

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 10am-6pm
Tues ~ Thurs 10am-5pm
Friday 10:00am - 4:00pm

July 2025



From The Desk Of.....

Celeste Tate
City Administrator

Summer is officially here with fun activities, the celebration of our freedom, and don't forget national ice cream day on July 20th!

Don't miss the annual 4th of July Celebration to be held at the Buffalo Peak Golf Course. There will also be a cornhole tournament with prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Come have some fun and watch the show! The first Family Roots Blues and Brews on June 20th helped to usher in the summer season and was a great time of music, vendors and activities. If you were unable to attend, make sure to catch the next one on July 18th!

The end of June marked the end of the fiscal year and the end of the Fire and EMS charges on your water and sewer bill. With the approval of the Union Rural Fire Protection District annexation and the completion of that process, the city will no longer charge any Fire and EMS charges on monthly water and sewer bills. The URFPS is funded by a permanent tax rate of \$1.2292 per \$1,000 and property owners will see that on future property tax bills after July 1st.

The City Council approved the \$7.3 million budget for the next fiscal year starting July 1st that was sent by the budget committee. This budget includes a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation to replace the bridge on college street. The grant was applied for in 2017 and the grant has been accepted and the project is moving forward in the design phase after working with neighborhood residents on their needs and wishes.

City council continues its work on subcommittees as well and as part of the continued charter review, there are some suggested changes that I have been sharing with you each month and may be discussed at a future council meeting. If council would agree with the suggested changes, it would be referred to voters in a future election for consideration. I started sharing some of the suggested changes in last month's newsletter. This next section to share comes from the Charter Chapter V. It has been suggested to re-number each section to correspond with the Chapter that it is located. For example, Sections 20-22 could be re-numbered 5.1-5.3 that would correspond to Chapter 5 where they are located. The wording changes suggested are as follows with the strikethroughs, the suggested deletions, and the words in parenthesis the suggested additions.

~~Section 20.~~ (5.1). Mayor. The mayor shall be the executive officer of the city and shall exercise a careful supervision over its general affairs. ~~He~~ (The mayor) shall appoint the committees provided for under the rules of the council, or otherwise, and by appointment shall fill all vacancies in committees of the council from that body. ~~He~~ (The mayor) shall sign all approved proceedings of the council and countersign all orders on the city [treasury]. ~~He~~ (The mayor) shall have no veto power and shall sign all ordinances passed by the city council within three days after (their delete) passage. ~~He~~ (The mayor) shall sign all writings authorized by this charter, the laws of the state or the council. He shall approve, with the consent of the council, all official bonds and bonds for licenses, contracts and proposals. With the consent of the council, ~~he~~ (the mayor) shall have power to remove or suspend any appointive officer or public employe of the city for any cause which ~~he~~ (the mayor) deems sufficient and shall state the cause in the order of removal or suspension.

~~Section 21.~~ (5.2). Municipal Judge. The municipal judge shall be the judicial officer of the city. ~~He~~ (The municipal judge) shall hold within the city a court known as the municipal court for the city of Union, Union County, Oregon. ~~Except on nonjudicial days, the court shall be open for the transaction of judicial business as prescribed by the laws of the state.~~ The jurisdiction of the court shall be the city. The municipal judge shall exercise original and exclusive jurisdiction of all crimes and offenses defined and made punishable by an ordinance of the city, and of all actions brought to recover or enforce forfeitures or penalties defined or authorized by an ordinance of the city.

The municipal judge shall have authority to issue process for the arrest of persons accused of an offense against the ordinances of the city, to commit such persons to jail or admit them to bail pending trial, to issue subpoenas, to compel witnesses to appear and testify before ~~him~~ (the judge) on the trial of any cause before ~~him~~ (the court), to compel obedience to such subpoenas, to issue any process necessary to carry into effect the judgments of the municipal court, and to punish witnesses and others for contempt of the court. When not governed by ordinance or this charter, all proceedings in the municipal court for the violation of a city ordinance shall be governed by the applicable general laws of the state governing justices of the peace and justice courts. Trials in the municipal court of cases of violation of city ordinances shall be had without a jury.

Section ~~22~~ (5.3). Recorder. The recorder shall be ex officio clerk of the council, attend all the meetings of the council, and keep an accurate record of its proceedings in ~~a book provided for that purpose~~ (the manner proscribed by the council and Oregon State statutes). In ~~his~~ (the) absence (of the recorder) from a council meeting, the council shall appoint a (temporary) clerk of the council (pro tempore, delete) who, while acting in that capacity, shall have all the authority of the recorder. The recorder shall countersign all writings authorized by this charter, the council or the law of the state.

