

AGENDA
ONTARIO CITY COUNCIL - CITY OF ONTARIO, OREGON
Monday, August 4, 2014, 7:00 p.m., M.T.

- 1) **Call to order**
Roll Call: Norm Crume _____ Jackson Fox _____ Charlotte Fugate _____ Dan Jones _____
Larry Tuttle _____ Ron Verini _____ LeRoy Cammack _____

2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

This Agenda was posted on Wednesday, July 30, 2014, and a study session was held Thursday, July 31, 2014. Copies of the Agenda are available at the City Hall Customer Service Counter and on the city's website at www.ontariooregon.org.

3) **Motion to adopt the entire agenda**

4) **Consent Agenda:**

- A) Minutes: July 21, 2014 Regular Council Meeting 1-7
B) Approval of the Bills

5) **Department Head Updates: *Thursday Only***

6) **Public Comments:** Citizens may address the Council on items not on the Agenda. Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes. This time limit will be enforced. Please state your name and city of residence for the record.

7) **New Business:**

- A) Resolution #2014-125: Prohibiting the Use of Written Employment Contracts for Department Heads who are City Employees 8-10
B) Resolution #2014-126: Declaring Portions of City Blocks #154 and #155 as Surplus 11-14
C) Ordinance #2682-2014: Amend OMC 7-1-1, 2 re: Nuisance and Health Regs (1st) 15-21
D) Options for the Future of the Ontario Golf Course 22-23

8) **Discussion/Informational/Hand-Out Items (*Thursday Only*)**

- A) Citizens on Patrol: Maggie Wood/Chief Alexander
B) 9-1-1 User Board Update: Chief Alexander
C) High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area - Possible Designation: Chief Alexander
D) Existing Buildings/Businesses into City Limits: Dan Cummings
E) Mutual Aid Agreement for Fire Services: Chief Higinbotham
F) CH2M Hill/Public Works Update: Cliff Leeper
G) City Manager Search Update: Tori Barnett
H) Technology Update: Tori Barnett
I) SDC/Subway Update: Tori Barnett
J) Financial Reports for Council: Kari Ott
K) Set Meeting to Discuss SDCs
L) Set Meeting to Discuss the Ontario Aquatic Center
M) County Court Minutes: July 16, 2014

9) **Correspondence, Comments and Ex-Officio Reports**

10) **Adjourn**

MISSION STATEMENT: TO PROVIDE A SAFE, HEALTHFUL AND SOUND ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT, PROGRESSIVELY ENHANCING OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

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**ONTARIO CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, July 21, 2014**

The regular Meeting of the Ontario City Council was called to order by Mayor LeRoy Cammack at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 21, 2014, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Council members present were LeRoy Cammack, Norm Crume, Jackson Fox, Charlotte Fugate, Ron Verini and Larry Tuttle. Dan Jones was excused.

Members of staff present were Tori Barnett, Larry Sullivan, Marcy Skinner, Kari Ott, Mary Domby, Mark Alexander, Cliff Leeper, Dan Cummings and Jerry Elliot. The meeting was recorded, and copies are available at City Hall.

Mayor Cammack led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

Charlotte Fugate moved, seconded by Ron Verini, to adopt the Agenda. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-no; Fugate-yes; Jones-out; Tuttle-no; Verini-yes; Cammack-yes. Motion carried 4/2/1.

CONSENT AGENDA

Jackson Fox moved, seconded by Charlotte Fugate to approve Consent Agenda Item A: Minutes of the June 16, 2014, Regular Council Meeting; Item B: Minutes of the June 30, 2014 Special Council Meeting; Item C: Minutes of the July 9, 2014, Special Telephonic Meeting *[Bills approval only]*; and Item D: Approval of the Bills. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-out; Tuttle-yes; Verini-yes; Cammack-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #2014-124: Transfer of 9-1-1 to County

Mark Alexander, Police Chief, stated Malheur County currently contracted with the City of Ontario for 9-1-1 and dispatch services effective July 1, 2014. Oregon Emergency Management oversaw the state 9-1-1 program and requested that the transferring entity adopt a resolution authorizing the transfer. On July 1, 2014, the Council signed contracts with Malheur County to assume responsibility of 9-1-1 and dispatch services for the City of Ontario.

Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) oversaw the state 9-1-1 program and distributed 9-1-1 tax revenues to incorporated cities and counties. When an existing Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) transferred jurisdictional responsibilities to another PSAP, ORS required 9-1-1 plans to be filed with OEM outlining changes, including the fact 9-1-1 taxes from that jurisdiction would be forwarded to the transferred entity. As part of that plan, OEM requested the transferring PSAP's governing body adopt a resolution authorizing the transfer. Resolution 2014-124 satisfied the requirement.

Jackson Fox moved, seconded by Norm Crume, that the Council adopt **Resolution 2014-124: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF THE ONTARIO PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT COMMUNICATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE MALHEUR COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT WITHIN THE MAHEUR COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-out; Tuttle-yes; Verini-yes; Cammack-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Declare Surplus: Granular Activated Carbon Media

Jerry Elliot, City Engineer, stated in 2007, the acting director of the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) purchased filter media, known as Granular Activated Carbon, for the WTP. Unfortunately, this material was the wrong material for these filters. It was too soft and performed better at removing tastes and volatile compounds than removal of particulates as needed in Ontario.

Forty "super sacks" (approximately one cubic yard each) were purchased a price of \$34,000. This material had been stored indoors and preliminary, independent testing confirmed that it remained in good shape with minor deterioration. The material was stored where the third treatment module was scheduled for plant expansion. GAC would be an obstacle when filters were serviced or an expansion was needed. This was a commodity and prices might escalate or drop.

Currently, staff does not know the value of the material. When it was purchased, it was from a firm now no longer in business. Staff was able to locate the original sales agent, who had expressed an interest in making an offer. Staff also sent a general inquiry to various water agencies and consultants. It was estimated that it would cost the city \$3,000 to \$5,000 to load and ship the material to a buyer and the sale would net \$15,000 to \$20,000. Those funds would go back into the water budget. Unfortunately the size of the material was not the most popular size so a premium price would not be possible.

Charlotte Fugate moved, seconded by Jackson Fox, that the Council declare the Granular Activated Carbon media as surplus property and authorize staff to sell it at a competitive price. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-out; Tuttle-yes; Verini-yes; Cammack-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Bid Award: Lewis, Poe, etal for City's Auditor 2014-2016

Kari Ott, Finance, stated this action was to approve the city auditor for fiscal year 2013-2014, and the following two years after. There were four CPA firms in Ontario that performed audits. Oster Professional Group, CPA's called all four firms, and no local firms were interested in the audit services.

The audit services request for proposal proposals were accepted until July 11, 2014 and were opened on June 25, 2014. The city received two proposals: Lewis, Poe, Moeller, Gunderson & Roberts, LLC based out of La Grande, Oregon and the other from Zwygart & Associates based out of Nampa, Idaho.

Summary of proposals received:

Zwygart & Associates

- *Listed four governmental audit references, with Malheur County being one (Malheur County audit performed only one year).*
 - *Called and left a message at Malheur County, haven't heard back.*
- *Planning on bringing two auditors, a partner and a staff CPA.*
- *Pricing: 2013-2014 \$20,000; 2014-2015 \$19,000; 2015-2016 \$20,000 (avg. \$19,667)*

Lewis, Poe, Moeller, Gunderson & Roberts, LLC

- *Listed twenty-three governmental audit references; the City of La Grande being one.*
 - *Called the City of La Grande and they had only good things to say about the auditor working relationship, timing and other audit items.*
- *Planning on bringing four auditors; a partner-in-charge, manager (another partner), senior accountant and staff accountant.*
- *Pricing: 2013-2014 \$20,430; 2014-2015 \$19,310; 2015-2016 \$19,695 (avg. \$19,812)*

The audit committee, plus Kari Ott, Mary Domby, and Sydnie Pratt met and reviewed the two proposals on July 14, 2014. The pricing between the two was very close. It would appear that Lewis, Poe, Moeller, Gunderson & Roberts, LLC, did quite a few municipal audits and would be bringing a higher number of staff members to work on the audit. The 2013-2014 audit was estimated to run \$20,430 in the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Jackson Fox moved, seconded by Charlotte Fugate, that the City Council approve Lewis, Poe, Moeller, Gunderson & Roberts, LLC, to be the City Auditors for fiscal years 2013-2014, 2014-2015 and 2015-2016. Roll call vote: Crumeyes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-out; Tuttle-yes; Verini-yes; Cammack-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Golf Course

Mayor Cammack stated normal procedure was to not have public testimony for an item on the Agenda, but in light of this issue, he asked for the Council's agreement to have two speakers, who would have three minutes each.

Councilor Tuttle asked when this item had been added to the Agenda.

Mayor Cammack stated it was at the Thursday Work Session.

Steven Meyer, Ontario, stated he understood that the funding and justification to keep the Golf Course going was of concern. The Golf Course and Aquatic Center were not taken care of and the Aquatic Center was closed due to the lack of maintenance. There needed to be a plan for a Golf Course and Aquatic Center. The city needed a reason for people to come to Ontario. Ceasing all of the funding might affect quality of life, businesses, and other things. Everyone would be affected by this.

Dennis Cornwall, Ontario, stated he came to the meeting to bring forth ideas. Foot golfing was featured in the newspaper and would have the possibility to save the golf course. In some communities, 1/3 of their funds were coming from foot golfing. The city was the center of soccer in this area. There was not another course within 300 miles that had a foot golf course. It could be played at the same time as people were golfing. It was fenced and safe. Or, a KOA facility, where recreational vehicles could stop, and they might play golf as well. The acid infusion system worked, the course was beautiful, and it had never looked so good. His group had a lot of other ideas. The city had 170 acres that could be used for more than golf. The area could also be used for bikers, walkers, and riders.

Mayor Cammack stated the Council had a discussion with Golf Course management last week. The Council had reviewed the facts and figures, and those needed to be discussed. He agreed that the acid infusion system was working, but no one cared because they weren't golfing out there. Golfing numbers were down, and that was the problem. It had nothing to do with the great job that Scott McKinney was doing, because they all recognized that he was doing a good job out there, and he thanked him for that. But, the community was not supportive of the Golf Course.

