

Our Town

A Publication of The City of Coburg

January-February 2019 Issue

Mayor's Corner Happy New Year!

Ray Smith, Mayor

We have put another year behind us. The new year brings hope, excitement and a little nervousness about the changes occurring in Coburg.

Our City Council will experience some change as Councilor Patrick Kocurek chose not to run for re-election. I want to welcome Markus Alexander who won the position by write-in votes, and congratulations to Chris Page and Steve Stearns on their re-election.

The new year is a reminder to refresh our perspective of what's important to us and possibly reorganize our priorities and goals. The annual City Council Retreat is where the government starts that process. We will have interactive presentations from City staff regarding the progress of stated goals and projects. We will learn about rules and laws that apply to public officials, and we will review our own "Rules of Governance."

With some substantial infrastructure projects on the horizon, our

staff and Council will commit a lot of energy into understanding and providing oversight on important upgrades to our water system. The quality of our streets is being discussed at the committee level now, and Council action on funding options is going to occur this year.

As your Mayor, I will continue to strive for clear and open communication with our citizens.

I will stand by an old but very relevant campaign promise to, "Bring the community back to City government."

That is government's responsibility. The responsibility of you (the citizen) is to participate in the government process, by voicing your concerns in the appropriate way



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City Council Brief

Highlights of actions and topics the Coburg City Council has recently addressed and issues likely to be discussed in the next couple of months.



NOVEMBER 2018

- Adopted Ordinance A-233-B An Ordinance Providing for licensing of telecommunications providers, requiring registration and license fee for telecommunications providers that provide services within the city or use the public right of way, repealing ordinance A-233-A

DECEMBER 2018

- City Administrator Annual Performance Evaluation
- Approved contract with WHA Insurance for Insurance Agent of Record 5 years
- Approved Resolution 2018-20 A resolution accepting the results of the November 6, 2018 General Election
- Reappointed Terry Dawson, Cathy Engebretson and Coleen Marshall to Finance Audit Committee. Terms expire June 2021
- Approved Resolution 2018-19 Authorizing a loan from the safe drinking water revolving loan fund and entering into Financing

City of Coburg Residential Urban Growth Boundary

This article was originally created as a Mini-newsletter and mailed with your Utility Bill. It is available online with an option to comment on our website. Click on the "Share Your Voice" tab on our homepage, and then click on "Residential Urban Growth Boundary" Here, you will find this article and have the ability to share comments and questions with the City staff.

The City of Coburg recently expanded its Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) for employment purposes and has yet to expand for residential purposes. Cities in Oregon expand their UGBs for two main reasons, to increase buildable lands for residential and/or to increase buildable land for employment. Having recently expanded for employment, Coburg can now focus on expanding for residential needs. Expanding for residential needs is a more complicated matter.

The City of Coburg attempted to expand its UGB for both residential and employment needs in 2015, but the expansion was appealed and the decision was remanded back to the City. What this left for the City was to make some important decisions. City Council first decided to split the two processes in order to simplify the situation, which would make it possible for the City to expand for employment needs (108 acres on the east side of I-5). The appellants were not opposed to the expansion for employment needs and the City could address any issue that the remand required easily.

The City now can move on to the process of expansion for residential purposes. Coburg has a few choices to reach that goal:

1. Use the remanded numbers and clearly spelled out circumstances- which rely on very aggressive 2009 population forecasts

2. Use the current Portland State University (PSU) population forecast from 2015
3. Wait until late 2019 for the next PSU population forecast.

There are stark differences in each option.

To expand the UGB, the City must take in the amount of land that the PSU numbers forecast. The City cannot take what they want, as this process is preparing for anticipated growth over a defined period of years. The remanded expansion numbers were very aggressive and would require a very large expansion area for residential. The 2015 PSU numbers forecast little growth at all for 20 years, and in fact Coburg may have already met that 20 year forecast.

After much consideration and discussion the City Council has chosen to wait and see what the 2019 numbers will reflect. These numbers have the potential to provide a more realistic population forecast that will allow the City to pursue a reasonable expansion of the residential UGB.

There are still many variables to consider, and the City wants to make the best decision possible to provide a sustainable growth pattern for the residents of Coburg.

Coburg Committee Highlights

Updates on what the Coburg Committees have recently accomplished or are currently addressing.

