will begin with the lines closest to the well (next to the freeway). As lines are flushed, they will be isolated to prevent backwashing into areas already flushed.

During this time you should not be without water. However, if you notice discoloration in your water, we ask that you flush your lines from an outside faucet before flushing inside. When you do flush inside, use COLD water to help keep your water heater clear and use a faucet nearest to where the water comes into your house. This will help prevent anything from spreading throughout your lines.

All flushing will take place between 9AM and 3:30PM. We expect it to take 3 to 5 days to complete.

"A smile is an inexpensive way to change your looks."



-Charles Gordy

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ◆ Oct. 2 City Council Meeting  
7PM City Hall
- ◆ Oct. 3 Grange Meeting  
6:30 PM Wolf Creek Grange
- ◆ Oct. 5 Library Board Meeting  
5PM Library
- ◆ Oct. 9 Columbus Day  
City Hall CLOSED
- ◆ Oct. 20 Food Bank  
2PM to 4PM Methodist Church
- ◆ Oct. 23 Flu Shot Clinic  
1PM-3PM in front of City Hall
- ◆ Oct. 24 School Board Meeting  
7PM
- ◆ Oct. 31 Halloween

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

City Council Meeting  
October 2, 2023  
7PM City Hall

Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance  
Public Comment (allow 4 minutes each)  
Amend/Accept Agenda  
Amend/Accept Minutes  
Accounts Payable  
Library Report  
Public Works Report  
Ordinance Enforcement Report  
City Recorder Report  
Mayor's Message  
New Business-  
- Council Letters of Interest  
- Electronic Speed Sign  
- City Christmas Celebration  
Old Business-  
- Wastewater Project Update  
- City Hall/Library Update  
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Council Comments

**\*Additions and/or Changes may be made to the agenda.**

If special accommodations are needed, please notify City Hall at 541-898-2185 by noon on Friday prior to meeting.

## Library News

Don't forget we have the Sage System available at the Library. The Sage System allows you to check out books from libraries all over the State. You can have them delivered to the North Powder Library so you can pick them up *and* return them there. You can check out novels, biographies, history, adventures, children's books, etc., even dvds. For more information about how to access the Sage System, contact the Library.

A report from Scholastic suggests that reading aloud to children throughout their elementary school years inspires them to become frequent readers. About 40% of frequent years between the ages of 6 and 10 were read out loud to at home.

Welcome to Teri Brown who has been appointed to fill the most recently vacated seat on the Library Board. Teri will complete the term vacated by Jeff Nielsen.

The next Library Board Meeting will be Thursday, October 5th, at 6PM at the Library. Everyone is welcome to join us.

### Library Hours-

Tuesday & Wednesday 2PM to 6PM  
Friday & Saturday 10AM to 2PM

Phone: 541-898-2175

Email: npcitylibrary1@gmail.com

## Free Blood Screening

The Grande Ronde Hospital will sponsor 3 FREE blood screening clinics. Screenings will include hemoglobin & hematocrit, cardiac lipid panel, and glucose. Clinics will be held from 7AM to 10AM on October 7th at the Elgin Clinic (570 S. 8th Street), October 21st at the Union Clinic (142 E. Dearborn Street) and October 28th in La Grande at the Regional Medical Clinic (506 4th Street). For questions or more information, email [communityrelations@grh.org](mailto:communityrelations@grh.org).

If you are experiencing problems with your water or sewer, please contact City Hall.

City Hall Phone: 541-898-2185  
(8:30AM-12:30PM Monday thru Friday)

Public Works: 541-786-4600  
(7:00AM-3:30PM Monday thru Friday)

After Hours Emergency: 541-786-4600 or  
541-975-0422

\*Please call during business hours if at all possible as a fee will be charged for after hours calls.

## Flu Shots

The La Grande office of CHD (Center for Human Development) will be doing a Flu Shot Clinic on Monday, October 23, 2023 from 1PM to 3PM next to City Hall. CHD has a mobile unit that will be parked next to City Hall (340 E Street). Regular and high dose influenza vaccines will be available. Please bring your insurance information with you. For more information, please call CHD at 541-962-8800.

## Legend of "Jack 'o Lantern"

As the story goes, centuries ago in Ireland, a drunkard known as "Stingy Jack" made a deal with the Devil and was doomed to wander the earth with only a piece of coal for light.

According to the legend, Jack was known as a deceiver and manipulator. The devil, having heard tell of Jack's evil deeds decided to find out for himself if it was true. So, one night as Stingy Jack wandered the countryside, drunk as usual, he came upon the devil. Thinking he was done for, Jack asked the devil for one last drink before he departed for Hell. Jack convinced the devil to turn himself into a coin to pay for the drinks. Instead of paying for the drinks, Jack put the coin in his pocket next to a silver cross, which prevented the Devil from changing back to his original form. Jack freed the devil under the condition that his soul would be spared for ten years.

Ten years later Jack once again found himself face to face with the devil. Again Jack tricked the devil by convincing him to climb a tree to pick an apple to feed his starving belly. He trapped the devil in the tree by carving a cross into the tree's bark. Having no choice but to agree to Jack's demands, the devil agreed that he would never take Jack's soul and he was set free.

When Jack eventually died he found that God would not allow such an unsavory figure into heaven. The devil, bound by his vow not to claim Jack's soul, would not let him into hell either. Instead, the devil gave Jack a burning coal to light his way and sent him to roam the world forever between the planes of good and evil. Jack put the coal into a carved-out turnip and has been roaming the Earth with it ever since.

The Irish began to refer to the ghostly figure as "Jack of the Lantern", which eventually was shortened to "Jack-o'-Lantern."

*"Laugh and the world laughs with you.  
Cackle maniacally and people back away  
from you slowly."*

-Unknown



*Q: What do you call a fat jack-o-lantern?*

*A: A "Plump-kin".*

*Q: How do you mend a jack-'o-lantern?*

*A: With a pumpkin patch.*

## Burning Reminder

As of October 1st the open burn ban is lifted and burning will be allowed from 6AM to 6PM. Please remember to burn with extreme care, even when burning in barrels or in fire pits and barbecue grills.

Do not burn on windy days and always be sure you have a source of running water near by in case of an emergency.

All fires must be **completely** out and no longer smoldering by 6PM.

Please DO NOT burn anything that will produce toxic or unpleasant odors and smoke such as garbage, plastics, rubber, foam, disposable diapers or any wet products.

Be sure you have an updated Burn Permit. Burn permits are available, free of charge, at City Hall.

### Church Services:

**Cornerstone Baptist Church—**

Sundays 10AM & 11AM and 5PM  
Wednesdays 6PM

**St Anthony's Catholic Church—**

Sunday Mass—11:30AM

**United Methodist Church—**

Sundays 10AM

**"Lunch Bunch" - Fridays Noon to 12:30PM at the Wolf Creek Grange.**  
\$3 per meal. Open to the public.

### City Council Members-

#1 Vicki Townsend	#4 Justin Wright
#2 Jeff Nielsen	#5 Lindsey Thompson
#3	#6 Logan McCrae

Mayor John Frieboes

### City Hall Office Hours

8:30AM to 12:30 PM

Monday thru Friday

Phone 541-898-2185

Fax 541-898-2647

[www.northpowderoregon.org](http://www.northpowderoregon.org)

Closed all Major Holidays

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