Councilor Crume stated that the acid system was working great, but membership was down 17% after the city spent 2.45x as much money this year as last year. Last year, the city spent \$125K; this year \$307,000. Out of total play, 53% of the play being done today was done by 93 people. That was less than an average of 200 people using the course. Sales in the Club House were down 17%. The Council held the budget hearing two months ago, and in the process, for him personally, it was uncomfortable to go through those meetings, for the Budget Committee to recommend what they wanted the Council to spend, and the Council told the Department Heads to cut 3% out of the budget, which was \$197K *[sic]*. Much of that, not all, was from Public Safety. The Council had also seen the preliminary reports from the ICMA study for Police and Fire, and in the draft study of the Police, it was recommended that the city hire seven (7) new personnel. How could they spend more money on a course that was going downhill, when Ontario had the worst crime rates in Oregon? Both Police and Fire needed to be shored up. It was the Council's job to do the best job possible, with the finances available, to do what they could with that study. That couldn't be accomplished if they subsidized the Golf Course for 93 cardholders at \$307K.

Councilor Verini stated had been 110% behind the Golf Course when it was previously voted on, for two reasons: Quality of life issues and good value s for the community. At that time, they city was in a different position financially. Since then, the safety of the community had been brought up numerous times. He truly believed when the Council voted to subsidize the course with ~\$300K, he thought they golfers of the community would rally and back the course, increasing both play and memberships. But he saw a city struggling and they had to think of the city's priorities, and for him it was safety first.

Councilor Fox stated this item was on the Agenda as just “golf course”, and he had the impression it was going to be an up/down vote to close the course. What was the rush? There was a contract with a contractor out there. On Thursday, Mr. McKinney had appeared before Council and he was told by the Mayor that there was no sense in him attending the meeting because it wasn’t going to be an issue.

Mayor Cammack stated he had not said that.

Councilor Fox stated yes, he heard him say it.

Mayor Cammack stated he did not – that was not said.

Councilor Fox asked Mr. McKinney if that was what he heard.

Scott McKinney stated he did not remember that being said in the meeting. He had contacted the Mayor that day and the Mayor stated he was welcome to attend the meeting.

Mayor Cammack stated in the meeting, he said that he *should* come.

Councilor Fox stated he still wanted to know why there was such a rush.

Mayor Cammack stated the point was that there were a number of expenditures that were budgeted to be completed at the course during this golfing season. If a decision was made to close the course at the end of the season, it would be a waste to spend money on equipment or repairs that wouldn’t be needed. For planning purposes, those expenditures could be saved. Secondly, people who were golfing out there, had a right to know what was going on.

Councilor Fox didn’t disagree with that; he disagreed with the process. He still didn’t understand the rush. It was July and it was open until November. Why do this, especially with a Councilor absent. It was impossible to believe that everyone who would like to speak about this issue, heard about this addition.

Councilor Tuttle asked for the time frame for adding items on the Agenda.

Ms. Barnett stated the meetings are noticed six months in advance. Legally, the Council could add or remove an item from the Agenda at the actual meeting.

Councilor Tuttle stated the city had an asset of \$2-2.5M, and they were they going to walk away from that. Who had the exit strategy? What were the ramifications to closing it. Did anyone have that information? They wanted to vote to close it, but they didn’t know what they were going to do. There should be some input from staff, Scott McKinney, etc., on what they were going to do. There had to be a plan. Before he would vote to close it, or anything else, he wanted to see a plan.

Mayor Cammack stated if the Council made the decision now, they’d have the remainder of the golf season to figure out the specifics.

Councilor Tuttle stated that might have an effect on how some voted – maybe not, but maybe yes. When there was an asset of that value, there needed to be more to it than just up/down tonight and take care of it later. That should be planned from the beginning. No one here had an exit strategy.

Councilor Fugate commented the studies received for Police and Fire showed a request for \$500K in personnel, and the city didn’t have that money. There was less than \$1M in the General Fund. The city didn’t have the money to spend on a golf course.

Norm Crume moved, seconded by Charlotte Fugate, that the City Council, with respect to all the golfers and for Scott McKinney and the whole city, to continue running the golf course, as scheduled, through the end of this season, not to close it tomorrow, keep it running until the end of the season, and not spend the extra money, such as fixing the retaining wall or any of those long-term plans that would be considered for next year, both on the city's side and Scott's side, and to not renew the contract at the end of this year. **NO VOTE.**

Councilor Fox asked for discussion. Everyone on the Council kept talking about economic development, but they were willing to close down a \$2M asset and send the message to businesses that the Council was shutting this town down. He thought they should look for solutions, not final solutions like this. If they did this, when would they start closing the parks?

Councilor Crume stated he thought of it differently. They had a golf course, but for unknown reasons, people preferred to play at other locations, so having one actually in Ontario, he didn't see as a big economic boom to bring people in. He believed public safety issues were a very big issue. Case in point, with the last City Manager, with a position that needed to be filled, but the person the Council wanted, didn't want the job due to gang issues in this area. It was more important to work on public safety, and to get those in line to where people and businesses would want to be here. If they wanted to golf, they could go six miles one way, or eight miles another way.

Councilor Verini stated this revolved around the financial ability of the city, and the problems in economic development and quality of life. Those two issues told him the police department and the safety of the community was number one. It was nice to have a golf course, and it did add to economic development, and it would add to the property values, but they needed to think about the future and getting the crime rate down.

Mayor Cammack reiterated this was not a new thing. It had been being discussed since 1996, this had been a topic. It was brought up every year, and every year it had squeaked by. They kept putting money in, but the play just wasn't there. There was now over \$300K in subsidy to the course, for a small part of the population.

Councilor Fox stated acting on this was inappropriate. The discussion held was in Executive Session. The people were not notified. He was against this.

Councilor Tuttle agreed. One thing, the figures and contract discussed were done with Scott in Executive Session. Those figures had never been made public.

Larry Sullivan, City Attorney, stated the Oregon Attorney General had a guide to public meetings. That guide went beyond the strict legal requirements of the law, and did have a discussion about what the purpose of the wording of the law was. It read *"The public meetings law does not require that every proposed item of business be described in the notice. The law requires a reasonable effort to inform the public and interested persons, including news media, of the nature of the more important issues."* It referred in the statute to principle subjects coming before the body and the governing body could take up additional principle subjects arising too late to be mentioned in the notice. Further, *"the goal of notice for any meeting was two-fold. To provide general notice to the public at large and to provide actual notice to specifically interested persons. Press releases should be given to the appropriate publications and news services. A general reference, such as a contract, was generally not enough to indicate that a particularly important issue would be discussed in relation to that. Listing something as "Public Works Contract" didn't give notice that the public body was going to be taking up the demolition of a landmark building.* The Council could decide if the notice was adequate to give the public the opportunity to know the Council was considering this motion at the meeting.

Councilor Fox stated he believed there had not been appropriate notice. It was added as "Golf Course" and there was no staff report with it. The public had not heard anything.

Mayor Cammack asked Mr. Sullivan to provide a legal opinion on this.

Mr. Sullivan stated this was a subject considering an important attribute of the city, a significant city asset. The Agenda item should say what was going to be discussed. Was "Golf Course" adequate to give the public to know the Council was going to formally vote on the closure of the course, in his legal opinion was no.

Councilor Crume stated this was inevitable. It would change nothing. They could bring in 100 people, and it wouldn't change the facts. There was a lack of funds. Why put off the inevitable.

Mr. Sullivan stated the law allowed the Council to include an item on the Agenda. Whether or not the inclusion of that phrase truly informed the public that the Council was going to consider defunding the course at the end of the current season, that was questionable.

Mayor Cammack agreed with the statement of Mr. Sullivan, and suggested putting this item on the Agenda, under a different heading.

Councilor Crume withdrew his motion, and tabled the action.

Mayor Cammack stated this action would be on the next Agenda.

Councilor Fugate asked that in the staff report on the golf course, she wanted included what Mr. McKinney said in his layout of how many members he had, and how many plays there were.

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

- Charlotte Fugate stated she had been asked to join the marijuana committee that was forming to be prepared for the possibility that recreational marijuana would become legal in Oregon. This group was proactive in attempting to address some upcoming issues. Councilor Verini had visited a dispensary that was being built in the City.

Ron Verini stated he had visited a dispensary being built in Ontario. It wouldn't be sold until legalized.

Jackson Fox stated that a pharmacy should sell it, not a dispensary.

- Tori Barnett stated they were finishing up on the ICMA Fire study, and it would be approximately two weeks from now when the Council would receive the presentation. She would provide both completed studies to the Council upon receipt, giving them time to review prior to the presentation by ICMA. She asked that Councilors who were interested in attending LOC this year, please let her know, so she could release some hotel reservations if she had too many. Public Works was busy with a lot of projects, including the upcoming chip sealing. The mutual aid for fire issues had been dealt with, and Chief Higinbotham would be bringing a full report to the Council at the next meeting. Also, a sub-committee had been established to create protocol and rules for mutual aid calls. She was still looking for candidates to submit their names for Mayor and City Council positions. Regarding SDCs, Ms. Ott had put together a spreadsheet reflecting money collected on SDCs, where it was allocated, what had been spent, and where, and what the balances of those funds currently was. There was also a spreadsheet, courtesy of Ms. Ott, that reflected how much interest had been received from the Business Loan Fund loans, which could be used for the Economic and Community Enhancement Grant. Currently, the ECE paid the \$15K payment to the transit system.
- Charlotte Fugate stated with regard to Prothman and the City Manager search, what had been the decision on the wage range? Council had received a salary survey, which now included five Idaho city salaries, giving a high and low range, plus actual wage.

It was Council consensus to remain at the \$105,000-120,000 range for the City Manager recruitment.

- Norm Crume had asked if SDC monies could be used for the completion of North Park Boulevard. Cliff Leeper, Public Works Director, was checking on that. Also, he thought he had gone through the proper procedures to allow the addition of the golf course on that evening's Agenda.