Last month's trivia question was: "Since the passage of Measure 50 in 1997, what has the permanent tax rate been in the City of Union?" The correct answer was: C. \$1.58 per \$1,000. The other options were A. \$6.94 which is Elgin's permanent tax rate and B. \$4.31 which is North Powder's permanent tax rate. Congratulations to Tim Cox who submitted a correct answer and whose entry was drawn. July's winner will receive a gift certificate for Platz Family Farm. Check them out at 1624 N 1st St. for fresh fruit and vegetables all season long grown here locally on a small family farm! Look for this month's question in this newsletter and good luck!

Celeste Tate

Burn Ban In Effect

There is a burn ban in effect beginning July 1st and goes through the summer months until September 30th.

Please note: The city follows the regulations of the county, so if the county extends the burn ban the city will also extend their burn ban.

If you have questions regarding the burn ban you can call city hall.

BE A RESPECTFUL PARK USER

WE ALL LOVE TO VISIT OUR CITY PARK. IT'S A BEAUTIFUL WAY TO SPEND A SUMMER DAY OR EVENING. AND YES, OUR DOGS LOVE VISITING THE PARK WITH US.....BUT NOT EVERYONE WHO VISITS THE PARK IS A DOG LOVER. THERE ARE MANY ADULTS AND CHILDREN WHO ARE AFRAID OF DOGS. ALTHOUGH WE FEEL OUR DOGS ARE SAFE, WE SHOULD ALL BE RESPECTFUL OF OTHERS.

PARK RULES STATE: ALL DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEASH AND NOT ALLOWED TO RUN AT LARGE.

NO ONE WANTS TO STEP IN POO.....

THERE ARE DOGGY POO BAGGY STATIONS AT THE FRONT AND REAR OF THE PARK AS WELL AS TRASH BINS. PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG AND DISPOSE OF PROPERLY.

THE CITY WORKERS WORK HARD TO KEEP OUR PARK CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL FOR ALL TO USE. TAKE TIME TO HAVE A PICNIC, TAKE A STROLL ON THE WALK PATH, SIT ON A BENCH AND LISTEN TO THE CREEK, HAVE A FAMILY REUNION, HAVE A WEDDING OR JUST TAKE THE KIDS TO THE ENCLOSED PLAY GROUND.

WE HAVE A WONDERFUL PARK, ENJOY IT TODAY!





**Thunder at the Peak
4th of July Celebration!
Buffalo Peak Golf Course
Union, OR**



~MainStreet Union sponsored Vendors~

Fireworks begin at dusk!

