

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

April 2021



This past month crews have been preparing for spring projects and tying up some of their winter projects for the month. March brought us everything in weather, from snow, sleet, rain, and sun. The river is beginning to swell a bit as the warmer weather is encourage some upper elevation melting. In other words, spring is coming, and the warmer weather is welcome.

The FY 21/22 budget is nearly complete and ready to be submitted to the budget committee during our April 27, 28, and 29, 2021 meetings. The public is welcome to join these meetings to listen in on the first two days with public comment allowed on the last day of the meeting.

The Ranger Station project is moving forward with plumbing finishing up and then we will begin work on the electrical upgrade. We still hope to be ready with the inside by June, but hope is fading fast.

The City did receive the grant to update the park lighting. I have reached out for a bid on the lighting and prices have gone up a bit. This will affect our match bit, but we have been prepared for this and can accommodate the higher match.

Streets has been out working on the larger potholes during the warmer days and potholing will continue through this month.

Water and sewer rates will be increasing by 2.5% this month. This rate will be in effect while Council continues to draw ordinance for new rates and structure by fall.

Our COVID numbers continue to allow businesses to stay open, a welcomed site to many. The City will soon hear on its ARP (American Recovery Program) money from the Federal Government and Council will then meet and look at ways it may be distributed to the community for economic recovery and infrastructural upgrades.

Remember as spring and summer come, to keep your weeds down, it will help greatly with fire danger to our City. Be safe.



Water/Sewer Rate Change

New monthly utility base rate will be \$94.59

This new rate will be reflected on the utility bill that you will receive May 1, 2021

Community Center News.....

The Friends of the Historic Union Community Hall would like to thank the people of Union for your unwavering support over the past year. With your help, we were able to secure funding to purchase the old Union Methodist Church, and are on our way to establishing a community center there.

In fact, we have decided to name our new facility the Catherine Creek Community Center, which will be a place to gather, connect, and participate in activities that celebrate our history and our town.

We have purchased the building, but there is still a lot of work to be done! Donations toward repairs and maintenance costs can be sent to PO Box 275, Union OR 97883.

We would like to invite everyone to our OPEN HOUSE on Saturday April 24th, from 4:00-8:00pm. Visit, reminisce, and participate in our "vision process" - we want to engage with you every step of the way.

COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics Include:

- ⇒ Water/Sewer Rate Study
- ⇒ CDBG Grant
- ⇒ Continued COVID updates
- ⇒ Monitoring Local Economy/Small Businesses
- ⇒ City Surplus Sale



City Council Members ~

Susan Hawkins

Tim Cox

John Farmer

Leslie McMillan

Terra Richter

Heidi Denton

Mayor Leonard Flint



Call 811 Before You Dig

Avista reminds you that safe digging is no accident. Call 811 at least two business days **BEFORE** you dig. Calling 811 will get a professional locator to your site to mark the approximate location of underground utility lines. There is a two-foot tolerance on each side of the line, and it is required to had dig to determine the precise location of the utility in this tolerance zone.

This service is free. Remember, you may have your own utilities that require a Private Locate request at 811.

Knowing where underground utility lines are buried before you dig will help protect you from injury, prevent damages to utilities and service disruptions, and avoid potential fines and repair costs. Underground utility lines can be just about anywhere, so keeping your shovel in the shed and calling 811 first is the smart move....**And It's The Law.**

Every digging job requires a call - even small projects like planting trees and shrubs. The depth of utility lines varies and there may be multiple utility lines in a common area. Here are just a few examples of when to call 811:

- ♦ Installing a mailbox
- ♦ Putting in a fence
- ♦ Planting a tree or shrubbery
- ♦ Building a patio or deck
- ♦ Excavating a new garden area
- ♦ Building a home, garage or storage shed

April is national 811 month!

For more information about 811, visit myavista.com/811 or call 811



UNION CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

WE ARE SO HAPPY TO SAY THAT WE ARE ABLE TO OPEN BACK UP TO THE PUBLIC!

WE WILL STILL BE MONITORING THE CAPACITY OF PEOPLE IN THE LIBRARY AT ONE TIME.

LIBRARY HOURS:

MONDAY ~ THURSDAY 10:00 ~ 5:00

FRIDAY 10:00 ~ 4:00

SATURDAY 10:00 ~ 12:00

WE WILL STILL OFFER CURBSIDE PICKUP IF YOU PREFER

FOR AN APPOINTMENT CALL 541~562~5811

National Arbor Day ~ April 30th

**Arbor Day is always observed on the last Friday in April.
This year, it's Friday, April 30, 2021.**

Arbor Day is a national holiday created to recognize the importance of trees. The most common way people celebrate Arbor Day is to get together in groups to plant trees.

Oregon is a "tree" state. We have diverse forests and beautiful trees. In fact, Oregon has some of the most productive forests and is home to some of the largest trees in the world. We place a high value on the importance that trees play in our quality of life by providing habitat for wildlife, products that we all use, clean air and water and all of the other wonderful things that trees do. For that reason, Oregonians celebrate an entire Arbor Month. We invite you to celebrate the importance of trees in your life.



Cross Connection Testing.....

With summer coming on fast it is time to start planning to have those cross connections tested.

A cross-connection is a point in a plumbing system where it is possible for a nonpotable substance to come into contact with the potable drinking water supply.