Mr. Sullivan stated his concern was that the Agenda should have been more explicit concerning the golf course. Part of the issue was on him. When hearing Mr. McKinney, he was looking for a three-year commitment from the Council. It wasn't clear after the Executive Session if the subject was going to be whether to affirmatively vote to give him a three-year contract or to not do anything, so he wouldn't have left with the assurance he would be able to get increased support from the Council for further development, or, in Councilor Crume's case, he wanted to be able to have an affirmative decision from the Council about funding. It was that one sentence in the AG's guidelines, which read *"The Agenda need not go into detail about subjects scheduled for discussion or action, but it should be sufficiently descriptive so that interested persons would get an accurate picture of the Agenda topics."* After the Executive Session, they could have added "Golf Course – Should the Golf Course be funded for three years? Should the Golf Course be closed? All those probably would have been more explicit and would have given people the opportunity to realize it would be discussed by the Council. He should have suggested that title for the Agenda.

Mayor Cammack stated it was his suggestion to just put Golf Course on the Agenda, not thinking about what that actually meant.

ADJOURN

Larry Tuttle moved, seconded by Jackson Fox, that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-out; Tuttle-yes; Verini-yes; Cammack-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

LeRoy Cammack, Mayor

Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder

AGENDA REPORT

August 4, 2014

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Larry Sullivan, City Attorney

THROUGH: Tori Barnett, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION 2014-125: A RESOLUTION PROHIBITING THE USE OF WRITTEN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS FOR DEPARTMENT HEADS WHO ARE CITY EMPLOYEES

DATE: July 27, 2014

SUMMARY:

Attached is the following document:

- Resolution #2014-125: Prohibiting Department Head Contracts

BACKGROUND:

At the City Council work session on July 17, 2014, the consensus of the Council was to direct the City Attorney to prepare a resolution prohibiting the City Manager from using separate employment contracts or granting separate compensation or benefit packages to department heads. This would apply only to department heads who are employed by the city, not to independent contractors, such as CH2M Hill and G.W. Wilber, CPAs.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council enact Resolution 2014-125.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the City Council approve Resolution #2014-125, A RESOLUTION PROHIBITING THE USE OF WRITTEN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS FOR DEPARTMENT HEADS WHO ARE CITY EMPLOYEES.

RESOLUTION #2014-125

**RESOLUTION PROHIBITING THE USE OF WRITTEN
EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS FOR
DEPARTMENT HEADS WHO ARE CITY EMPLOYEES**

- WHEREAS,** City department heads who are city employees are at-will employees whose compensation and benefits are determined and budgeted by the Council; and
- WHEREAS,** In the past, some City Managers developed separate employment contracts for department heads that changed the employment terms and benefits set by the Council; and
- WHEREAS,** As a matter of policy, without the approval of the Council in advance, the City Manager should not be negotiating separate compensation and benefits packages for department heads, nor developing separate contracts for department heads who are city employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Ontario City Council as follows:

- 1)** Without City Council approval in advance, no City Manager shall offer any department head who is a city employee any benefits package that differs from that approved by the City Council for department heads generally.
- 2)** Without City Council approval in advance, no City Manager shall offer any salary to a department head who is a city employee unless the salary was previously budgeted for that department head.
- 3)** No City Manager shall develop or approve a written employment contract with a department head who is a city employee or any other non-represented employee unless the terms of the contract have been approved in advance by the City Council, and the City Council has specifically authorized the use of a written employment contract for that employee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Ontario City Council this ____ day of _____, 2014.

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

APPROVED by the Council President acting as Mayor this ____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTESTED:

LeRoy Cammack, Mayor

Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder

AGENDA REPORT

August 4, 2014

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Larry Sullivan, City Attorney

THROUGH: Tori Barnett, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: **RESOLUTION #2014-126: A RESOLUTION DECLARING PORTIONS OF CITY BLOCKS 154 AND 155 AS SURPLUS PROPERTY**

DATE: July 27, 2014

SUMMARY:

Attached is the following document:

- Resolution #2014-126: Declaring Portions Of City Blocks 154 And 155 As Surplus Property.

BACKGROUND:

For several years the City Council has discussed disposing of the real property owned by the City in City Blocks 154 and 155. That real property includes the old City shop, a portion of which is leased to South Georgia Equipment; and the water tower, a portion of which is leased to Sprint (Ubiquitel). When the new City shop was acquired, the Public Works Committee recommended that the old shop building be sold and that the proceeds be used to offset the cost of the new building. The Council never took any formal action on that recommendation. When the Council renewed the Sprint water tower lease in 2013, it discussed the fact that the water tower was old and a potential liability to the City, but it took no formal action to declare it surplus. The subject arose again in the Council work session on July 17, 2014, and the consensus of the Council was to move forward with a surplus property declaration for that real property.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council enact Resolution 2014-126.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the City Council approve Resolution #2014-126, A RESOLUTION DECLARING PORTIONS OF CITY BLOCKS 154 AND 155 AS SURPLUS PROPERTY.

RESOLUTION 2014-126

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING PORTIONS OF CITY BLOCKS
154 AND 155 AS SURPLUS PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, The City of Ontario owns portions of City Blocks 154 and 155, which are shown in the map attached as Exhibit "1" as Tax Lots 5600, 5700, 5800 and 6301; and

WHEREAS, The City-owned buildings in those tax lots include the old City shop, a portion of which is being leased to South Georgia Equipment; and a water tower, a portion of which is being leased to Sprint (Ubiquitel); and

WHEREAS, None of the real property in those tax lots is needed by the City for any public purpose and should be declared surplus property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Ontario City Council as follows:

1) Tax Lots 5600, 5700, 5800 and 6301 in City Blocks 154 and 155, as shown on the map attached as Exhibit "1", is hereby declared to be surplus property. The surplus real property is more particularly described as:

Land in Wilson's Supplemental Plat to the City of Ontario, according to the Official Plat thereof, within the NW1/4SW1/4 of Section 3, Township 18 South, Range 47 East, W.M., Malheur County Oregon as follows:

In Block 154: Lots 5 thru 13, inclusive.

TOGETHER WITH all that portion of vacated NE 3RD Avenue lying adjacent thereto as vacated under Ordinance No. 2507-2003 recorded under Instrument No. 03-1628, Malheur County deed records.

In Block 155: The East 1 foot of Lot 4, Lots 5 thru 13, inclusive and Lots 18 thru 26, inclusive.

TOGETHER WITH all that portion of vacated NE 3RD Avenue lying adjacent thereto as vacated under Ordinance No. 2507-2003 recorded under Instrument No. 03-1628, Malheur County deed records.

2) Prior to a sale or other disposition of all or any portion of City Blocks 154 and 155, the City will have to provide notice and hold the public meeting required by ORS 221.725 and City Code Section 8-16-10.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Ontario City Council this _____ day of _____, 2014.

Ayes:

Nays:

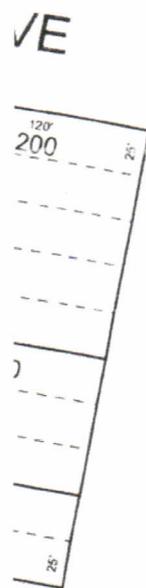
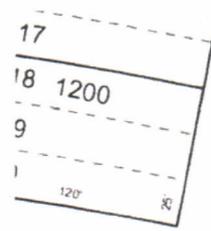
Absent:

APPROVED by the Mayor this _____ day of _____, 2014.

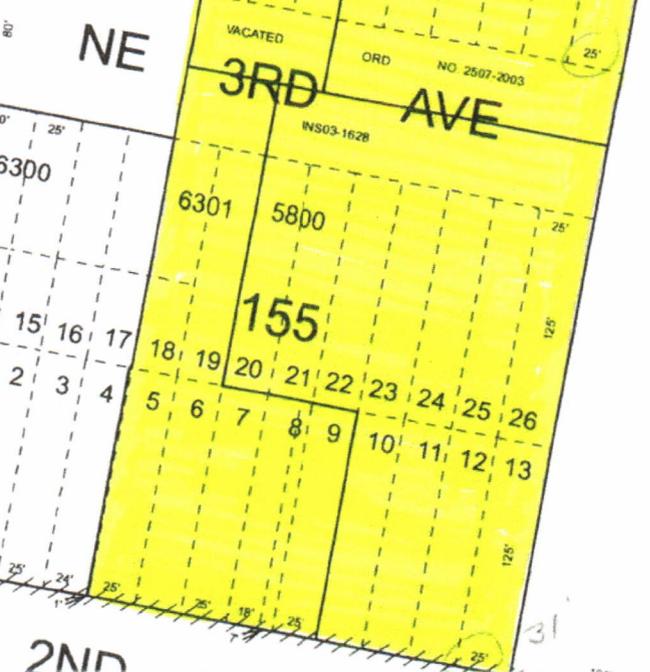
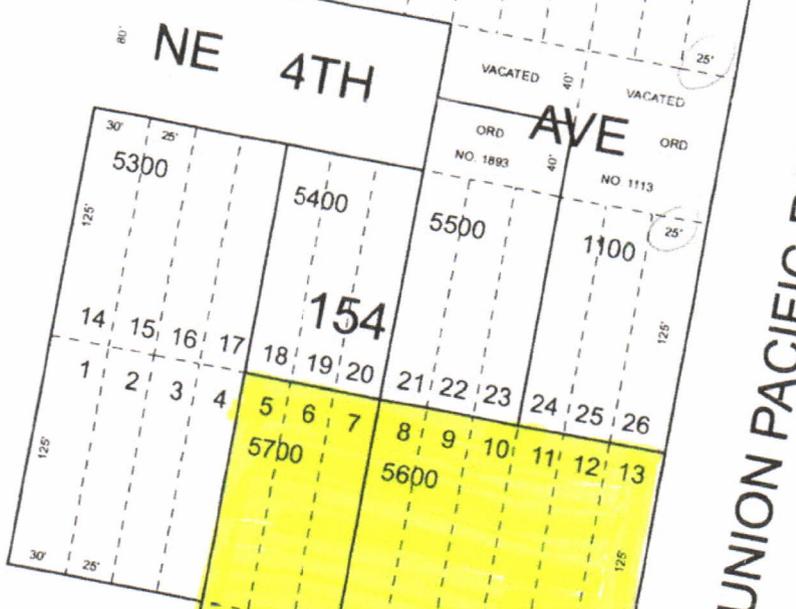
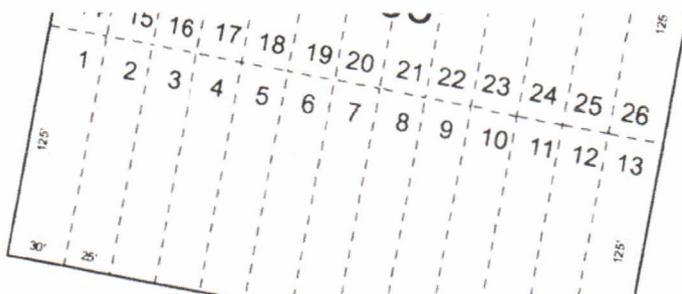
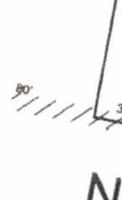
ATTESTED:

LeRoy Cammack, Mayor

Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder



N OREGON PLAT



UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD

SEE MAP 18S 47E 03CA

1/16 COR.