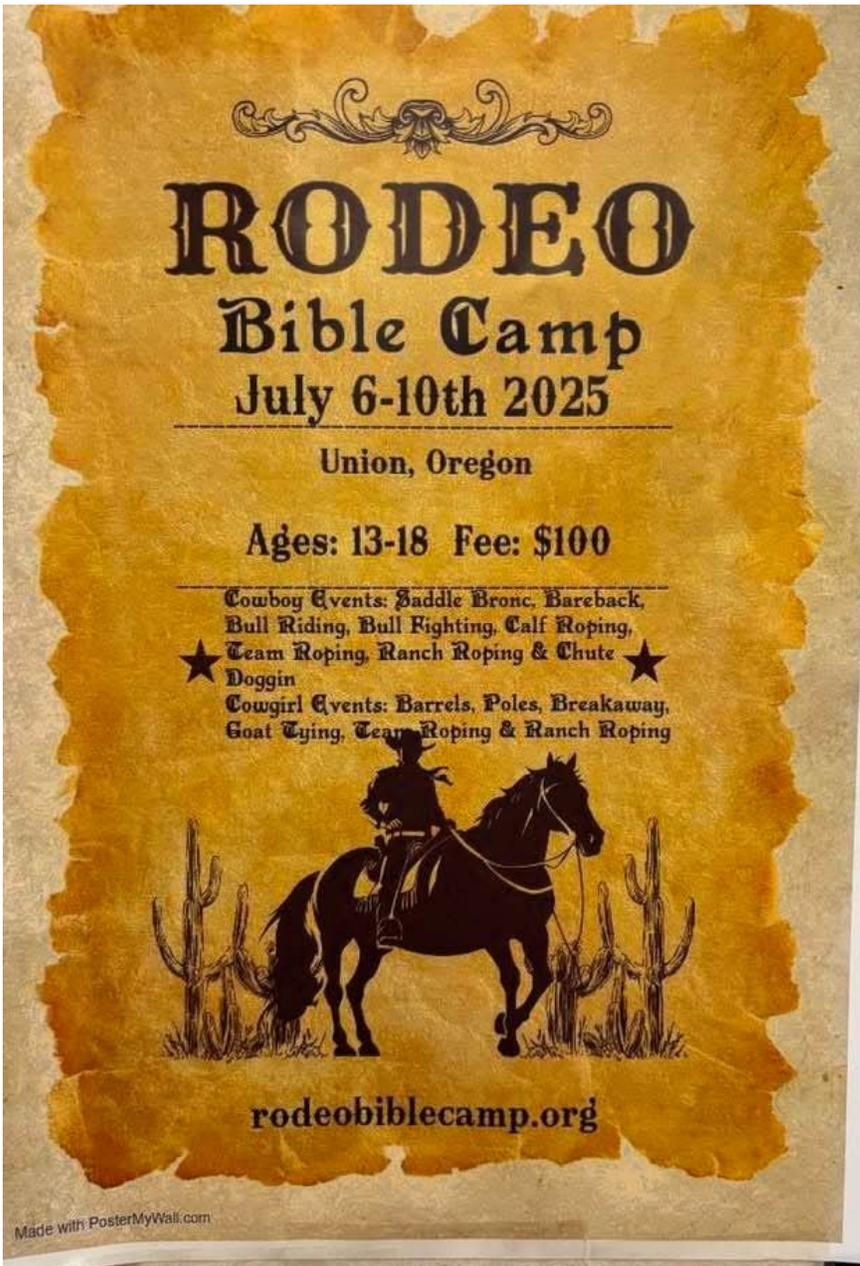
Join us for Music, Fireworks and Family Fun!!



Mark Your Calendar!

- ◆ Thunder at The Peak
July 4th!
Fireworks ~ Music ~ Vendors
- ◆ Rodeo Bible Camp
July 6th ~ 10th
Ages 13-18 Fee \$100
Cowboy & Cowgirl events!
Silent Auction
- ◆ MainStreet Blues & Brews
July 18th
Beer Garden ~ Artisans ~ Music
- ◆ Huckleberry Festival ~ North Powder
July 26th & 27th
- ◆ Grassroots Festival
August 9th
Car Show ~ Music ~ Vendors
Duck Race ~ Family Street Dance
Fun for the whole family!
- ◆ MainStreet Blues & Brews
August 15th
Beer Garden ~ Artisans ~ Music

Do you have an upcoming event you would like listed in our newsletter? Email lauradodds@cityofunion.com with the information!





Main Street Musings for July 2025

Main Street Union's second music in the park (Family Roots Blues & Brews) will be July 18 with vendors setting up about 4pm, early band starts at 5pm with main band, Columbia Jones, beginning at 6pm. Come enjoy the music, stroll through the park, view local artisans and crafter wares, grab a bite to eat from several food vendors, and enjoy a cold beverage in Brewski's Beer Garden. MSU will be offering a 50/50 raffle to help with costs and would like to thank their sponsors for their support of this community event. Donations are always appreciated and may be made at the event or by contacting a Main Street Union Member.

If you appreciate the planters on Main Street and would like to have one at your business, stop by Catherine Creek Gardens and Gifts and talk to Meriah. MSU along with help from Union's FFA Chapter, have placed summer planters along Main Street again this year. Businesses support this project by covering the cost of the flowers, volunteers ensure they stay watered (MSU could use your help-Volunteer).

Park update- Would you like to see our City Park add new play equipment, adult exercise area, Splash Pad, Pickleball Courts and basketball area, along with upgrading electrical service and irrigation systems MSU can use your help in implementing the "Park Master Plan". Phase 1 will most likely include: improvement to parking on 1st and 2nd streets, along with rebuilding the memorial in turn-a-round area, irrigation and electric service. Main Street hopes to have a play equipment list completed by late summer and will ask the school children this fall to help in making the final decision as to what they would like in their park. If you haven't seen the Park Master Plan, many local businesses have a copy in their front window as does Main Street Union's office at 251 S Main.