Planning Commission - Jeff Kernen

November/December

- Two Easement Vacation Requests
- Election of Chair & Vice Chair

Park/Tree Committee - Brian Harmon

November/December

- Johnny Diamond Park development survey
- Parks Master Plan advanced by City Council

Heritage Committee - Jeff Kernen

November/December

- Certified Local Government workshop in Independence
- Continued brainstorming of new project ideas
- Historic Coloring Book stocking stuffer handout



Budget Committee - Anne Heath

November/December

- No meetings held

Finance/Audit Committee - Anne Heath

November/December

The committee met on October 30th Finance Report as of June 20, 2018

- Contractor Kathy Taylor discussed her review of the City Books
- Committee discussed the renewal of current committee member terms
- Committee will undertake the review of the financial policies of the City

Development in Coburg

COBURG COMMUNITY EDUCATION ARTICLE

As part of a community education series, the City recently published an article on Development in Coburg. In it, the development process is described as well as ways in which citizens can take part in shaping future development in Coburg. Please visit our website's Planning page to access the full article, visit our Facebook post linking to the article, or stop by City Hall for your copy.

coburgoregon.org/planning



Coburg Food Pantry Update: Seeking New Leadership

We are still looking for someone to take over the management of the Coburg Food Pantry. While it has been very rewarding for me, it's time to hand it over to someone else, as I will be retiring next year and will be unable to continue this position after June. The pantry has been well utilized in our community, and therefore so important to continue to be open to serve the needs of our community.

Please consider this, and if interested, call me at 541-221-5055 just to see what it's all about.

- Kathy Emerson

Senior Meals Position Open

The Coburg Senior Meals program is on hold until a replacement Coordinator is found. Occuring every Wednesday at the Coburg Methodist Church, this paid position is primarily administrative and oversees the program with a minimal weekly commitment.

If this sounds like something you'd be interested in, please contact the Senior Meals Program at 541-682-3353.



Mayor Ray Smith's

**STATE
OF THE
CITY**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019
6:30PM**

COBURG CITY HALL • 91136 N. WILLAMETTE

Coburg Community Foundation Update

Coburg Community Foundation, a newly formed, local non-profit, is working on its first project: to purchase the historic Pollard House, current home to Primrose Lane Antiques, and convert it into a Community Center.

Foundation

Board members are thankful for the enthusiastic support we have received from community members in this endeavor. We are deeply grateful for the generosity

of Steve and Sally Lee, and a local resident who wishes to remain anonymous. Each has committed \$25,000 toward the Project. Special thank you's also to Amber Carl, Nanci McKibben, Tiffany Neiwert, and Zara

Pastos—in addition to the many kind donors who wish to remain anonymous—for their donations made via our GoFundMe page. And we warmly recognize the big-heartedness of Dick and Diane Bowers and Janet Swanson for their very impactful donations.



Lastly, BIG thank you's to Vicki Bell and Joe Morneau, Fundraising Committee volunteers, for their hard work and steadfast commitment.

Great things are coming in 2019, and we welcome your support! Look for us on our Facebook page, Coburg Community Foundation, or on our website, coburgfoundation.org.

IOOF Cemetary: A Year of Looking

The IOOF cemetary will be featured in each issue of Our Town in 2019. We'll share stories and photos to allow you to see the cemetary through all four seasons.

Just outside of town lies a treasure trove of local history. The IOOF Cemetary is just over three and a half acres, maintained by the IOOF (Independent Order of Odd Fellows) and a small group of dedicated volunteers.



The land the cemetary sits on is high ground—an important feature in the Willamette Valley prone to frequent flooding. Used as a pioneer burial plot, it was officially designated in 1882.

The IOOF Cemetary gracefully spans hundreds of years. You'll find tombstones dating back to the 19th century as well as more contemporary arrivals.

You can now 'Adopt a Plot'—or be responsible for planting shrubs, flowers and maintaining a designated section of the cemetary. Many families still maintain their loved ones gravesites, but many original graves have been forgotten. If you'd like more information on how to participate in this program, contact Bill Guldager at 541-686-8057.

Donations are gratefully accepted and can be mailed to IOOF Cemetary, PO Box 8543, Coburg, Oregon, 97408.

Coburg Police Department Update

We had a great time leading events and participating in this year's Christmas in Coburg!



Our Annual Parents Night Out event on December 8th was a huge success. We had upwards of 80 kids filling the Coburg Community Charter School gym. Supervised by Coburg's full-time officers and police reserves, we watched

holiday movies, did some crafts (with lots and lots of glitter), played basketball and dodgeball, and enjoyed a delicious pizza dinner from Coburg Pizza Company.

We hope all those parents enjoyed the extra free time!