14

AGENDA REPORT
August 4, 2014

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Mark Alexander, Chief of Police

Through: Tori Barnett, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: ORDINANCE #2682-2014: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 7, CHAPTER 1, SECTIONS 1 and 2, OF NUISANCE AND HEALTH REGULATIONS

DATE: July 28, 2014

SUMMARY:

Attached are the following documents:

- Ordinance #2692-2014

The Police Department would like to amend Municipal Code Title 7, Chapter 1, Sections 1 and 2 relating to Nuisance and Health Regulations in order to be more effective.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:

July 17, 2014 An update on Code Enforcement issues was given to City Council.

BACKGROUND:

Nuisances such as weeds, garbage and debris become unsightly, create fire hazards, reduce property values and inhibit attempts of economic development.

On occasion, owners are not proactive in property care and in some cases, it goes unaddressed. Ontario City Code identifies noxious weeds and weeds over 10” as a nuisance. City code also defines a variety of conditions left upon a property as a nuisance.

Currently, the Code Enforcement Officer can notify a property owner or person in charge that a nuisance exists and give them ten days to remove the issue. If not addressed, the City has the authority to abate the nuisance and charge the property owner for costs incurred. Those failing to pay the costs can be turned to collection or the City can place a lien on the property. The City also has the option to give the property owner or person in charge a citation to appear in court with fines imposed upon conviction.

There are different liability issues involved with properties that are occupied vs. non-occupied with abatements. Staff feels occupied properties can be addressed much quicker than non-occupied properties.

Some non-occupied properties are vacant lots that have been abated by the City for years. Some of these properties have rocks, debris or trees that are not defined as a nuisance, but make abatement slow and problematic by those conducting the abatement.

Ordinance #2692-2014 provides language changes to give occupied properties five days to abate nuisances and leaves ten days for non-occupied properties. This Ordinance also allows those abating properties the ability to remove impediments to allow for future ease of abatements and even for the property to be enhanced visually.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Property owners could receive a larger bill if additional means are made for abatement. This could result in more unpaid bills and more work for the Finance Department for collections and liens. Citations are issued to property owners or persons in charge in occupied properties, which is meant for behavior change, but can also result in an increase in revenue through fines.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council adopt Ordinance #2692-2014.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move the Council adopt Ordinance #2692-2014, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 7, CHAPTER 1, SECTIONS 1 AND 2, RELATING TO NUISANCE AND HEALTH REGULATIONS, on First Reading by Title Only.

ORDINANCE NO. 2692-2014

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CODE
TITLE 7, CHAPTER 1, SECTIONS 1 AND 4**

- WHEREAS,** nuisances such as weeds on properties within the City affect the look of neighborhoods, create fire hazards and reduce property values; and,
- WHEREAS,** there are times when property owners are not proactive and even negligent on week control ; and,
- WHEREAS,** the City of Ontario has established regulations for the identification and abatement of such nuisances; and,
- WHEREAS,** regulations relating to weed control in City Code Sections 7-1-1 and 4 need to be changed in order to be more effective.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Ontario, Oregon, as follows:

Section 7-1-1 of the Ontario City Code is hereby amended by adding that portion which is underlined:

Definitions.

For the purposes of this Chapter the following words and phrases shall mean:

OCCUPIED PROPERTY a property with a building that is currently being used for business or as a dwelling.

PERSON IN CHARGE OF PROPERTY. An agent, occupant, lessee, tenant, contract, purchaser, or other person having possession or control of property or the supervision of any construction project.

PERSON RESPONSIBLE. The person responsible for abating a nuisance shall include:

- (A) The owner.
- (B) The person in charge of property as defined above.
- (C) The person who caused to come into or continue in existence a nuisance as defined in Section 7-1-2 below.

Section 7-1-4 of the Ontario City Code is hereby amended by eliminating those portions which are stricken and adding those which are underlined:

Abatement procedure.

(A) Notice to Abate.

1. For an initial violation of the nuisance provisions of the City Code, the City Manager or the City Manager's designee shall cause a written notice to be served either personally on the property owner or the person responsible, or by registered or certified mail to the address of the property owner noted in the Malheur County Tax Assessor's office for tax notices to be sent. If the property has a structure on it, notice may also be posted on the property. For service by mail, service shall be complete upon deposit in the mail. Notice shall be deemed sufficient if it complies with the procedure set forth herein, whether or not the property owner or person responsible receives actual notice.

2. For any additional violations of the same nuisance prohibition on the same property caused by the same person responsible within twelve (12) months of the date of the initial notice, the City shall not be required to personally serve or mail a written notice against the person responsible. Service of a notice of a second or subsequent violation may be done by posting notice on the property.

3. The initial notice to abate shall contain:

(a) A description of the real property, by street address or otherwise, on which the nuisance exists.

(b) A direction to abate the nuisance within five (5) days for occupied properties and ten (10) days for unoccupied properties from the date of the notice.

(c) A description of the nuisance, a citation to the section(s) of the City Code which are violated, and a description of the corrective action required.

(d) A statement that unless the nuisance is removed, the City may abate the nuisance and the cost of abatement will be charged to the person responsible and assessed as a lien on the property.

(e) A statement that failure to abate a nuisance may result in a fine.

(f) A statement that the person responsible may appeal from the notice to abate by giving notice to the City Manager or his designee within ten (10) days from the date of the notice.

(g) A statement that the City is not required to provide a written notice of a second or subsequent nuisance violation within a twelve (12) month period, and that notice of a second or subsequent violation may be done by posting notice on the property.

4. Upon completion of service of an abatement notice as provided herein, the persons serving the notice shall execute and file certificates stating the date and place of service.

(B) Abatement by Person Responsible.

1. Within the time allowed ~~ten (10) days of the date of the notice~~, the person responsible shall remove the nuisance or show that no nuisance exists, or deliver a written notice of appeal to the City Manager. A written notice of appeal shall specify the basis for the appeal.

2. The Ontario Municipal Court shall conduct a hearing on the appeal of the abatement notice at which the City's designee and the appellant may call witnesses and present evidence. The City shall have the burden of proof to demonstrate by a preponderance of the evidence that a violation has occurred and that the required corrective action is reasonable. The Ontario Municipal Court shall affirm, vacate, or modify the City's decisions regarding the alleged violation and/or the required corrective action, with or without written conditions.

(C) Abatement by City.

1. If after the time allowed, the nuisance has not been abated by the person responsible, the City may cause the nuisance to be abated and may make efforts toward the elimination or ease of future abatements by such means as spraying, debris removal and leveling of land.

2. The officer charged with abatement of the nuisance shall have the right, at reasonable times, to enter into or upon property, in accordance with law, to investigate or cause the removal of a nuisance.

3. The City Manager or his designee shall keep an accurate record of the expense incurred by the City in physically abating the nuisance, including incidental expenses set forth in subsection (E) below.

(D) Joint Responsibility. If more than one person is responsible, they shall be jointly and severally liable for abating the nuisance or for the costs incurred by the City in abating the nuisance.

(E) Assessment of Costs.

1. The cost, including incidental expenses, of correcting the violation shall be billed to the person responsible for the violation and/or the owner, lessor, tenant or other person entitled to control, use and/or occupancy of the property and shall become due and payable to the City of Ontario within ten (10) calendar days of the bill being issued. A minimum administrative fee of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be imposed for each abatement notice issued. The City Council may by resolution change the minimum fee from time to time. The term "incidental expense" shall include, but not be limited to personnel costs, both direct and indirect; attorney's fees; costs incurred in documenting the violation; hauling, storage and disposal expenses; and actual expenses and costs of the City in preparing notices, specifications and contracts, and in accomplishing and/or contracting and inspecting the work, and the costs of any required printing and mailing. The City Manager or his designee, by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, shall forward to the person responsible a notice stating:

- (a) The total cost of abatement, including incidental expenses.
- (b) That the cost as indicated will be either referred to collection or be assessed to and become a lien against the property unless paid within thirty (30) days from the date of the notice.
- (c) That if the person, responsible objects to the cost of the abatement as indicated, he may file a notice of objection with the City Manager or his designee not more than ten (10) days from the date of the notice. Objections shall be heard by the Ontario Municipal Court and shall be limited to the question of whether the amount of the abatement assessment is reasonable.

2. If the costs of the abatement are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of the notice or thirty (30) days from the date of the Ontario Municipal Court's decision on objections, the City may cause the assessment to be filed as a lien in the Malheur County Deed records against the property of any property owner who was served with the initial notice of abatement pursuant to Section 7-1-4(A)1. set forth above.

3. The lien shall be enforced in the same manner as liens for street improvements and shall bear interest at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum, or at such other rate as may be fixed by resolution of the City Council. The interest shall commence thirty (30) days from the date of the notice.

4. An error in the name of the person responsible or property owner shall not void the assessment nor will a failure to receive the notice of the proposed assessment render the assessment void, but it shall remain a valid lien against the property.

5. In lieu of a lien against the property, the city may refer the account to collections once the account is more than sixty (60) days past due. In addition, a late fee set by Fee Resolution to offset the administrative expenses incurred due to the late payment, shall be due and owing on any payment received after the due date and in coordination with the completion of the payment processing grace period.