The City's drinking water can become unsafe whenever back-flow occurs and the system comes in contact with harmful or objectionable substances. The Oregon Department of Human Services **requires** that all backflow assemblies (cross connections) be tested once each year by a certified tester.

If you have one or more of the following you will need to have a cross connection inspection:

- * Irrigation or lawn sprinkler system
- * Swimming pool or spa
- * Solar heat system
- * Auxiliary water supply (well)
- * Food and beverage processing equipment
- * Boilers

If it is determined that you have not completed the test or failed to come into compliance, the property water will be shut off.

If you need help in finding a certified cross connection inspector we have a list of a few here at city hall. Or you can search for a certified inspector online at www.oregon.gov/oha

The City of Union works hard to supply customers with safe clean drinking water. With an understanding of the hazards associated with cross connection and backflow testing you can help us protect our drinking water.



Proceed With Caution

As the weather continues to warm the Public Works crew will be out working on projects around the city. For the city's crew and for your safety please be cautious and aware around work zones as there could be changes in traffic flow and possibly equipment in the area.



March Council Meetings

April 15th

Council Work Session @ 6:00pm

Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

April 26th

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

Like us on Facebook!



Late Fees

We want to remind you that your utility bill is always due by the 10th of each month, and if it is not paid by the 15th there is a \$15.00 late fee assessed. For accounts that are yet unpaid by the end of the month we send out notices of possible shut off if not paid by the date stated on your notice, typically 7 days from the date of the notice.

Don't forget: We take credit/debit cards, either in person or over the phone (there is a small merchant fee), there is also a locked secure payment drop box in our outdoor foyer for your convenience.

The drop box is checked daily.

You can also pay online by going to our website at www.cityofunion.com and clicking on 'Epay Utilities'. If you haven't set up an account you will need to do that first, and then you will be able to pay conveniently online.

Ordinance Officer Tips....

With the arrival of Spring comes green grass and those dreaded weeds! Warm weather with spring rains make for the possibility of tall grasses, weeds and noxious weeds! Remember, the control of grass, weeds and noxious weeds is the responsibility of the property owner or renter. Please comply with the following ordinance regulations:

- ◆ Noxious Vegetation must be eliminated. If you wish to not use herbicide sprays they still must be eliminated by your chosen means.
- ◆ Grasses and weeds must not exceed 10" (ornamental grasses are an exception)
- ◆ The property owner or renter is responsible to maintain the right-of-way of tall grasses and weeds

Remember, it's more than just keeping our neighborhood and the whole community beautiful and abiding by the ordinances, tall grasses and weeds are an extreme fire hazard as they dry out. And Noxious vegetation can take over a community and surrounding areas, and are also regulated by the county, not just the city.

Do you have an elderly neighbor? Maybe you could help them with their mowing or weeding? Let's all work together to keep Union a community to be proud of and beautiful!!



Who Doesn't Love a Park!!

It seems that winter has lasted a long time, and we are all ready for warm weather, sunshine and outdoor activities!

A few things to remember:

- * Park hours are dawn to dusk
- * Park Use permits are available at City Hall. We can't reserve a spot for your special event, but we definitely will put your event on our calendar so that we can inform others that your chosen area is going to be in use. Park permits are free.
- * BBQ's are allowed in the picnic area only
- * Dogs are not allowed to run at large, they must be on a leash at all times. Although we all love our furr-babies, there are those who have a fear of dogs.
- * Dog poo must be picked up and disposed of properly. There are doggie bag stations available to the public.
- * Drugs and alcohol is **not** permitted in the park



We have a beautiful city park and our crew works hard to maintain the park and keep it beautiful for all to use. Family birthdays, picnics, reunions, wedding/baby showers, and more! Warm Spring and Summer weather can't get here soon enough!

Espresso
Coffee, Tea,
Smoothies

Breakfast Burrito's
Pastries
Winger Wednesdays!

RATTLE TALE

Coffee & Such

332 S Main St
Union, OR 97883

Present this coupon to
receive \$1.00 off any
purchase.

Limit one coupon per
purchase.

Budget Season

Budget hearings will soon begin, administration has been working hard and this month the Budget Committee will begin the process of reviewing and approving this next fiscal year budget.

The meetings will be held April 27, 28, and 29, 2021. The public is welcome to join these meetings to listen in on the first two days with public comment allowed on the last day of the meeting.

local
BIZ

Owners: Dan Baesler
Established: 2020
Address: Union
Phone: 541-240-9698
Hours: 9am - 4pm and by appointment
Type of Business: Metal Fabrication
Specialties: They offer laser cutting, powder coating services, welding capabilities and industrial stainless steel kitchen repair and design.
History: Dan has over 30 years experience in custom metal fabricating, including all precious metals such as aluminum, stainless steel, copper, brass and others. Check out some of Dans work at Union Springs (Drug Store) in Union. Dan spent his summers on his grandparents ranch here as a child and has great memories so he moved his family over here in 2015.

Eastern Oregon
Metal
Works




Planning To Build This Summer?

Remember, regardless of what you are building, you need to check with City Hall Planning Department. The city requires you to have a pre-build permit.

We can also help you with set-back requirements and to determine if you need a building permit from Union County.

Pre-build permits are \$25.00 and required by Union County



We are happy to say that our lobby is once again open to the public. Our lobby hours are Monday through Thursday ~ 10:00am to 5:00pm

We are closed on Fridays at this time.

We look forward to seeing you again!



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