We were busy with Christmas in Coburg activities, as Shop With



a Cop happened the very next day. We shared the day with a few students from Coburg Community Charter School. We took our guests to Walmart for a special shopping trip. The kids bought gifts for their families and a few for themselves.

All that shopping makes you work up an appetite, and we were lucky to be hosted by Coburg McDonalds. We then returned to the Police Department to wrap gifts, getting them ready to place under the tree.

We enjoy our community events so much, but they really happen thanks to the generosity of those around us. A huge thanks to Walmart for hosting our boisterous group and providing the kids with extra shopping money, Coburg McDonalds for providing



Continued on next page

Scam Alert: Be on the watch

Have you received a phone call or email recently claiming a warrant has been issued for your arrest as a result of an unpaid fine or something similar?

Initially, the call or email may sound convincing, despite the fact that you've never been in trouble with the law or you know that you don't have unpaid fines. This should be the first red flag that something is amiss.

Often, scammers spoof or disguise their caller ID which allows them to make the call appear to be a legitimate local police, sheriff, or other law enforcement agency's telephone number. Some of these call even originate outside of the US. The caller or email will advise you there is an outstanding warrant for your arrest, and to avoid criminal charges they will request payment of a fine, then the warrant will be dismissed.

Thieves will demand immediate payments via Western Union, MoneyGram, or ask that you buy a prepaid credit card and register it online. Some may even suggest you buy a department store gift card to submit as payment. This is another red flag suggesting something is not right. Really?!

Buy a Wal-Mart card to pay for an alleged criminal fine? Not today.

Things to look out for if you think you're receiving a scam call:

- Law Enforcement Agencies will not make notifications of warrants via phone.
- These scammers will demand payment of these fees via prepaid gift cards, MoneyGrams, or other online payment systems.
- Some of these scams threaten you by stating police are on their way to arrest you if you don't comply with paying a fee.

Ultimately, please note that law enforcement agencies will not call you and direct you to make payment over the phone utilizing gift card payment systems.

Never give out your personal information or personal financial account information.

Don't fall victim to this type of scam or fraud. If you get a call that seems fishy, contact the Coburg Police Department for guidance on how to move forward.

Coburg Community Grange Update

The Grange has been getting some major updates done. The roof and outside of The Grange were looking a little rough. So, new roof and paint it was. Thanks to fundraisers and grants, we were able to get these major things done. We've had some minor repairs done and



added new lattice to the bottom of the porch. We've had boulders put in the front and a beautiful, new Oregon bench on the other side. The next is blacktop up to The Grange (thank you, Dari Mart!) and

next will be the east side of The Grange where we seem to be great at growing weeds. It will be leveled out and a weed screen put on and then we will put gravel in. Then hopefully we're done! WHEW!!!

We would like to thank the community for coming out during the Christmas Season to have Breakfast with Santa and the Chili Feed and Bonfire. It's how The Grange says 'thank you' for all of the support throughout the year. We served about 200 for the Breakfast with Santa and about 250 for the Chili Feed. If you missed them, the food was great.

If you want to know more about The Grange and how it works, we have a monthly (hour long) meeting on the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Single person memberships are \$60 per year and a family of two or more is \$100 per year. With your paid membership, you receive one free day or night rental. That's a great thing right there with anniversaries or birthdays or weddings and showers, etc. We are a community organization and would love to build our membership up. We can do much more when we have more hands to help.



Any questions please call Joe at 541 228 8650 or Alice for rental contact at 541 746-8655.

We hope to see you and get involved in 2019.

lunch and to the individual donors that make Shop With a Cop happen year after year!

Stay tuned to our Facebook page for our latest news, upcoming events and information.



Local Business Spotlight: Best Day Ever Grooming

Does your vacuum need a break from pet hair or your pup need some extra pampering? There's a great groomer located right here in Coburg!

Barbara Rynearson opened Best Day Ever Grooming (91012 S. Willamette St) in March 2018. She says she's been welcomed warmly by the community, emphasizing that "it has been a wonderful experience. This is an amazing little town."

Most of Best Day Ever's clients are from Coburg, but referrals are pouring in and new clients are making the trip from Eugene, Springfield and Harrisburg.

Make an appointment over the phone (541-912-1949) – it's the best way to schedule your pet's visit.



Happy customers!

CCCS Bronco News January/February 2019

We hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season and are thankful for our community allowing CCCS students to be a part of giving and annual festivities in Coburg. School is back in session January 8th!

CCCS is bursting with activities and events these next few months!