(F) Separate Violations. The requirements to abate a nuisance are not a penalty for violating the Code but are an additional remedy. The imposition of a penalty does not relieve a person of the duty to abate the nuisance; however, abatement by the person responsible of a nuisance within the allowed time ~~ten (10) days~~ of the date of notice to abate, or within ten (10) days of the determination by the Ontario Municipal Court upon an appeal therefrom, will excuse the person responsible from the imposition of any fine.

(G) Summary Abatement. The procedure provided by subsections (A) through (F) is not exclusive but is in addition to procedure provided by other law and the City Manager, or other officer delegated responsibilities therefor, may proceed summarily to abate a health or other nuisance which unmistakably exists and which imminently endangers human life, health or property.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Ontario this _____ day of _____, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED by the Mayor this _____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTEST:

LeRoy Cammack, Mayor

Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder

AGENDA REPORT
August 4, 2014

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Larry Sullivan, City Attorney

THROUGH: Tori Barnett, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: THE FUTURE OF THE GOLF COURSE, DISCUSSION OF OPTIONS

DATE: July 27, 2014

SUMMARY:

The purpose of this agenda item is to continue the Council's public discussion on the future of the golf course that began during the Council meeting on July 21, 2014.

BACKGROUND:

The City golf course is being managed by Scott McKinney pursuant to a written contract that expires on December 31, 2014. Mr. McKinney has requested that the city make a commitment to renew that contract for an additional three years. At the July 21, 2014, Council meeting, Councilor Crume made a motion not to renew that contract and to essentially close down the golf course after 2014. Because of concerns expressed by the City Attorney as to the wording of that Agenda item in the notice of the meeting, Councilor Crume withdrew his motion, and the subject was placed on the agenda for the August 4, 2014, meeting.

In the July 21, 2014, meeting, the Council discussed the annual subsidies provided by the city for the operation and maintenance of the golf course, and the likelihood of those continuing into the future. The Council also discussed the declining membership, the proximity of other golf courses to the City of Ontario, and the potential use of the annual golf course subsidy for public safety instead of recreation. On the other hand, Councilors also discussed the large financial investment that the city has made in the golf course which may be lost if funding is withdrawn, and the potential harm that may be done to the city's economic development efforts and the city's quality of life if funding is discontinued.

During the discussion on July 21, 2014, all the Council members expressed satisfaction with the job done by Mr. McKinney in managing the golf course. The primary issue addressed by Councilors was whether the city could justify continuing to fund the course after the 2014 season.

The City Attorney has redrafted the motion made by Councilor Crume in the July 21, 2014, meeting. The city has to fulfill its current financial obligations on the golf course to Mr. McKinney through 2014. The proposed motion ends the funding for the commercial operation of the golf course after that time. The city could continue to fund the cost of minimally maintaining and watering the course to avoid its deterioration as a municipal asset, but other funding would be discontinued except by majority vote of the Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff makes no recommendation as the future of the golf course.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the City Council close the Ontario Golf Course at the end of the 2014 golf season.

Discussion/Information /Hand-Out Items

City Council Meeting
August 4, 2014

July 20, 2014

Malheur County will soon have its own Citizens on Patrol (C.O.P.). One division will be centered in Nyssa, another in Ontario and the third will take in the rest of the county located in Vale. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to help us with this important project. To be a member you must be 21-91 years of age, pass a background check and attend all training sessions.

The Citizens on Patrol volunteers are only extra eyes and ears for the public safety agencies. County citizens are encouraged to join this group to assist law enforcement and fire departments in an effort to deter crime while serving their families, neighbors and the community.

Duties that all three Citizens on Patrol locations will be called upon to perform include driving in pairs within the assigned areas looking for unusual and suspicious behavior. Members will check for un-locked business doors. They'll help enforce fire and handicap zones. If someone is going on vacation, the C.O.P. will check on their home and property. All the home owner has to do is fill out a form and turn it into the C.O.P headquarters in their area. Senior citizens and any handicapped individual or family member can fill out a form requesting a well-being check and members of Citizens on Patrol will make contact with them. Other duties that members may be called on to do are: putting up parade barricades, directing traffic , acting as funeral escorts, covering sporting and other events as extra security. **Members are not expected to be proficient in everything but are encouraged to contribute wherever they can.**

Attached are a flyer, brochure and an application. Feel free to copy and pass on to your family and friends.

Applications can be picked up at the Nyssa Police Department, the Nyssa Public Library and at the Nyssa Chamber of Commerce. In Ontario the Ontario Police Department, Ontario Library District, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and Four Rivers Community Center will have applications. The Vale locations include Malheur County Sheriff's Department and the Vale Public Library.

For more information call Maggie Wood at 208-230-4221 or e-mail maggiewoodcop@gmail.com

CITIZENS ON PATROL

Malheur County will soon have its own Citizens on Patrol (C.O.P.). One division will be centered in Ontario, another in Nyssa and the third will take in the rest of the county located in Vale. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to help with this important project.

The Citizens on Patrol volunteers are only eyes and ears for the public safety agencies. County citizens are encouraged to join this group to assist law enforcement and fire departments in an effort to deter crime while serving their families, neighbors and the community.

CRITERIA FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

1. Must be 21 to 91 years old.
2. Must pass a background check.
3. Must attend all training sessions.
4. Must be able to keep confidential information.
5. Must understand that you are representing public safety agencies and act accordingly.

DUTIES INCLUDE:

1. Patrolling residential areas in pairs looking for unusual and suspicious behavior.
2. Checking on businesses after hours.
3. Observing school bus areas.
4. Putting up barricades for parades.
5. Enforcing fire and handicap lanes.
6. Performing well-being checks on senior citizens and handicapped individuals.
7. Checking on the homes and property of people on vacation.
8. Providing extra security at sporting and special events.
9. Directing traffic.
10. Acting as funeral escorts.
11. Performing other requests from public safety agencies.

Members are not expected to perform everything but are encouraged to contribute wherever they can.

APPLICATION

An application is attached. All interested individuals throughout the county, please fill out the form and mail or drop it off at C.O.P., Ontario City Hall, 444 SW 4th Street, Ontario, OR 97914.

For more information contact Maggie Wood at 208-230-4221 or e-mail MaggieWoodCOP@gmail.com

Citizens on Patrol Application

Name: _____

Address: _____ city _____ state _____ zip: _____

Phone numbers: home _____, cell _____, work _____

E-mail (please print clearly): _____

Driver's License number: _____ Date of birth: _____

Have you ever been arrested for a misdemeanor or felony? _____ If yes, explain.

Employment History (more recent jobs, include retirement)

Business

Location

Availability (days, times): _____

Check the areas in which you are willing to participate. ___Ontario, ___Nyssa ___county/Vale

I understand that I will be subjected to a background check. (initial) _____

I understand that I am volunteering my time. (initial) _____

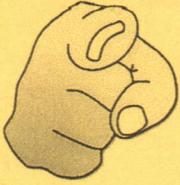
I understand that confidentiality is important with the Citizens on Patrol. (initial) _____

If chosen, I understand that I must attend all training sessions. (initial) _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Applications due August 15, 2014 at C.O.P., Ontario City Hall, 444 SW 4th St., Ontario, OR 97914

For more information contact: Maggie Wood 208-230-4221 or MaggieWoodCOP@gmail.com



Citizens On Patrol Wants YOU!

Help serve your community while creating a safer environment?

How can YOU serve your community?

After receiving required training, you will properly record and report suspicious activity.

YOU NEVER APPREHEND.

YOU are eyes and a presence only.

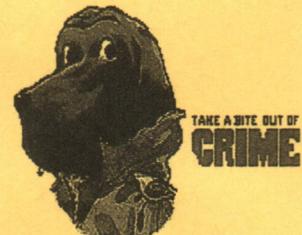
What are the Requirements to Join?

- * You must pass a background check,
- * Be 21+ years of age

Benefits to your Community:

1. Safer neighborhoods
2. Additional business security
3. Deterrent to incriminating behavior
4. Well-being checks on seniors

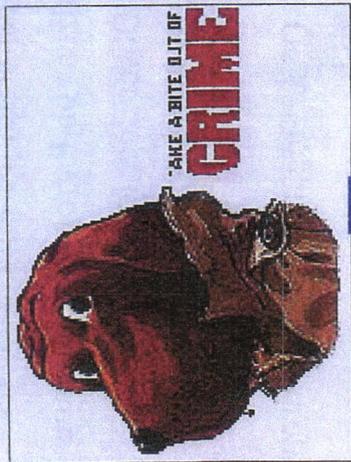
Contact: Maggie Wood - 208-230-4221
MaggieWoodCOP@gmail.com



Together We Stand Strong

Join Citizens on Patrol

A concerned citizen is an effective means to assist family, friends, neighborhoods and the community.



**Ontario Police Department
444 SW 4th Street**

**Ontario, Oregon 97914
Administration 541-889-5341**

**Nyssa Police Department
14 S 3rd Street**

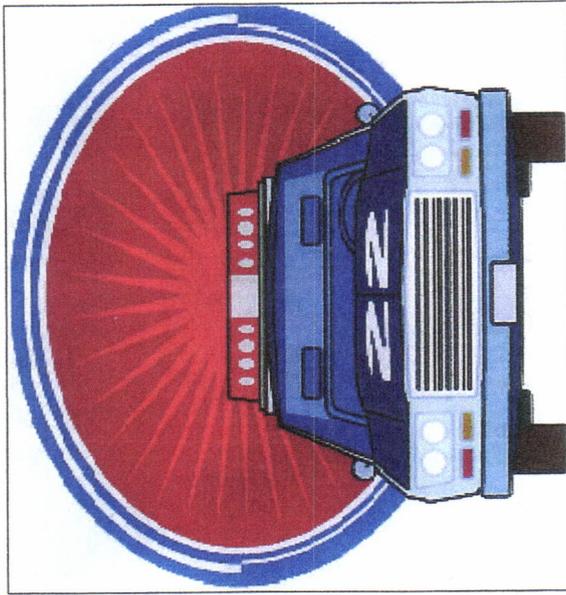
**Nyssa, Oregon 97913
Administration 541-372-3826**

**Malheur County Sheriff's Office
151 B Street West
Vale, Oregon 97918
Administration 541-473-5126**

Non-emergency 541-473-5125

For Emergencies only—911

A good neighbor is the most effective crime tool.



