

Falls City Newsletter

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY AND PLANTING THE
SEEDS FOR A SECURE FUTURE.

FALLS CITY REPORT

Our Water system is mandated by the State of Oregon to have a Master Water Plan that identifies needs in distribution, treatment, and maintenance. Our plan expired in 2013. We have applied for grants from the different finance/regulatory agencies. We were successful on a \$20,000.00 grant from Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority and have applied for a \$30,000.00 grant from USDA and we hope to hear back on the results by the first part of December. The project is estimated to cost around \$80,000.00. We have submitted a Request for Qualifications from interested Engineering firms, performed a mandatory site visit of the interested firms, and set up a review panel. The review panel is made up of the Mayor, Council President, City Clerk, Head Public Works, and a member of the Public Works Committee. We will choose an Engineering firm by December and have a contract signed by the end of the year. The Water Master Plan will take a little over a year to develop.

While meeting with Regulatory Agencies about a Master Water Plan, they voiced concern about our recent Waste Water Facilities Plan. A little bit of history on this issue; first, Cities are mandated to perform and submit Master Plans on different departments i.e.: Transportation, water, sewer, parks, etc. The plans set up how the City is going to develop in these areas in the next 20 years and are used to apply for grants and loans. The Plans also identify areas of deficiencies on new and old regulations. The City was awarded a grant to perform a Master Waste Water Plan in 2011; unfortunately the Engineer that was chosen to perform the plan did not have experience in developing a plan. As a result our plan was downgraded to a Facility Plan that would develop lagoons to replace the septic field under the Football field. This plan did not add any new users to the sewer (we currently have 177), didn't give any other options or address the under sized collection lines in areas of town. I am working on a way to modify the facility plan, looking at ways to bring more of the City onto the sewer in order to try and keep rates affordable. I have not had much luck on the critical area of rates, but I will keep trying. Our problem is that if we do not update our system on our own, the State will step in and mandate an upgrade. This is what happened in the 80's that gave us our present system; we are better off trying to upgrade our system before we are mandated by DEQ. I will keep you updated as new information becomes available.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Department of Human Services, DHS, Self Sufficiency Program is partnering up with Falls City to have an Eligibility Worker at the Community Center every other Wednesday to provide information, referral, and application assistance for the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and referrals to Medical Programs. They will be at the Community Center December 9, and 23rd at 12:30 to 4:30pm. No appointment necessary, but if you would like to schedule one call LeAnne Tarr at 503-623-5526 Ext 6349

Save the Date: January 27, 2016, Polk County Connect

Polk County Connect will be holding their day of connecting in need, or at risk of homelessness, with free local resources and services. Last year they offered free bus services from Falls City to the event, haircuts, bike repair, clothing, just as an example. We will publish all the resources in the December issue and pick up times from Falls City to the event.

Christmas Cheer provides Holiday Food boxes, one per household. Falls City food boxes will be available for pick up at the Fire Hall between 9 AM and 12 PM. Applications can be submitted on-line at www.dallascc.org or picked up at City Hall. If anyone has questions call 503-623-3585 or email info@dallascc.org

Falls City 4th Annual Tree Lighting

When: Saturday December 5th Time: 6:30 pm (The tree will be lit at 7 pm). Join us for campfires, hot cider, coffee, cocoa and dessert in the parking lot of Mountain Gospel Fellowship.

Falls City Garden club will be selling Holiday items, so plan on getting some Christmas shopping done.

If any organization has upcoming events that they would like to see in the newsletter, email event to mayorungricht@fallscityoregon.gov, before the 15th of each month.

It is Burn season; call 503-838-2020 to make sure it is a burn day. Remember the following items are not allowed to be burned; rubber products, tires, plastic, asbestos, wet garbage, food waste, waste oil and petroleum treated products, asphalt, dead animals, and any material that puts out a dense smoke. Many Cities are implementing City Limit Burn Bans, so respect your neighbors and follow the burn rules, this is a great way for us to get rid of yard waste.

The City Council and City Staff would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays Season. Keep Safe and have a prosperous 2016.

Scheduled City Meetings



All meetings are in the Community Center at 320 N. Main unless otherwise noted.

**City Council 7:00 pm
December 10, 2015**

**Parks & Recreation 6:00 pm
December 16, 2015**

**Historical Landmark Commission
6:30 pm
February 1, 2016**

**Public Works, 6:30 pm
December 3, 2015**

**Town Hall Meeting, 7pm
December 15, 2015**