There are two openings on the City of Union Historic Commission, anyone interested should fill out a volunteer application and turn in to City Hall. This Commission only has five(5) members so being short two(2) may greatly affect the commission's ability to do important work towards our community's historic preservation. The Historic Commission meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month generally in the evening. Walt Brookshire (MSU Volunteer) has stepped forward to chair this City Commission and has over 25 years of knowledge on our historic downtown; you do not have to own a historic property to serve. Stop by City Hall to fill out an application or you may obtain one at: <https://cityofunion.com/luguvuc/2021/03/Council-Budget-Planning-Application-New-7-17-2024.pdf>.

Main Street Union meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the old Knitkabob building at 6pm, anyone interested in helping Union Build on Community Assets and make Union the Quality Community we all wish to live, work, and invest in, will be welcomed. You DO NOT have to own property on Main Street, or own a Historic home, or even be a resident of Union, you only have to want to help make positive changes.

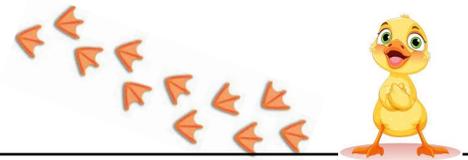
Grassroots Festival Saturday, August 9th Historic Downtown Union!

Activities all day long!

- **City Wide Yard Sales **Vendors
- **Catherine Creek Duck Race
- **Live Music **Food
- **Car Show **Family Street Dance

And so much more!!

Want to be a vendor or enter the car show? For vendor applications & car show registration form by emailing to grassroots@eoni.com or by calling Donna at 541-786-1492



MAIN STREET UNION PRESENTS

FAMILY ROOTS BLUES & BREWS

HISTORIC UNION OREGON

JUNE 20TH * JULY 18TH * AUGUST 15TH

BAG OF HAMMERS COLUMBIA JONES FADING SAGE BAND
PERFORMING PERFORMING PERFORMING

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS AND JOIN US!

**BEER GARDEN VENDORS
ARTISANS CRAFTERS**

MUSIC STARTS AT 5PM

MAIN PEFORMER AT 6PM

HISTORIC UNION CITY PARK

SPONSORED BY

**MONKEYS ON THE RUN
UNION SANITATION
UNION CO. TOURISM GRANT
ANDERSON & PERRY
CONNECTED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTS LLC
MILLER'S HOME CENTER
PLATZ FAMILY FARM
RED CROSS DRUG
WILDHORSE RESORT & CASINO**



Union Carnegie Public Library

~July Activities~

THANK YOU TO THESE COMMUNITY PARTNERS FOR DONATING THEIR TIME AND EXPERTISE TO US BY LEADING OUR SUMMER EVENTS:

~CHRISTINE DIXON~

~LUKE JOHNSON~

~CARRIE CASELTON LOWE~

~GO-STEM~

~CATHERINE CREEK HIDES~

~NERD MENTALITY~

~OREGON TRAIL INTERPRETIVE CENTER~

~UNION SPORTSMAN'S CLUB~

THANK YOU TO THE CATHERINE CREEK COMMUNITY CENTER FOR LENDING US THEIR SPACE FOR OUR LARGER EVENTS!

SUMMER READING PROGRAM JULY ACTIVITIES:

AGES 0-5

7/1 FINGER PAINT @ LIBRARY 10AM

7/8 HIDE & SEEK @ LIBRARY 10AM

7/15 ANGRY BIRDS CAN THROW @ LIBRARY 10AM

7/22 COLOR BY NUMBER @ LIBRARY 10AM

7/29 PAPER PLANE FLIGHT SCHOOL @ LIBRARY 10AM

8/5 PING PONG LAUNCHER @ LIBRARY 10AM

SCHOOL AGE

7/2 TACO GOAT CAT CHEESE PIZZA @ LIBRARY 10AM

7/3 TUG OF WAR @ CITY PARK 10AM

7/7 PIXEL LOOM BEADING 2 @ LIBRARY 10AM

7/9 MINECRAFT CHECKERS SET @ LIBRARY 10AM

7/14 ORIGAMI FROG JUMPING CONTEST @ LIBRARY 10AM

7/16 PUGIL STICKS @ CITY PARK 10AM

7/21 PAPER PLANE FLIGHT SCHOOL @ LIBRARY 10AM

7/28 STRING GAMES @ LIBRARY 10AM

8/4 SUCKER RING TOSS @ LIBRARY 10AM

8/6 PING PONG LAUNCHER @ LIBRARY 10AM

8/7 BASKETBALL GAME @ CITY PARK 10AM

TEEN/ADULT

7/7 *ESCAPE ROOM BOARD GAME @ LIBRARY 5PM

7/14 NO SEW DICE BAG @ LIBRARY 5PM

7/21 CATAN~NERD MENTALITY (TEENS ONLY) @ LIBRARY 1 - 3PM

7/21 COSPLAY HORNS ~ PART 1 @ LIBRARY 5PM

7/28 CERAMIC DOMINOES @ LIBRARY 5PM

7/31 *TRAP SHOOTING @ UNION TRAP CLUB 10AM

8/4 COSPLAY HORNS ~ PART 2 @ LIBRARY 5PM

ALL AGES

7/10 DOG PARTY @ CITY PARK 10AM

7/17 CATHERINE CREEK HIDES @ CATHERINE CRK COMMUNITY CNTR 10AM

7/23 BOOK CHARACTER COSTUME CONTEST @ CITY PARK GAZEBO 10AM

7/24 OREGON TRAIL INTERPRETIVE CENTER @ CITY PARK 10AM

7/30 PARACHUTE GAMES @ CITY PARK 10AM

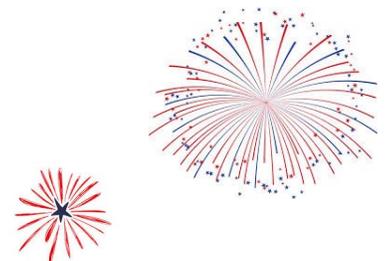
8/9 LIBRARY BOOK SALE ~ GRASSROOTS @ LIBRARY 9AM ~ 3PM

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE. SUMMER READING PROGRAM SIGN-UP IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND ANY EVENT. SIGN UPS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY ON MAY 20TH. *EVENTS WITH AN ASTERISK WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL SIGN UP THROUGH LIBRARY DUE TO LIMITED SUPPLIES.

PLEASE REACH OUT TO SCHEDULE BOOK SALE DONATIONS TO THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE ANNUAL BOOK SALE AND BAKE SALE AT GRASSROOTS, AUGUST 9TH. NEW VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME!!

Happy 4th of July!

UNION CARNEGIE LIBRARY
182 S MAIN, UNION OR
541~562~5811
TIFFANY DERICHSWELER ~ LIBRARIAN





WHAT WAS Happening at the Museum....

The title of this months What's Happening at the Museum has been changed to what WAS happening at our location in 1892.

This picture of the Bank, Odd Fellows Lodge and the Post Office features folks and dogs all looking across the street at City Hall. I wish we knew what they were looking at. It's obvious that 131 years after this picture was taken the Union Post Office is still a gathering place not only for postal business but for visiting with friends and simply watching Main Street traffic.



It's nice to know that some things never change.

Happy 4th of July. More next month.



Snippet of Union's History.....

Ordinance No. 72

An ordinance prohibiting the riding of bicycles upon the sidewalks of the city of Union, Union County, Oregon and fixing a penalty for violation of the same:

Section I. That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to ride any bicycle upon any of the sidewalks within the corporate limits of the city of Union.

Section II. That any person or persons who shall violate Sec.I shall be deemed guilty of disorderly conduct and shall be fined in any sum not exceeding ten dollars.

~Oregon Scout June 20,1889

HOW LONG BEFORE YOUR CAR IS HOT ENOUGH TO KILL? 

IF YOU LOVE THEM, LEAVE THEM AT HOME.

STARTING INSIDE CAR TEMPERATURE	120°	127°	133°	149°	167°
	115°	122°	128°	144°	162°
	110°	117°	123°	139°	157°
	105°	112°	118°	134°	152°
	100°	107°	113°	129°	147°
	95°	102°	108°	124°	142°
	90°	97°	103°	119°	137°
	85°	92°	98°	114°	132°
	80°	87°	93°	109°	127°
	75°	82°	88°	104°	122°
	70°	77°	83°	99°	117°
		5 min	10 min	30 min	60 min
				TIME	

If you Love them....Leave them home
 Yes, of course we love our children, and want them with us as much as possible. Just a quick run into the store, or any other errand that will just take a few minutes can cause a loss of life. Don't take that chance! Take your child in with you to the store or errand, never leave them in the car unattended!!
 The same for your pets! Show your love, leave them home, don't take the risk of death from a hot vehicle.
 It only takes minutes!!

