

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 - Friday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

December 2020



November brought the cold weather to remind us winter has come. With that we cannot remind everyone enough to make sure hoses are disconnected from spickets even your frost free spickets. Broken water lines are preventable and cost residents considerably when they break. Taking precautions to winterizing where needed and insulating areas of problems now could save you \$1,000's later.

So, what has the City been doing this month? The main concentration for public works has been preparing for winter weather and the cold. Getting the trucks ready with plows, the sanding box ready to go and getting a supply of sand for our roads. Please note the City of Union only uses sand on its streets. However, ODOT does use a salt and sand mixture along Main Street, Medical Springs Highway, and the Cove Highway. On that note, please remember to slow down during the inclement weather. Most of the time there is a layer of ice beneath the snow and stopping takes much more time. Be especially careful around the school zones.

The Ranger Station finally got the framing contractor in and now we are waiting for our plumbing bids to come in. A much slower process than anticipated, but it is moving forward. Speaking of Ranger Station, did anyone notice the new sign? Thank you to the Union Chamber for purchasing the new sign. Crews got it mounted this past month, I think it looks great.

Finally, I would like to welcome Dan Johnson as our resident Sheriff's Deputy to Union. He began patrolling here the first of November and is working to get out and talk to everyone. Please, if you see him, do not be afraid to flag him down and chat. He needs to hear your concerns and community involvement will help Dan and Law Enforcement services be productive for Union.

Council continues to discuss the Water and Sewer Rate Study provided by Pioneer Consulting. Once they finish evaluating the study, they will make some decisions on whether to adopt the study or keep as we are. They continue to discuss this study at every workshop (twice monthly), public participation is greatly appreciated. Please feel free to listen in online via Facebook live, watch past videos, or drop us a note on your thoughts and concerns.

No doubt this month has been hard on Union residences given the recent COVID-19 increases. Please continue to do your best in slowing the spread. It seems a vaccine may be on the way by the first of the year, but time will tell. The City will begin discussions on further economic relief should the current conditions exist after December 2.

We look forward to the Christmas Parade on the 5th. I hear there may be a Santa sighting during the parade. Crews are working to have the lighting up in the park and along main street before the Parade.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and believing the New Year brings better health for Union, our County, our State, and our Country.

Happy Holidays



Christmas
Lights Parade



Union's Annual Lighted Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 5th

Parade at 5:00pm

Tree Lighting to follow at Hometown Hardware

Santa at the City Park!

The City of Union Chamber invites all to attend!!

Please follow social distancing and mask requirements

RATTLE TALE
Coffee & Such

Espresso
Coffee, Tea,
Smoothies
Breakfast Burrito's
Pastries

332 S Main St
Union, OR 97883

Winger Wednesdays!
Hot Dog & Chips
\$2.50

Union Fire & EMS Department sponsored

**Toy collection campaign begins
November 1st**



**Please donate a newly unwrapped toy so
children less fortunate in our
community can open a gift on
Christmas .**



Drop-off sites:
City Hall
Rattletale Coffee
Union Stoplight
Hometown Hardware
Union Market
Gravy Daves
Old West

Please note.....

Although it is winter, ordinance violations are still ongoing and are monitored by the city's ordinance officer.

Violations most observed at this time are vehicles parked in the right-of-way longer than 72 hours, abandoned vehicles, stockpiling of garbage/garbage bags, trailers in right-of-way, persons living in trailers without city permit.

The city has an ordinance regarding the numbering of residences/property. If you get a letter regarding the absence of numbering on your residence we ask that you take care of that for multiple reasons; it's an ordinance, but most important, local fire/ems volunteers need your house numbers! It can mean the difference of life and death and/or the loss of your home. We cannot stress enough the importance of taking a few minutes of your time to place numbers on your home, make sure they are in full view from the street.

Election Results

The following person is duly elected,
qualified and acting Mayor as of
January 1, 2021

Name	Term Limit
Leonard Flint	2 years

The following are duly elected , qualified
and acting Councilors as of
January 1, 2021

Susan Hawkins	Position 1	4 years
Timothy Cox	Position 3	4 years
John Farmer	Position 5	4 years

What difficult times we are in right now! Our community and small businesses are doing everything they can to stay in business.

What can we do? We can try to do as much shopping locally as we possibly can.



Let's do all we can to help our local businesses stay in business!



JUST 4 DOGS

Cordially Invites You to Our

1st ANNUAL

HOLIDAY DOG DRESS UP COMPETITION

December 5th

2:00pm

265 S. Main Street

Union, OR 97883

Please also join us for the light parade at 5pm

Prizes for First and Second place



WARM DRINKS WILL BE OFFERED

Masks are required



Dashing Through The Snow.....Where Is That Snow Plow!

Old Man Winter is making his presence known, and before we know it there could be plenty of snow on the ground.

The City of Union has a snow removal policy that addresses the city's snow removal operations within the city limits. The City of Union's objective is to provide adequate flow of traffic within the City during ice and snow conditions. The City of Union currently employs three people in the Public Works Department. These three people have daily operations to perform within the City, however, during a winter such as last winter, snow removal is a priority.