**Citizens On Patrol
Invites YOU to Join!**



Watching out for your families, friends, and neighbors.



Together We Stand Strong

**For more information
contact:**

Maggie Wood: 208-230-4221

MaggieWoodCOP@gmail.com

Welcome to Citizens On Patrol (C.O.P.)

What is C.O.P.?

Citizens on Patrol is a trained group of volunteers, supported by local law enforcement agencies in Malheur County.

We hope by reading our brochure you will catch the spirit of the program and wish to join in the efforts to make our neighborhoods a safer, more cohesive place to live.



Citizens on Patrol's purpose is to establish trained volunteers who will aid law enforcement by observing and reporting suspicious behaviors.

Citizens On Patrol Objectives



1. To educate citizens on safety
2. To check well-being of seniors
3. To assist with general public safety

YOU ARE EYES AND EARS ONLY



The Responsibilities Include

The Citizens on Patrol are strictly observers. Law enforcement is responsible for all apprehensions.

Citizens on Patrol work in teams:

1. Observing, logging and reporting to law enforcement
2. Doing well-being checks
3. Observing at school bus drop-offs
4. Checking businesses after hours
5. Assisting with events' security
6. Accepting requests from public safety agencies

Together We Stand Strong



OREGON HIDTA PROGRAM – 2014

Established – 1999

Funded – 1999

Original Funding – \$600,000 Baseline

Current Funding - \$3.16M Baseline

Agencies – Federal (12); State (4); Local (41) Tribal (2)

Initiatives – Enforcement (14); Fugitive Apprehension (1); Intelligence (1); Training (1); Management (1); Prevention (1)

Participants – Full-Time (199); Part-Time (105)

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Oregon HIDTA Executive Board provides **Program Oversight; Policy Guidance; and Regional Coordination**. The **Chair** (Russel Burger, U. S. Marshal, District of Oregon) and **Vice Chair** (James Ferraris, Deputy Chief, Salem Police Department) are elected from the ranks of the Executive Board and rotate annually. Participating Agencies: **8 Federal:** ATF&E, BLM, DEA, FBI, ICE, IRS, USAO, USMS; **3 State:** ODOJ, ONG, OSP; **5 Local:** CCDA, CCSO, DCSO, SPD, PPD, **3 Ex-Officio:** OP, CODA, ONEA

COMMITTEES

The Executive Board, in accordance with the Oregon HIDTA By-laws, monitors and coordinates initiative activities through a committee framework – committees review performance and budget activity. The committees at the Oregon HIDTA are the Finance Committee and the Investigative Support Center Advisory Committee

INITIATIVES

Blue Mountain Enforcement Narcotics Team
Central OR Drug Enforcement Task Force
Clackamas County Interagency Narcotics Team
Douglas Interagency Narcotics Team
HIDTA Interdiction Team
Lane Co. Interagency Narcotics Enforcement Team
Management and Coordination Initiative
Medford Area Drug and Gang Enforcement Team
Multnomah County Dangerous Drug Team
Oregon Financial Crimes Task Force

Oregon HIDTA DEA Task Force (Portland, Salem, Eugene & Medford)
Oregon HIDTA Drug Overdose Investigation Fund
Oregon HIDTA Investigative Support Center
Oregon Partnership Lines for Life Prevention Initiative
Oregon HIDTA Training Initiative
Portland Area Metro Gang Task Force
U.S. Marshals Service HIDTA Fugitive Task Force
Warm Springs Police Department
Westside Interagency Narcotics Team

MISSION AND VISION

The Oregon HIDTA mission is to facilitate, support and enhance collaborative drug control efforts among law enforcement agencies and community-based organizations, thus significantly reducing the impact of illegal trafficking and use of drugs throughout Oregon.

The Oregon HIDTA vision is collaboration with law enforcement and community-based organizations to provide a common voice and unified strategy to eliminate illicit drug trafficking and use in Oregon.

2013 OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS

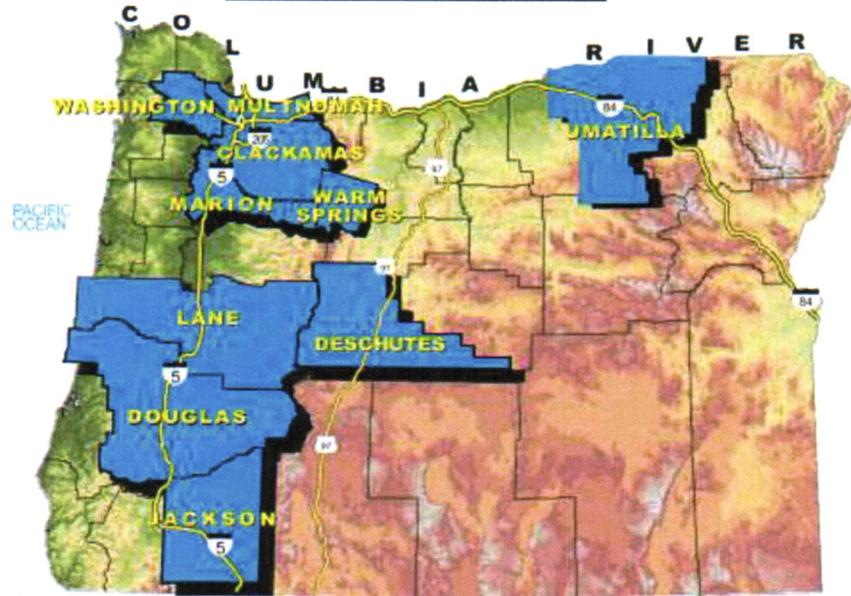
DTOs and MLOs: Identified: **81**, Targeted for Disruption/Dismantlement: **35**; Disrupted/Dismantled: **35**; OCDETF Cases: **3**

Seizures: Heroin: **62.3kg**; Cocaine: **55.8kg**; Crack Cocaine: **0.18kg**; Outdoor Marijuana: **8,402kg**; Indoor Marijuana: **4,272kg**; Methamphetamine: **248.4kg**; Illicit Pharmaceuticals: **10,608 dosage units (DU)**; Firearms: **530**

Arrests: **2,896**

R.O.I: **\$31.86/\$1**, Wholesale Drug Value **\$87,662,791** - U.S. Currency Seized **\$5,905,089** – Value of Other Assets Seized **\$9,726,237**

OREGON HIDTA REGION



THREAT OVERVIEW

Production

- The production of illicit drugs, including marijuana, methamphetamine, GHB, LSD and psilocybin occur in the Oregon HIDTA region.
- The primary drugs produced, distributed and exported to other states are high-quality marijuana and to a lesser extent, designer drugs and psilocybin.

Transportation

- Oregon HIDTA serves primarily as a major transportation hub for illegal drug and asset trafficking via private, commercial and rental vehicles and package delivery services.
- Cocaine, heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine, and other dangerous drugs including ecstasy as well as illicit drug proceeds, are transported through each of the corridors to varying degrees.
 - I-5 Corridor/I-84 Corridor/U.S 97 Corridor/U.S 395 Corridor/U.S 20 Corridor/U.S 26 Corridor
- With few exceptions, drugs generally flow north from the southwest border and the southeastern United States, while illicit drug currency flows in the reverse direction.

Distribution

- Methamphetamine, marijuana, Mexican black tar heroin, cocaine, psilocybin and designer drugs such as LSD are readily available in the Oregon HIDTA region.
- Pharmaceuticals are diverted in a variety of ways - including pharmacy diversion, patient deception or manipulation of doctors, drug thefts, internet purchases and improper prescribing practices by physicians - in the Oregon HIDTA region

Illicit Finance

- All drug trafficking organizations in the Oregon HIDTA region engage in money laundering based upon the size and scope of the organization.

Forecast

- Methamphetamine will remain the most significant drug threat in the Oregon HIDTA region due to sustained availability and the societal impact of associated criminal activity.
- Heroin use and availability will increase.
- Prescription drug abuse and trafficking will continue to rise provided that these drugs remain widely available, easily accessible and are perceived as a safe, "legal" alternative to illicit drugs. Outdoor production of marijuana controlled by Mexican DTOs will continue to expand.
- Exploitation of current Medical Marijuana laws will encourage larger indoor marijuana grow operations, impede law enforcement efforts to investigate illegal marijuana operations and complicate prosecution efforts.
- Reflecting national trends, cocaine use and availability may decrease in Oregon.

Mission

National HIDTA Program Mission

The mission of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program is to disrupt the market for illegal drugs in the United States by assisting federal, state, and local law enforcement entities participating in the HIDTA Program to dismantle and disrupt drug trafficking organizations, with particular emphasis on drug trafficking regions that have harmful effects on other parts of the United States.

Oregon HIDTA Mission

The Oregon HIDTA mission is to facilitate, support and enhance collaborative drug control efforts among law enforcement agencies and community-based organizations, thus significantly reducing the impact of illegal trafficking and use of drugs throughout Oregon.

Oregon HIDTA Vision

Collaborate with law enforcement and community-based organizations to provide a common voice and unified strategy to eliminate illicit drug trafficking and use in Oregon.

Oregon HIDTA Values

- Partnership
- Innovation
- Leadership
- Excellence

Executive Board

Larry Blanton
Sheriff - Deschutes County

Craig Roberts
Sheriff - Clackamas County

Darin Tweedt
Chief Counsel - Oregon Dept. of Justice

Jim Ferraris
Deputy Chief - Salem Police Department

John Foote
District Attorney - Clackamas County

Stuart Roberts
Chief - Pendleton Police Department

Patrick Ashmore
Major - Oregon State Police

Mike Bieniewicz
Colonel - Oregon National Guard

Amanda Marshall
U.S. Attorney, District of Oregon

Gregory Bretzing
Special Agent in Charge - FBI

Cam Strahm
Asst. Special Agent in Charge - DEA

Steven Cagen
Asst. Special Agent in Charge - ICE

Colene Domenech
Resident Agent in Charge - ATF&E

Russel Burger
U.S. Marshal, District of Oregon

Kathleen Barcklow
Supervisory Special Agent - IRS

Loren Good
Special Agent in Charge - BLM

Ex-Officio Members

Michael Loudermilk
Asst. Special Agent in Charge - USFS

Dwight Holton
CEO - Oregon Partnership/Lines for Life

Tim Hartnett
Executive Director - CODA

Erik Fisher
Pres. - Oregon Narcotics Enf. Association
O.N.E.A.