- Skill Days start in February, if you have a skill or hobby you would like to share with our students please email Christine Shepard. Skill Days are such a special program to CCCS allowing students to experience hands on hobbies beyond our curriculum building lifelong skills. c.sheaprd@coburgcharter.org
- CCCS Annual Auction at Valley River Inn will be February February 23rd starting at 5:30 pm. This is the largest fundraiser for CCCS. We are taking donations and selling tickets. Please contact Andrea McGarvey at mamaofgrace@gmail.com
- Join us for our Community Bingo Night and dinner February 8th. A fun night of prizes and food!
- The 2019-20 school year lottery will take place in March, but tours begin in February. For more information on how our lottery works, deadlines, application and priorities please visit the school website. CCCS is not a neighborhood school and must follow charter school laws. www.coburgcharter.com

We look forward to this new year and growth of our students!

Upcoming Events at CCCS:

January 8	Classes Resume New Student Applications available
January 8-31	Coin Drive
January 11	PCS Meeting (8:15am)
January 21	No School
February 1	No School
February 5	K-4 Winter Concert (6:30pm)
February 8	PCS Meeting (8:15am)
February 8	Bingo Night & Community Dinner (5:30-7:30pm)
February 12	Band Concert (6:30pm)
February 15,22	Winter Skill Days
March 1,8	
February 18	No School
February 21	Lottery Info/Tour (6pm)
February 23	CCCS Annual Auction Valley River Inn (5:30pm)
February 28	Lottery Info/Tour (8:30am)
March 15	2019-20 Lottery Applications Due

Managing Our Historic Trees in Coburg

This article was originally created as a Community Education Article posted on our website and Facebook page. Copies can also be obtained at City Hall.

Earlier this year we ran the below informational article. Given the questions that have been raised regarding the historic tree on Pearl Street we feel it is relevant to put this information out to you again. This is from the Desk of Brian Harmon, our Public Works Director.

I wanted to take this opportunity to reach out to Coburg citizens regarding our historic trees. In Coburg we have approximately 350 trees that the City maintains of which two thirds are big leaf maples. A Big Leaf Maple can live to be 200 years old and most of the Maples in Coburg are at the end of that life cycle.

Around the time of the Columbus Day Storm of 1962, as the story is told, many of the maples were heavily damaged. In a good faith effort, the citizens of Coburg took it upon themselves to clean up the trees and "trim them". While these efforts had the best of intentions, this was not necessarily the healthiest solution for the trees. This caused several if not all of these trees to be opened up in the center to different diseases. You can still see how the trees were topped and the long-term effects of that trimming.

COBURG COMMUNITY EDUCATION ARTICLE

The cost of maintaining these trees is expensive and the available budget

for that maintenance is limited. More important than monetary concern is safety of citizens. The memory of the car smashed flat in the Dari Mart parking lot last year left many concerned and well aware of the danger of old and diseased trees.



Treefall damage in the DariMart parking lot.

On Father's Day, a tree in the front yard of a local family fell very close to their home. This tree caused damage to vehicles, as well as a small amount to their home. The follow-up investigation found serious rot in the trunk of the tree. This supports our arborist's reports regarding the health of our Big Leaf aples.

Every year the Public Works crew clean up and remove debris from the trees that loose limbs and branches. They work very closely

with arborists to analyze the health of each tree that a customer raises concern about. In

the last two years Public Works has spent many long hours and

most of the budgeted dollars on storm clean ups. One storm event cost approximately \$15,000 for the cleanup effort.

There are many tough choices that Public Works has to make on a daily basis. The majority of those choices have to do with quality of life and health of our citizens. One of those choices is whether a tree gets to stay and be trimmed, or if the tree needs to be removed. We consider the cost of trimming compared to cost of removal. Factors that go into these types of choices are danger level, health of the tree, and, life cycle. If a tree is removed, the City always replants a tree. Often times the tree is not replaced in the same spot but rather somewhere inside the City that works for the tree and the public. We use a street tree list from the City of Eugene that recommends trees that have low impact on sidewalks, streets, and infrastructure in the ground.

Coburg is an official "Tree City" and at the City we take that title very seriously. Beautiful trees enhance our community, and contribute to a healthier environment for us all to live in.

In the next few months we will be asking for your input regarding the solution to managing Coburg's historic trees. We hope that you will thoughtfully contribute your ideas and concerns.

from page 1 - Mayor's Corner

to the government. Telling a neighbor doesn't usually deliver the message to the government. We have public hearing processes with committees and council that must be done under the requirements of Oregon State Law. I encourage everyone to maintain an awareness of the issues that are currently being addressed by your local government and share your ideas and concerns with City Hall on the issues that are important to you.

