

City of Union News Letter

City of Union
342 South Main Street * P.O. Box 529
Union, OR 97883
541-562-5197 * Fax 541-562-5196
eMail: cityhall@CityOfUnion.com
Website: CityOfUnion.com

"Promote rural values, protect local assets and foster community pride"

CITY HALL HOURS: Monday thru Thursday
10:00 am - 5:00 pm - Open during lunch

Union Carnegie Public Library
Mon 10:30am - 6:00pm Thurs 1:00pm - 6:00pm
Tue 10:00am - 5:30pm Fri 9:00am - 3:30pm
Wed 4:00pm - 8:00pm

March 2014



Restricted Revenues and the General Fund

Why can't the city move money around to make ends meet?

When thinking about city finance it is important to keep in mind the idea of restricted revenue. Cities budget and track money by using 'funds'. Each fund is a separate fiscal and accounting entity, and cities must balance revenues and expenditures within the fund. In a manner of speaking, a city budget is made up of many little budgets, each with their own distinct purpose. Accounting in this manner allows for accountability and transparency. There are a variety of different funds, but most cities have a mix of the following:

Governmental Funds: General municipal operations (police, public works, parks and recreation)

Business-type Funds (also called enterprise funds): City activities similar to the commercial sector (here in Union we have water and sewer).

Special revenue funds: Used to track resources that are legally or administratively designated for specific purposes. These funds are 'restricted' and cannot be used for other activities (this is also our water and sewer). Each of these funds are based on a specific activity and the money in these accounts can only be spent on specific programs. Business-type and special revenue funds cannot be spent for general purpose items, so cities cannot 'borrow' from these funds to cover a shortage in general fund activities (say, library).

General Fund: The general fund is a type of governmental fund that typically provides the largest amount of money. The general fund accounts for most of city operation revenue and expenditures.

Many city services are very labor intensive, and costs to the city are more than just wages. Cities must also pay for health insurance, social security and more for city employees.

Source: League of Oregon Cities. <http://www.orcities.org/portals/17/toolkit/explainingRestrictedRevenueGeneralFund.pdf>

UNION LEADERSHIP

Ever thought about working in government or running for office?

2015 may just be your year.....

November 2014 elections are coming up.

Open positions:

Mayor ~ 2 year term

Council position 2 ~ 4 year term

Council position 4 ~ 4 year term

Council position 6 ~ 4 year term



Keep checking future newsletters for additional information and filing deadline or check with city hall 541~562~5197



**Working together
for the protection
of the citizens of
the City of Union.**

On January 27th Union Volunteer Fire Department worked jointly with the Public Works and Union County to put a plan together to protect local citizens from the threat of flooding from the large ice-jam east of town. Volunteers and city crews worked on an off throughout the night to make sure residents stayed safe.



**~COMING SOON ~
New Transportation System Plan**

The new Transportation System Plan (TSP) is the long range plan to guide transportation investments in Union. The TSP addresses local transportation needs for cost effective street, bicycle, freight, transit and pedestrian improvements. The plan provides transportation choices for residents, employees and visitors and making it more convenient to walk, bicycle and drive less to meet our daily needs. The TSP provides a balanced transportation system to support neighborhood livability and economic development.

You are encouraged to participate in the upcoming City Council and Planning Commission joint work session planned for April 16th, 2014 at 6 pm, Union City Hall, 342 S. Main Street, Union OR 97883. Public comment is important to this process so comments are welcomed at the work session. If you would like to receive additional material regarding the TSP please contact Sandra Patterson at City Hall, 541~562~5197, or email admin@cityofunion.com

MONEY MANAGEMENT

Should the city save, should the city spend? These are all questions that need to be answered. The City of Union currently has two Budget Committee seats open. The Budget Committee has oversight of the financial plan of the city. Your help is needed. Two seats need to be filled for the 2014~2015 budget preparation starting at the end of April.

The city budget is a financial plan that includes estimates of expenditures and revenues for a single fiscal year. The local budgeting process provides procedures for evaluating our needs and identifying revenue sources to meet those needs. A completed budget provides a means of controlling expenditures and a justification for imposing property taxes and other expenses.