THE OREGON HIDTA PROGRAM

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH STATE, LOCAL,
FEDERAL AND TRIBAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TO
DISRUPT AND DISMANTLE DRUG TRAFFICKING AND
MONEY LAUNDERING ORGANIZATIONS

A Program Overview



Chris Gibson, Director
Oregon HIDTA Program
610 Hawthorne Ave SE, Suite 210
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: 503-934-2020
Fax: 503-373-3196
E-mail: chris.r.gibson@state.or.us



THE HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA PROGRAM (HIDTA)

The HIDTA Program

The Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 and the



Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) Reauthorization Acts of 1998 and 2006 authorized the Director of ONDCP to

designate areas within the United States, which exhibit serious drug trafficking problems and harmfully impact other areas of the country, as

High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA).

The HIDTA Program provides additional federal resources, by way of a grant, to those areas to help eliminate or reduce drug trafficking and its harmful consequences. Law enforcement organizations within HIDTAs assess drug trafficking problems and design specific initiatives to reduce or eliminate the production, manufacture, transportation, distribution and chronic use of illegal drugs and money laundering.

The HIDTA Program helps improve the effectiveness and efficiency of drug control efforts by facilitating cooperation between drug control organizations through resource and information sharing, collocating and implementing joint initiatives. HIDTA funds help federal, state and local law enforcement organizations invest in infrastructure and joint initiatives to confront drug- trafficking organizations.

Priorities

The key priorities of the Program are:

- Assess regional drug threats;
- Design strategies to focus efforts that combat drug trafficking threats;
- Develop and fund initiatives to implement strategies;
- Facilitate coordination between federal, state and local efforts to; improve the effectiveness and efficiency of drug control efforts to reduce or eliminate the harmful impact of drug trafficking.

Program Oversight

Each HIDTA is managed by a Director and governed by its own Executive Board comprised of no more than 20 members. These Boards facilitate interagency drug control efforts to eliminate or reduce drug threats. The Executive Boards ensure threat specific strategies and initiatives are developed, employed, supported and evaluated.

The Oregon HIDTA

The Oregon HIDTA, one of 28 in the nation, was established in 1999. The 10 areas that make up the Oregon HIDTA are:

- Clackamas County
- Deschutes County
- Douglas County
- Jackson County
- Lane County
- Marion County
- Multnomah County
- Umatilla County
- Washington County
- Warm Springs Reservation



- Clackamas County Meth, firearm and cash seizure.

Funding and Initiatives

The Oregon HIDTA receives \$3.16 million annually from ONDCP. The Oregon HIDTA Executive Board utilizes those funds to support the following drug enforcement, prevention and support initiatives:

Clackamas County

Clackamas County Interagency Narcotics Team

Deschutes County

Central Oregon Drug Enforcement Task Force

Douglas County

Douglas Interagency Narcotics Team

Jackson County

Medford Area Drug and Gang Enforcement Team
Medford DEA Task Force

Lane County

Interagency Narcotics Enforcement Team
Eugene DEA Task Force

Marion County

Oregon HIDTA Investigative Support Center

Oregon HIDTA Training Initiative
Management and Coordination Initiative
Salem DEA Task Force

Multnomah County

HIDTA Interdiction Team

Portland Area Gang Task Force

USMS HIDTA Fugitive Task Force

Oregon Financial Crimes Task Force

Portland DEA Task Force

Multnomah County Dangerous Drug Team

Cops Mentoring Youth, Lines for Life

Umatilla County

Blue Mountain Enforcement Narcotics Team

Washington County

Westside Interagency Narcotics Team

Warm Springs Reservation

Warm Springs Police Department

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES

JULY 28, 2014

A. Water System

- Process optimization
- Security issues & fencing
- Valve failure

B. Wastewater

- Aerators

C. Streets

- Crack Seal
- Chip Seal
- Meter Leaks

D. Parks – Cemetery

- Parks Porta-Potty
- Weed Abatement with Police



CITY MANAGER

\$105,000 - \$120,000

Plus Excellent Benefits

Apply by September 7, 2014

(First Review, Open Until Filled)

***P*ROTHMAN**



WHY APPLY?



Located in eastern Oregon, the City of Ontario is within an hour's drive of Boise, Idaho, and is the gateway to exceptional recreational opportunities, including world famous white-water rafting, Nordic and Alpine skiing, snowboarding, backpacking

and camping. Ontario is a town with a fascinating history, rich traditions, and a diverse population. It's a great place to live, raise a family, and enjoy what this small town and surrounding area have to offer. Ontario has one of the most livable year round climates in the nation with sunshine in abundance, low precipitation and mild temperatures.

This position provides a talented public sector management professional with an excellent opportunity to work with a city council committed to working together to achieve the city's goals, and with a staff dedicated to providing outstanding services to the citizens of Ontario. If you are looking for a challenging and rewarding career opportunity and love the great outdoors, this is the right position for you!

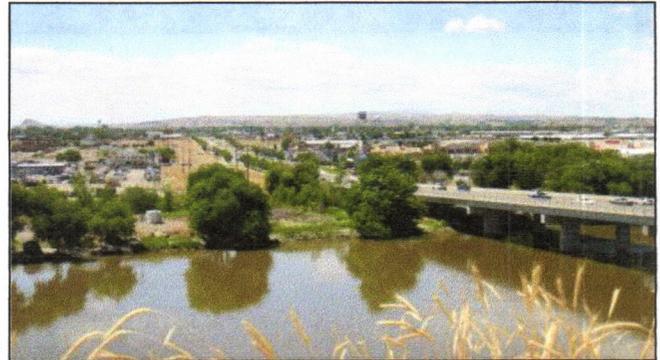
THE COMMUNITY

Situated along the Snake River at the Idaho border, the City of Ontario is the largest city in Malheur County with a population of 11,325. The City serves as the regional retail, service and medical center for 80,000 people within a 30-mile radius. Its central location, combined with Oregon's lack of sales tax, has given the community businesses per capita sales figures far above the national average.



Ontario is home to John W. Brown Armory, Oregon's most technologically advanced and greenest armory in the state. This facility also includes one of the most advanced solar array panels in the

state for training and power production. An expanded general aviation airport offers updated services, including the ability for corporate jets to land and fuel, as well as a local charter service. Only an hour away in Boise, there is a commercial airport served by several major airlines.



Recreation opportunities include an aquatic center, an 18-hole municipal golf course and over 61 acres of beautiful parks. The Four Rivers Cultural Center has a museum which traces the history of settlement in the area by Native American, Japanese American, Basque, Hispanic and European American immigrants. The center is complete with a Japanese Garden, and an event facility, including a Performing Arts theatre and conference rooms for up to 1,000 people.

Ontario is home to Treasure Valley Community College, which provides educational, athletic, musical, and cultural activities for students and the public. It also has excellent relationships with nearby four-year colleges and with many of the area high schools. Within the City of Ontario, the Ontario School District provides five elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. There are also two private schools and a charter school.

The region's primary industry is the cultivation of russet potatoes, sugar beets, and onions. The Heinz Frozen Food Company, a subsidiary of H. J. Heinz Company, processes locally grown potatoes. The company annually produces over 600 million pounds of 75 different potato products and employs about 1,000 people. The City owns and has utility services to an 800 acre Industrial Park, and is in negotiations with a company for 200 acres and potentially another 500 employees. Another large employer in the community is the Saint Alphonsus Medical Center which is a 47-plus-bed, acute care hospital, serving Ontario and the surrounding communities in eastern Oregon and southwestern Idaho, and is part of a regional hospital system.

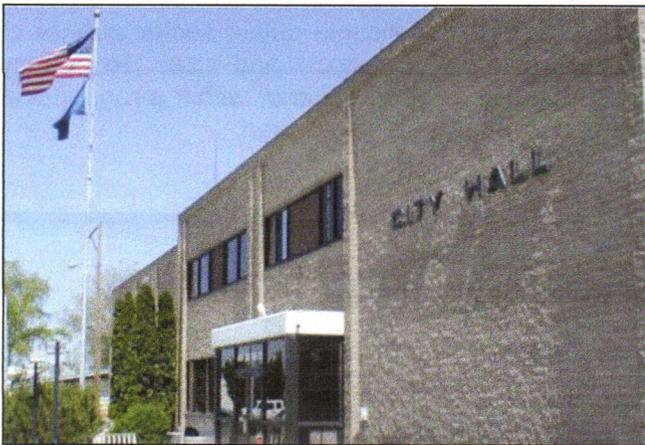
Nearby Boise is home to three universities, including Boise State University. Boise has a thriving arts and performance scene, providing a vibrant culture for all who visit and is a delightful blend of traditional and non-traditional sights and attractions, boasting one-of-a-kind museums and urban parks.

With a population of more than 565,000, the metropolitan area from Boise to Ontario offers businesses and residents alike a unique set of factors that make this region a great place to live, work and play. The region is now being pursued for business expansion more than any other time in its history. Residential growth continues to increase at an unprecedented pace.

THE CITY

Mission

"To provide a safe, healthful, and sound economic environment, progressively enhancing our quality of life."



The City of Ontario operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The City Council is comprised of the Mayor and six Council Members elected from the City at-large. The total annual budget for 2014-2015 is \$27 million, with an annual General Fund budget of \$7.3 million, and a total City staff of 49. The City uses a mix of direct departmental services and contract services to cost-effectively deliver a full range of City services to the community: City Manager, City Recorder, Human Resources, Airport, Finance, Fire, Golf Course, Parks and Recreation, Police, Community Development, and Economic Development.

THE POSITION

Under policy direction from the City Council, the City Manager serves as the Chief Administrative

Officer for the City and is responsible for promoting the City Council's goals and ensuring that policies are effectively and efficiently implemented and enforced.