Public Works notice to citizens.....

Multiple projects will be happening this summer, we ask that citizens use caution when approaching work areas. Projects often require large equipment, which are loud and it may not be possible for workers to always hear cars, trucks etc around them. City workers may also be moving around while gathering tools or parts from other equipment or service trucks.

Please slow down, be aware of your surroundings and any hazards that could be present. If at all possible take an alternate route to get where you need to go.

Our Public Works crew thanks you!



Planning on a Yard Sale this summer?...

Did you know that the nails or staples you use to hang your advertising signs on the power poles are a hazard? When electric utility workers need to do maintenance or repair work their spikes can get hooked and could cause an accident.

Do you post your signs on power poles? Do you remove your signs? To prevent unsafe conditions for electrical workers, please remove your signs and the nails or staples you use to hang them up. It only takes a few minutes to prevent an accident.



Contest Entry Coupon



This month's contest question is: In 1872 Union officially held the county seat. In what year Union lose the county seat to La Grande?

A) 1874 B) 1890 C) 1904

Name: _____ Address: _____

Answer: _____

Phone#: _____

Must be a Union resident to enter. Drop your entry by City Hall in person, payment drop box, mail, or you can email your entry to lauradodds@cityofunion.com City employees, and immediate family are not eligible to play. Deadline for entries is July 23, 2025

There will be a prize for the winner!!

CITY OF UNION SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S SCHEDULE

Committee	Meetings Held	Time	Location
Water/Sewer Committee	Every 2nd Tuesday of the month	6:00 pm	City Hall
Charter Committee	Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month	10:00 am	City Hall
Zoning Committee	Every 4th Saturday of the month	9:00 am	City Hall
Streets Committee	Every 4th Saturday of the month	10:00 am	City Hall
Buffalo Flats Committee	Every 3rd Saturday of the month	10:00 am	City Hall
Ordinances Committee	To Be Determined		City Hall

Meetings will be held at City Hall, 342 S. Main, unless otherwise announced.

We encourage you to attend these meetings, ask questions, be involved and gain knowledge of the workings of your community. If you have questions regarding these committee's please feel free to call us.

COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics Include:

- ⇒ Ranger Station project, 3rd house
- ⇒ Buffalo Flats
- ⇒ College Street Bridge
- ⇒ Committees working on the City Charter, Water/Sewer, Zoning, Trails, and Ordinances



~City Council Members ~

Trisha Seale	Dick Middleton
Kori Cox	John Black
Don George	Anita Davis
Mayor Susan Hawkins	

June 2025 Council Meetings

June 9th

- Council Work Session @ 6:00pm
- Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

June 23rd

- Council Work Session @ 6:00pm

■ All meetings are held in the Leonard Almquist Chambers at City Hall.

■ 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



Did you know you can receive a city newsletter by email? If you would like to receive your newsletter this way just email lauradodds@cityofunion.com and request your name be added to the list.

ORGANIZATION	MEETING DATE	LOCATION	TIME	PHONE
Awana	Every Thurs/during school year	Baptist Church	6:30pm	541-562-5870
Catherine Creek Community Center	4th Thursday of month	Community Center	6:00pm	541-562-2038
City of Union Chamber	2nd Thurs of the month		6:00 pm	unionchamber@coni.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 Tues of the month	251 S Main	6:00 pm	541-910-6268
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	
EOLS Board	2nd Tues of the month	EOLS Club House	7:00 pm	541-562-5631
Food Bank	3 rd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek CommCtr	10-11:00am	541-562-2038
Friends of the Library	2 nd Tues January, April, July & November	Union Library	5:30 pm	541-562-5807
Grande Ronde Valley Masonic	3 rd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:30pm	
Historic Preservation Commission	4th Wed of the month	City Hall	6:00pm	541-562-5197
Library Board	Feb 27th, May 22nd, Aug 21st	Library	9:00am	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 work session	3rd Wed of the month	City Hall	6:00 pm	541-562-5197
Planning Commission business meeting			7:00 pm	
Senior / Community Meals	2nd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek Community Center	12:00 pm	541-562-2038
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
Union FFA Alumni & Supporters	3rd Wednesday	UHS Ag Science Classroom at the back of the gym	6:30pm	541-975-9495
VFW Bingo	Every Wednesday night	VFW Hall	6 pm	541-562-6035
VFW Formal meeting	1st Thursday of month	VFW Hall	6 pm	541-562-6035

Community Calendar