THIS ORGANIZATION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER
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September 2019

Falls City Newsletter

"Addressing the needs of the community and planting the Seeds for a secure future."

1. CREDIT CARD PORTAL IS UP AND RUNNING

After a great deal of heartache for Falls City Water and Sewer customers, as well as City Staff, the Credit Card Payment Portal has been repaired! Recall that the Utilities Tab on the fallscityoregon.gov webpage has a button to access the Credit Card payment portal, and your account.

We are working to sign an agreement with one of three IT Support firms to ensure this issue does not repeat itself in the future, and is repaired quickly if it does.

2. BARBECUE at CITY HALL 9/10/19: RARE William Sullivan Joins Falls City Staff!!!

Please join Falls City Staff, Mayor, and City Council on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 3:45pm, in the Park behind City Hall, to welcome RARE program participant, and new "Community Development & Outreach Coordinator," William Sullivan to the team. William hails from Massachusetts, is a graduate of New York University, and served a tour in the Peace Corps. William has experience working to enhance rural communities, and will be working closely with volunteers throughout the community to do that here in Falls City.

William will work on a pre-determined set of projects with an aim to develop and increase the City's capacity in a way that abides the collective community vision. For William's year of full-time work here in Falls City, the cost is only $23,500 - $10,000 grant from Ford Family Foundation. Another $10,000 grant application for this program has been submitted to Pacific Power, with results in August.

*Free hamburgers/hot dogs, soda, and chips will be provided to the first 30 guests.

3. FALLS CITY PRIDE: REVIEW

The Falls City Pride event went off without a hitch! Hundreds of citizens from in town and abroad packed local businesses, residences, and the Mayor's yard/swimming hole, for cool drinks, hot food, cool water, and even cooler people. Everyone reported a great time, and Falls City made a lot of new friends in the region and beyond!

Notably, the event was reviewed favorably by Willamette Week, Polk IO, Statesman Journal, KMUZ, Governor Brown (who recorded a message), Senator Merkley (who recorded a message), and State Representative Gomberg (who attended and gave a speech). The event raised money for a local student group, and future Falls City Pride events. Mayor Gordon will provide a more thorough review at the September 9, 2019 City Council Meeting, and I urge you to come out to the meeting, or read the packet online if you'd like to hear more!

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4. SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES REVIEWED BY CITY COUNCIL

As mentioned last month, the City Council is currently holding monthly work sessions for a Revenue project designed to correct an approximately $150k shortfall of revenues over expenses.

1. After work sessions in June and July, the Council has directed the City Manager to develop a "Master Utility Right of Way Ordinance" (MUROW) to ensure taxpayers are being reimbursed for use of the right of way by for-profit entities.
2. In August's work session the Council is reviewing System Development Charges to help pin some costs of infrastructure systems development, to the development that increases their burden. This will greatly impact the cost to develop in the city.
3. The Council has also directed City Staff to begin researching sewer rates, and rate structures to determine an avenue for bridging the $50k gap in that program/service. A Sewer Rate Study is included in the CDBG wastewater grant.

FALLS CITY NEEDS A CHAMPION TO HELP RECOGNIZE THE **HISTORY AND ACHEIVMENTS OF WOMEN,** PAST AND PRESENT, WITH TIES TO FALLS CITY! (We'll take good stories, and what not, too!)

Are You That Champion? Contact City Hall for Details!

As MUCH or as little Work as You Want!

The More the Merrier!

Did you know there used to be a world class cheese maker in falls city?

Her name was ***Fanny Lamberson Branson***, and she is one example of many amazing women who made Falls City such a special place then and now.

We need your stories about women like Fanny.

In 2020 Falls City, and the rest of the US will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Women's suffrage (the right to vote cemented by the 19th amendment to the US Constitution). In commemoration of this special centennial, the City will feature stories and bios of local women related to the right to vote, and general history.

Please submit any story, pictures, documents, etc., to City Hall for possible inclusion in an exhibit or some other feature. See the attached guide for more information. Contact City Hall if you have an idea to feature women's history in 2020!

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COMMUNITY INFORMATION

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE VACANCY:

Want to be more involved, and know more about what's going on in town? Have an extra couple of hours per month? Then submit your interest for the Falls City Public Works Committee at City Hall!

COMPLETE YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE WITH THE CITY OF FALLS CITY!

Contact City Hall for Details.

FALLS CITY-POLK CDC TEAM UP TO APPLY FOR $400K IN HOUSING REHAB GRANTS!

If awarded, funds will become available to Falls City and Polk County residents in 2020.

Polk CDC has many funding options, including the 2018 version of this grant, available to Falls City Residents at all times. Polk CDC: (503) 831-3173.

SCHEDULED CITY MEETINGS

The Public is welcomed and encouraged to attend.

City Council
September 9, 2019 @ 6:00pm

Parks & Recreation
September 18, 2019 @ 11:00am

Public Works
September 26, 2019 @ 6:00pm

*Note: All meetings are in the Community Center at 320 N. Main St. Falls City, OR 97344, unless otherwise noted.