Snowplowing: The City crew will run their plows when snow accumulations equal six (6) inches or more. Streets are plowed on a priority route. First priority is always the route from Main to the Fire/ Ambulance Station, and second is the school zone if a school day. From there we start plowing the arterial routes, the main routes used by citizens to maneuver around town. Residences that are members of our fire and rescue team will also be a priority so that they may respond in the case of an emergency. Generally, the crew will begin plowing around 4am, however if visibility is poor then plowing will be delayed until it is deemed safe to plow. **Note: It is not the City's policy to clean out driveways after we plow, as we do not have the manpower or the funding to do so.**

Sanding: When deemed necessary the City will apply sand to busy intersections, those that come into Main Street and around the school zone. **Note:** when it is snowing heavily, sanding does very little so sanding will be reduced during that time.

Snowdrifts: When we get blowing snow and drifting occurs we will plow when it is deemed to be a road hazard. Drifts will be plowed two times a day if possible, around 4:00am and then again around 3:00pm if possible. Plowing more than twice a day will cause drifts to actually become larger after each time it's plowed. **Note: Residents who have encountered drifting snow in the past are encouraged to look for any drift causing vegetation and trim or cut them. Install snow drift fence in an effort to control or eliminate drifting across the road surface.**

Sidewalks: Business owners and residents are responsible for the clearing of the sidewalks that abut to their property. The City will not plow sidewalks on Main Street except for those belonging to the city, such as those in front of the Library, City Park and City Hall. **Note: Due to insurance liability the City will not plow sidewalks.**

Clean Up: It may be necessary for the City to remove excess snow from drifts in the business district as well as in some cases some residential areas. This done when we are expecting more snow or drifting. As we don't have the equipment to move large amounts of snow we may need to rent equipment or contract assistance. **Note: Sometimes the State crews are not able to or are not always available to plow Main Street due to the demands of freeways and their priority. At those times the City may plow on Main Street as time allows and other priorities allow in an effort to maintain safety.**

This is a short summary of the City of Union's Snow Removal Policy.

You can pick up the full policy at City Hall if you would like one.

We all hope we don't have a repeat of last winter, but if in fact we do, the City of Union appreciates your patience as we work hard to keep up with the demands of such a winter.



COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics Include:



- ⇒ Water/Sewer Rate Study
- ⇒ Finished Union County Police Services Contract
- ⇒ Sale of city storage building to school
- ⇒ COVID updates
- ⇒ Monitoring Local Economy/Small Businesses
- ⇒ City surplus vehicle sales

December Council Meetings

December 14th

Council Work Session @ 6:00pm

Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

December 28th

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





Owners: Walt Brookshire, Broker and Candy Bowman, Principal Broker
Address: 251 S Main Street
Phone: Office: 541-962-0500
 Walt: 541-805-8689 and Candy 541-786-3164
Hours: 9am - 4pm, Monday - Friday (available after hours by calling)
Email: waltbrookshire@yahoo.com or candy@oregontrailrealty.com
Website: waltbrookshirerealtor.com or oregontrailrealty.com
History: Walt closed Union Drug in 2019 and moved right into Real Estate because of his enjoyment searching for that Diamond-in-the-Rough property and seeing communities benefit with the improvements the new owners make.
 Candy has been in Real Estate in the area since 1998 so is very knowledgeable about Eastern Oregon and all it has to offer.

Don't Forget

Let that faucet 'trickle' during these cold winter months. The little bit of money it may cost now could save you hundreds in repairs if your pipes were to freeze and burst.

Other easy steps to help prevent frozen pipes are to open cupboard doors to let heat reach pipes, use heat wrap on exposed pipes, or wrap with insulation.

If your pipes do freeze, thaw slowly to prevent broken pipes.

UNION CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

AT THIS TIME WITH COVID RESTRICTIONS THE LIBRARY IS 'BY APPOINTMENT ONLY'

LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY ~ THURSDAY

10:00 ~ 4:00

FOR AN APPOINTMENT CALL 541~562~5811

Attention:

At this time, due to COVID restrictions, City Hall's lobby is closed to the public. But we are still in the office every day and are able to take your utility payments either over the phone, or in the drop box or by mail. Other city business is by appointment only. If you need an appointment call 541-562-5197

Brrrrrrrr

The temperatures are sure dropping fast! Please remember, if it's cold for you it's just as cold for our four-legged friends. Cold temperatures put stress on our furr friends, and they need our attention. When the temperatures drop give your outdoor pets a loving break, by inviting them inside, even if it is just to the garage. If you are unable to do that, make sure they have a shelter out of the wind, with bedding of straw and blankets. Did you know that animals drink just as much or more water in the winter, make sure they have water that is fresh and unfrozen. A heated water bowl could be helpful.



Just remember, our pets look to us for love and comfort. Don't let them down.

ORGANIZATION	MEETING DATE	LOCATION	TIME	PHONE
Awana	Every Thurs/during school year	Baptist Church	6:30pm	541-562-5870
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 Thurs of the month	City Hall	6:00 pm	541-562-6134
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	Union Baptist Church	10-11:00am	541-562-5531
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 Lunch	Every Tuesday	VFW Hall	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
VFW Bingo	Every Wednesday night	VFW Hall	5 pm	541-562-6035
VFW Formal meeting	1st Thursday of month	VFW Hall	7 pm	541-562-6035

Community Calendar