Introductory training will be provided. A volunteer application can be picked up at city hall. For more information you can call Sandra Patterson, 541~562~5197 or email admin@cityofunion.com

Quote of the Month.....

“Every human activity can be put at the services of the divine. We should all exercise our gift to build community”

~Jean Vanier

**City of Union
AFTER HOURS CALLS
541-910-9111**

**Have a water or sewer issue,
or some other emergency, call
the after hours number above.**

Respect City employees and please do not visit them at home or call their personal phones, thank you



On to State!

**Way To Go
Bobcats!!**

**Congratulations to the
Girls and Boys
basketball teams!
Best of Luck at the State
Playoffs!!**



WHAT IS FOG AND WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

What happens when you fry bacon, broil hamburgers, deep fry french fries or bake meat, you create fat, oil and grease. Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) are generated during food preparation. When the kitchen, dishes, and equipment are cleaned, the FOG is washed down the drain where it cools and separates from the dishwater. The separated FOG accumulates in private drains, sewer pipes, and other sewage collection and treatment structures. Accumulated FOG constricts and blocks sewer pipes, which can cause sewer back-ups into homes and businesses and can also lead to sewage overflows onto streets and yards. FOG can also interfere with sewage treatment processes at our waste water treatment plant. These FOG-related problems add to our operating costs, which may contribute to increases in our sewer rates. Before washing dishes please dispose of all fats, oils and greases in the trash.



The City of Union currently removes about 1600 gallons of grease a year out of the water stream at the treatment plant.

No! No! No!

The Transfer Station grounds have become a hazard for stepping in poop!



Please be respectful of others and clean up after your dog!! Next time it could be you with poo on your shoe!

LIVESTOCK INSIDE CITY LIMITS.....

This is a reminder to those of you who have farm animals within city limits. . . you must have liability insurance on your animals.

For additional information, contact your insurance agent.



Keeping of cattle, horses, chickens, rabbits, sheep and/or goats is permitted provided these animals are not allowed to run at large and a minimum are of 10,000 square feet of open ground per animal unit is provided exclusive of dwelling and accessory building area.

One animal unit = one horse or cow, (or) five sheep or goats, (or) twenty-four chickens or rabbits shall comprise one animal unit, except that any nursing horse or cow up to 200 days of age, or sheep or goats up to 100 days of age, shall not be considered in calculating animal unit requirements.



FOR SALE BY THE CITY OF UNION

1974 International Street Sweeper (needs batteries). **Starting Bid \$750.00**

This item is being sold by **SEALED BID**, on an **as is** and **where is** basis.
Cash and money orders only.

Bids must be received by March 31st, at City Hall, 342 S. Main, Union, by or before 5:00pm

Bids should be in sealed envelopes marked '**CITY VEHICLE SALE**'.

Award will be made by the Union City Council, April 14th, in the course of the regular City Council meeting scheduled for that date at 7:00, at City Hall. No need to be present to be awarded. The City Council reserves the right to reject any and all bids upon a finding by the Council that to do so is in the best interest of the City.

Vehicle is parked at the fenced lot on Beakman/Hwy 203, on the right side, just past the intersection of Bellwood Street and Hwy 203 in Union (*city well yard*). An appointment is required to inspect vehicle, please call City Hall at (541) 562-5197 during business hours, 10 am – 5 pm, Monday through Thursday. If you have questions please call City Hall or email cityhall@cityofunion.com.

The City of Union is an equal opportunity provider.

Volunteers.....

Americans have been drifting away from the concept of community, falling out of touch on the civic level, and becoming disconnected both personally and socially. This is true in large cities as well as other small towns, except in Union, Oregon.

Right from the start, volunteers played a central role in the history of Union. In 1862, Union's pioneers understood that their very survival would depend on the the good will of their neighbors. They had log homes to build before winter weather arrived. According to oral history, "The raising of the first homes was done as a community project, all combined their efforts to build first one house and then another all through the fall of 1882 and into early winter"

Today volunteering is taught to the young, and practiced even by the very old. Become part of Union's history, volunteer today!