Other responsibilities include:

- Directs the activities of all City departments, manages the City's contract service providers and provides administrative direction to all City employees and contractors.
- Coordinates departmental work plans; submits a recommended annual budget; and reports on the City's financial condition.
- Serves as the City's hiring authority and ensures resolution of personnel issues.
- Establishes effective working relationships with community and business groups and surrounding governmental entities, and encourages and develops economic opportunities.
- Responds to citizen inquiries and resolves complaints, ensuring quick, efficient, follow-through for satisfactory resolution of inquiries from both community and councilors.

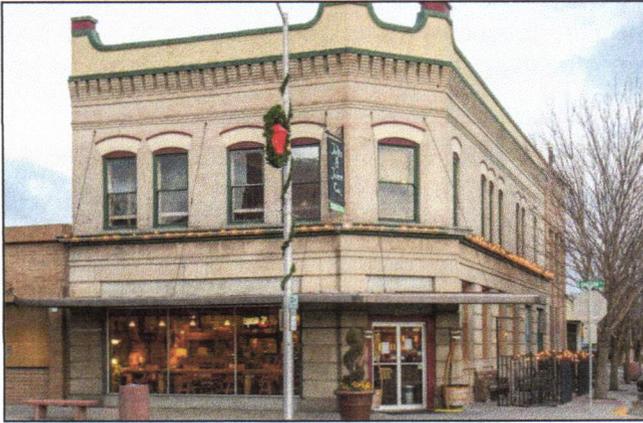
CHALLENGES FACING THE NEW MANAGER

Public Safety Services

The City is reviewing its Police and Fire services to address the City's crime rate and Public Safety costs and options. On a daily basis, the City's population triples, due to its geographical location and no sales tax. This puts an additional burden on Public Safety Services.

Economic Development

The City Manager has the lead in coordinating the City's and community's economic development activities, to retain, grow and attract new businesses and industries to the community. Job creation and diversification of the City's tax base is a major goal for the City and its next City Manager.



THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate will be a talented municipal manager and administrative leader who understands all aspects of city government. The candidate must be able to communicate effectively, and be comfortable relating to and reaching out to citizens in the community who represent a variety of interests and backgrounds.

The City Council is seeking a candidate who is a "hands-on" manager who is capable of preparing their own reports, managing their schedule, and possesses business computer skills. The new manager should be approachable, informal, but confident and will encourage open communication based on an environment of trust and integrity. He/she must also be able to assist Council in prioritizing goals and work plans that are commensurate with staff resources. Candidates will have a proven track record of delivering results, building accountability for staff, and creating a positive working environment of teamwork and innovation.

Candidates should be able to organize and express ideas through excellent oral and written communication to a wide variety of audiences, such as the

City Council, community groups and other boards and committees. The City Manager will be a good listener who consistently works well with personnel throughout all levels of the organization. The candidate who can demonstrate an outstanding track record and understanding of municipal government budget and finance and fiscal stewardship will be of special interest to the City Council. Successful experience in economic development and downtown revitalization will also be a plus.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in public administration or other applicable field is required. A master's degree in public administration or business management, and ICMA certification is preferred.

Competitive candidates should have at least five to seven years of senior public sector management experience, such as city manager/administrator, deputy/assistant or department director in a city or county or other applicable public sector agency of similar or larger complexity and size. Residency within the city limits of Ontario, within a reasonable time period after hire, is required.

COMPENSATION

- **\$105,000 - \$120,000**
- Oregon State PERS
- Vacation
- Sick time
- Medical, Dental, Vision
- Life insurance
- Employer paid cell phone
- 10 paid holidays
- Employment Contract with Severance

www.ontariooregon.org

The City of Ontario is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply by **September 7, 2014** (first review, open until filled). Applications, supplemental questions, resumes and cover letters will only be accepted electronically. To apply online, go to www.prothman.com and click on "submit your application" and follow the directions provided. Resumes, cover letters and supplemental questions can be uploaded once you have logged in. If you are a veteran and wish to request veterans' preference credit, please indicate that in your cover letter, and complete and submit the veterans' preference form posted on the website as instructed on the form.



www.prothman.com

371 NE Gilman Blvd., Ste 350 Issaquah, WA 98027
206.368.0050

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

JULY 16, 2014

The Malheur County Court met with Judge Dan Joyce presiding with Commissioner Don Hodge and Commissioner Larry Wilson present. Staff present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois and Interim Planner Alvin Scott.

Also present was Larry Meyer of the Argus Observer.

BOARDMAN TO HEMINGWAY (B2H) UPDATE

Jeff Maffuccio, Facility Siting Coordinator for Idaho Power, met with the Court and provided an update on the Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) transmission line project. Also present from Idaho Power were Todd Adams and Stephanie McCurdy. Idaho Power continues to work with the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) and BLM on analyzing possible routes of the transmission line. BLM anticipates releasing its draft EIS on the project in late October 2014. There will be a public comment period after the release of the draft EIS. Idaho Power anticipates submitting its amended Site Certificate to ODOE Spring 2015. BLM and ODOE are still considering the CAP-developed routes; the Tub Mountain and Double Mountain routes are still the preferred routes through Malheur County. The Willow Creek alternative and Idaho Power's original proposed route appear to be unpermissible due to Sage Grouse concerns. The Court and Mr. Scott noted that some of the State's maps show the townsite of Brogan being in sage grouse core habitat. Judge Joyce requested that Idaho Power provide the updated information to the local Stop Idaho Power group.

COMMUNITY IN ACTION (CinA)

Kathy Markee from Community in Action met with the Court and requested support for a USDA Rural Housing Services grant application. If received, the grant would assist very low to low income homeowners with rehabilitation efforts to their homes. The Court was supportive of the grant application; Commissioner Wilson moved to submit a letter of support. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # [2014-2313](#)

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Court Minutes of July 2, 2014. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

MCOA&CS SUBAGREEMENTS

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Sub-Agreement with Malheur Council on Aging and Community Services (MCOA&CS) for General Public Transit Service Pursuant to State Agreement Number 29944, Malheur County Rural/Small City Formula Operating - 5311; and, First Amendment to Sub-Agreement with Malheur Council on Aging and Community Services (MCOA&CS) for Allocation of Special Transportation Funds for Special Transportation Services Benefiting Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Pursuant to State Agreement Number 29527 Recorded with the Malheur County Clerk as Instrument Number [2013-3638](#). Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # [2014-2315](#) and [2014-2314](#)

AMENDMENT - IGA#134285

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Sixth Amendment to Developmental Disability Services 2011-2013 Intergovernmental Agreement for the Financing of Community Developmental Disability Services Agreement #134285. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. A copy will be returned electronically for recording.

BUDGET TRANSFER

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Resolution No. R14-17: In the Matter of Fund Transfers Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.463. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Transfers are within the Fair budget. See instrument #[2014-2311](#)

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Resolution No. R14-18: In the Matter of Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Supplemental Budget by Resolution Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.471. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The resolution allocates the spending of additional funds which were received, but not anticipated when the adopted budget was prepared. Funds were a donation in the amount of \$9,121 for the specific use to complete the fairgrounds asphalt project and to purchase a large raffle item. See instrument #[2014-2312](#)

County Counsel Stephanie Williams joined the meeting.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Road Supervisor Richard Moulton met with the Court. Mr. Moulton explained that ODOT was inquiring if the County would be changing the name of US Hwy 52 Spur due to the recent jurisdictional exchange. It was agreed that the road remain Hwy 52 Spur (US will be removed) and that a County road number be assigned to it.

Mr. Moulton also told the Court that he had received a written notice of retirement from one staff member effective October 2014; Mr. Moulton requested the opportunity to possibly hire two persons during the current round of employment recruiting. Mr. Moulton will work with Ms. DuBois on actual start dates for the new employees.

COW HOLLOW PARK

Ms. Williams told the Court that an individual had contacted her about holding a fundraising event to benefit Cow Hollow Park. The proposed event is a one-day mud bogging event on the east side of the Park. The Park Association is supportive of the efforts. Ms. Williams will continue to discuss the proposal with the organizer.

JOINT PLANNER – CITY OF ONTARIO

Personnel Officer Susan Salove met with the Court and provided an update on the efforts to employ a Joint Planning Director with the City of Ontario. Ms. Salove reviewed some minor changes to the job description that the City requested. The Court agreed that once the City returns the signed IGA, Ms. Salove may proceed with posting the job announcement.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Judge Joyce adjourned Court.

July 24, 2014

Atten: Councilman Ron Verinni

As per our discussion the other day, I am writing you to let you know that the Experimental Aircraft Club is still very interested in the use of the block building located on the Ontario Golf Course grounds adjacent to the airport. The Club has looked at it in the past and desires to use it for a club meeting place and as a workshop for various aircraft projects. Should we be able to obtain the use of the building we would be able to move our club back to the Ontario area. Presently we are having to meet at the airport in Payette, Idaho.

Please consider us for the possibility when deliberating on the golf course situation.

Thank you,

Dale and Cheryl Cruson
Officers of EAA #837

You can contact us at our place of business:

Oregon Trail Hobbies
272 So. Oregon St
Ontario, OR 97914

Phone: 541-889-3747
Cell: 541-881-6168

For City Council to Read

Re: golf course and Swim pool.

From Mary Jo Rode

Ontario, OR 97914 Phone 541-889-6434

E-Mail. mjbasche@yahoo.com

My 10 year old great grandson was visiting me last week and said to me. "We don't have a swimming pool here in Ontario any more because the city council gave the money to the golf course".

Ontario used to have a very nice 9 hole course located where the college is today. since they moved the course to the middle of the airport and made it 18 holes, it has been nothing but a money pit. That was almost 60 years ago and it is still ugly, dry, hot and won't grow much of anything except gophers. It is located on an alkali flat.

I am an avid golfer for 60 years now and would prefer to play almost anywhere except Ontario. I live in Ontario and I have many golfing friends that live here and play elsewhere.

Martha Armstrong's letter to the editor on Sunday, July 27th was right on.

The swimming pool and the safety of this community are much more important than the money pit golf course.

I say, Close the albatross, but if the council thinks we must have a golf course to bring in business (which I think is nonsense.) Shut down 9 holes and make an almost decent 9 hole course.

I don't know if this is possible but it would be much more cost effective. Forget all that other stuff some people are talking about. Wouldn't work. Never has, Never will.

My vote is, close the golf course and open the swimming pool.

Thank you for asking for my opinion.

Mary Jo Rode

Ontario, OR.