It imperative to you as citizens to understand that once the shovel breaks ground on a project, it's usually too late for any public input. Months – and many times, years – have gone into planning and holding public hearings that are announced and processed according to Oregon State Law.

I have personally felt the frustration of feeling like “It was a done deal” before I heard about the project. The fact is: I wasn't paying attention to my local government and I missed several opportunities for input. That personal misstep is what motivated me to become involved in the Coburg Planning Commission 30 years ago.

As Mayor, I am working with City Council and our staff to remove communication barriers between government and citizens. It can be very intimidating for many people to voice their opinion to government.

We have many ways for you to officially communicate with the City, hopefully making it easier for all of us to share ideas and concerns. The more formal way is to make a statement in person before the City Council during our public comment period. Other ways include a letter or email addressed to the City Council. Additional comment opportunities include using our Citizens Inquiry Form which is available at City Hall, you can also go online to the City website: coburgoregon.org and click on “Share Your Voice.”

Your input is critical to a fair and responsive government. Whether you need answers to questions, want to provide an idea for improving how our City works, or want to make a statement about what is going well, please do it! It is your right, and citizens that represent you in our City Council, Planning Commission, and committees want to hear from you.

I look forward to an eventful year in Coburg. Have a safe and Happy New Year!



Mayor Ray Smith, City of Coburg

541-729-7045, mayor@ci.coburg.or.us

from previous page - Trees

Update to the original article:

Recently, the tree in the Dari Mart parking lot was removed. This tree was deemed hazardous and a danger to citizens.

The tree on Pearl Street in front of the new development is #1 on the hazardous tree list. The cost for the City to remove it is estimated at somewhere upward of \$15,000. This is more than the city collects in any given year from the street tree fee. The developer will remove the tree and plant several new trees along the street. This follows the City policy of replacing trees removed.

Management of our trees continues to be daily worry of our Public Works Director. He cares about the historic trees as much as our citizens do. However, he is also aware that citizen safety must come first. Therefore, there will be times when he has to make a decision regarding a danger tree that might be unpopular to some. He makes them only after consulting with professional arborists while considering the budget available for this work.

We encourage citizens to share their questions and concerns with the City staff on this topic.

Calendar



STANDING MEETINGS

2nd Mondays

CCCS SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

6:00 pm

4th Mondays

COBURG FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS

7:00 pm, Fire Hall

2nd Tuesdays

CITY COUNCIL

7:00 pm, Coburg

Contact, Sammy Egbert, City Recorder

541-682-7852

3rd Tuesdays

PARKS/TREE COMMITTEE

7:00 pm, City Hall

Contact, Brian Harmon, Public Works Director

541-682-7857

4th Tuesdays (or as scheduled)

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS

6:30 pm, City Hall

Contact, Sammy Egbert, City Recorder

541-682-7852

2nd Wednesdays

GRANGE MEETING

7:00 pm, Coburg Community Grange

HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Contact, Jeff Kernen, Planner

541-682-7858

3rd Wednesdays

PLANNING COMMISSION

7:00 pm, City Hall

Contact, Jeff Kernen, Planner

541-682-7858

3rd Wednesdays

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Noon, City Hall

1st Thursdays

METROPOLITAN POLICY COMMITTEE

11:30 am (usually at the Eugene or Springfield library)

Contact, City Administrator

541-682-7871

2nd Thursdays

SEW 'N SEWS QUILTING GROUP

6:30 pm, Coburg Community Grange

1st Fridays

POKER NIGHT

6:30 pm Registration, 7:00 pm game begins

Coburg Community Grange

541-746-8655

3rd Saturdays

ODDFELLOW MEETING

11:00 am, I.O.O.F Hall

Do you have a community event to share?

Call 541-682-7850

or email alexis.koran@ci.coburg.or.us





Our Town

*A Publication of
The City of Coburg*



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Address Correction Requested

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
EUGENE OR
PERMIT NO. 679

Questions About City Happenings?



We work for you! The City wants you to get the information you need and care about. Currently, Our Town, the Coburg website coburgoregon.org, the 'City of Coburg, Oregon' Facebook page, 'Coburg Police Department' Facebook page, monthly utility bills, the Post Office (Dari-Market), and City Hall are all places to get information about what is happening in and around Coburg. Council and committee meetings are also great resources.

What do you want to hear about? How do you like to get information? Let us know.

- Coburg City Staff