Save the Date,



Just For The Halibut

The 2nd Annual Halibut Dinner in Union, at the High School Gym

Saturday, May 17th, 2014



Three seating's...2 to 4 pm, 4 to 6 pm, and 6 to 8 pm

\$18.00 per Plate (Fresh Baked Halibut, Baked Potato, Green Salad, Bread, Dessert, and Pepsi)

\$5.00 for a Hot Dog Plate

****You can also pre-order full pounds of uncooked Halibut for your freezer at \$18.00 a pound****

All proceeds will benefit Union High School, JR High Sports and Clubs, and Booster Projects.

Call to order your tickets.

Call Rose 541-910-5986 or Shannon 541-910-9997

Hope to see you there!



Reminder!

4-H and **FFA** animals must have an animal permit, pick one up at City Hall free of charge.

Please be considerate of your neighbors, all animals must be kept in a **clean** and **odor** free environment, and the noise must not disturb the comfort of persons in the vicinity.



Planning to Build?

Regardless of what you are building, you need to check with City Hall Planning Department. The City requires all new construction either built on site or delivered, to have a City of Union pre-build. We will also help you determine if you need a building permit from Union County.

Set back requirements:

- 20 feet front yard line
- 10 feet side yard line
- 10 feet rear yard line



**Veteran of Foreign Wars
High Valley Post 4060**

Saturday March 15, 2014

**All you can eat
Spaghetti Dinner
with
Salad and Garlic Bread**

4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

\$8.00

Union's Economy

How do we, as citizens, help the economy? Buy from those who live and work in our community. If they stay in business they keep people employed.

If they are not in business we must shop somewhere else, and they receive the benefits of employment, taxes and the circulating money, that should stay in our community.

Our dollars do make a significant difference. It is estimated that a dollar spent locally with a locally owned business is usually spent 6 – 15 times before it leaves the community.

Support our local businesses and more will come!



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

If you would like to advertise your monthly event or activity email cityhall@cityofunion.com or call 541-562-5197.

ORGANIZATION	MEETING DATE	LOCATION	TIME	PHONE
Booster Club Meeting		Old Music Room	6:00 pm	
City of Union Chamber	2 nd Thurs of the month	See Nick @ Union Drug	Noon	www.visitunionor.org
City Council	2 nd Mon of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Cove/Union Medical Assoc	2 nd Tues of the month	Union Health Cntr	6:00 pm	541-562-5441
CUP Medical Association	2 nd Tues of the month	Health Clinic	6:00 pm	
CUP Senior Assisted Living	2 nd & 4 th Thursdays	Union Drug Co.	6:00 pm	541-562-5441
Order of Eastern Star	2 nd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:30 pm	541-805-0779
EMS Department	1 st Mon of the month	Rural Fire Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5660
Food Bank	Saturday after 3 rd Monday	Methodist Church	9-11 am	541-562-5675
Food Alliance	Every Monday	Methodist Church	12:30-1 pm	
Friends of the Library	2 nd Tuesday of the month	Union Library	7:00 pm	541-562-5807
Int'l Rainbow for Girls	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays	Masonic Hall	7:00 pm	541-975-9495
Library Board	1 st Wed of the month	Library	3:30 pm	541-562-5811
Lions Club	1 st Wed of the month	Union Library	5:30 pm	541-562-5685
Municipal Court	1 st Wed/every quarter	City Hall	5:30 pm	541-562-5197
Planning Commission	3 rd Wed of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Senior Lunch	Every Tuesday	Methodist Church	12:00 pm	541-562-5675
South County Health Dist	2 nd Tues of the month	Health Clinic	6:30 pm	
Stockshow Board	2 nd Tues of the month	EOLS Club House	7:30 pm	
TOPS	Every Wednesday	Union Health Cntr	8:30 am	541-562-9009
VFW Bingo	Every Wednesday night	VFW Hall	5 pm	541-562-6035
VFW Formal meeting	1 st Thursday of month	VFW Hall	7 pm	541-562-6035