



CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY UPDATE

December 13, 2024

Adam J. Brown, City Manager

Oh my gosh, this week has flown by so fast. It was so busy. We started it off with a good work session about last year's goals. It gave us (staff) a feel for some of the ideas for the next two years. Great job Council for setting the goals. Great job to staff for getting done all that we could over the last two years. It was truly a team effort.

Community Engagement – I attended the Rotary Chamber annual lunch and went with my youth group to the holiday wrapping event sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and Elks Club.

Employee Lunch – Our staff enjoyed a very lovely and yummy Christmas Party lunch on Wednesday. Shane Witham, Planning Director, ran the white elephant gift exchange which was a lot of fun.

Keizer Rotary and Chamber of Commerce Lunch – This was my first time going to the Keizer Chamber and Rotary Lunch. We had a small hiccup, but everyone was graceful as we worked through it. It was nice to be able to see my son perform with the McNary a capella group at the lunch.

Summer Concert Series – I was excited to receive a request from Tim Davis, from the REC to start the process of reserving the amphitheater for the summer concert series.

PERS – We are down to 4 retirees with whom we are waiting for a signed release. Then we have 8 active employees to finish. Everything else has been turned over to PERS. That's pretty great news! Big shout out to Tim Wood, Assistant City manager for getting these cranked out.

New Council Orientation – I met with councilor elect Marlene Parsons and Councilor Lore Christopher today. I went through my traditional orientation, but of course I was able to skip a lot since they are not first timers. Joe Lindsay, City Attorney, met with them before I did.

Keizer Rapids Park Master Plan Amendment – We met with MIG, the city's consultant for the master plan amendment to start the process. This was our very first meeting with them to get the process going.

Fire Drill

The safety team conducted a very successful fire drill this week. Great job to them for keeping us on our toes and in a state of preparedness.

Keizer Community Fields – We met with Keizer Community Fields to go over the second draft. I think we are close to a recommendation. Our legal department has to put it into a form that matches our contracts and contains some of their boiler plate language. I think we may have it ready to be approved by the second meeting in January.

They are starting to fill out their schedule for the new year and it seems to be filling out good. There is a lot of non-schedule use going on, which is great. If there is a half of a field or even a whole field, others are coming to play while teams reserve part of the complex.

Public Works

ZiPLY - Met with ZiPLY and asked for them to provide an after-hours response line. ZiPLY was able to provide that number to staff and committed to having a live person answering it who can pass along issues to get them resolved.

I received a letter today that ZiPLY's parent company Northwest Fiber Holdco, LLC is being purchased/merged with BCE Holding Corporation. "BCE Holding is a wholly-owned United States subsidiary of Bell Canada, a Canadian corporation and Canada's largest telephone and telecommunications company. Bell Canada, in turn, a wholly-owned subsidiary of BCE Inc. a publicly traded Canadian corporation headquartered in Montreal." They are asking for the franchise grantor's consent to transfer the franchise agreement. They intend to continue the work they are doing.

One of our employees said they were in his yard this week. They had to repair a sprinkler line that was in the path, but he said it was fixed and cleaned up pretty nicely. So, that's good to hear. It's looking like they will be in my front yard in the next week.

Turf Fields – Plans for Phase II of the turf project were delivered this week. Staff is reviewing them and getting comments back to the engineer. A team of employees from IT, Keizer Police, and Public Works is going out on Monday to the site to decide where it make sense for security cameras.

Planning

We received a new application for a 2 lot partition request where the applicant plans to develop middle housing (3 or 4 plex). Staff will be reviewing the application for completeness.

We were able to assist getting a temporary use permit issued to allow for the food truck that provided the lunch for rotary this week - very last minute but thank you to Lily Von, Event Center Manager and Dina Horner, Assistant Planner for making it happen.

Megan Hurley, Planning Department Specialist and Ben Crosby, Code Compliance Officer have been busy this week with code enforcement concerns. We received a new complaint for a

dangerous building on Cade Avenue that has homeless individuals camping out in it and is causing a fair amount of neighborhood concern. We are hoping to be able to work with the Police Department to address some of the issues the neighbors are complaining about while at the same time moving forward with code enforcement actions to assure piece the property owner keeps the building secured and vacated and ultimately removed.

Police

Upcoming Community Events

Festival of Lights Parade on December 14, 2024 @ 7:00 PM

Keizer Officers will be helping with the Shop with a Cop event occurring on December 14, 2024.

Keizer Officers will be volunteering at the Keizer Miracle of Lights in the Gubser Neighborhood this year. Volunteers pass out candy canes, collect monetary donations and food donations that go to the Marion Polk Food Share!

Patrol Division:

A patrol officer was in the area of Cherry Avenue and Clearview Avenue when a known suspect vehicle was seen mobile from a residence. The officer had previous knowledge the vehicle was frequently being operated by a wanted subject. The wanted subject has a history of eluding police, weapons offenses, stealing vehicles and persons crimes. The officer followed the suspect vehicle and ultimately initiated a traffic stop. The suspect vehicle led police on a roughly 15-mile-long pursuit, which ended with the wanted suspect being taken into custody in northeast Salem. During the pursuit, outside police agencies assisted with the deployment of spike strips. The spike strip deployment was successful in deflating the vehicle tires and the suspect was eventually forced to pull over. This is a fine example of the working relationship we have with neighboring agencies during rapidly evolving situations.

A patrol officer located a suspect vehicle known to have been associated with a residential burglary, which was previously reported to the Marion County Sheriff's Office. This patrol officer recalled seeing the suspect and his vehicle frequenting an address in Keizer. The officer located the suspect vehicle leaving the area it frequents and followed until additional law enforcement resources were in place to intercept. The suspect vehicle was stopped by law enforcement and the suspect was taken into custody. Property from the residential burglary was recovered from inside the suspect's vehicle.

While patrolling the city, one of our officers happened to be nearby the location of a medical call. The medical call involved a patient who was unconscious and in need of immediate medical attention. This patrol officer arrived within one minute of the call being dispatched to Keizer Fire and rendered first aid. The patrol officer performed CPR until medical personnel arrived on scene and took over. This is yet another great example of the fluid and harmonious working relationship between the Keizer Police Department and the Keizer Fire District.

As outlined below, officers responded to a reported armed robbery in the area of Northtree Drive and Mcleod Lane Northeast. The initial report indicated the alleged victim alerted a nearby resident he had just been robbed at gunpoint. The investigation revealed the alleged victim and perpetrator are known to each other. Members from the investigation units and traffic safety responded to assist. Resources were deployed to provide containment of the suspected residence where the robbery was alleged to have occurred. The Keizer Police Department UAS team deployed with a drone to provide overwatch of the scene while officers continued to investigate the robbery. The alleged suspect surrendered peacefully and the case remains under investigation.

Criminal Investigation Division (CID):

On Tuesday, December 10th, detectives were called out to assist the Patrol Division with a death investigation involving a male who died from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

On Wednesday, December 11th, CID Detectives arrested a female suspect for aggravated murder that occurred in 2017. The female was first arrested in 2017, but was never tried as she was instead admitted to the Oregon State Hospital for an evaluation. She was now released from the state hospital and lodged at the Marion County Jail.

On the same Wednesday, detectives assisted the Patrol Division with an investigation of an armed robbery in the area of Northtree Drive NE.

Detectives continue to work on multiple child abuse and sexual abuse cases.

Property & Evidence Unit:

This week our Property and Evidence Specialist II arranged the pickup and disposal of two evidence dumpsters at Covanta. Physical evidence was provided to the Marion County District Attorney's Office in connection with two criminal trials. The hiring process for the position of Property and Evidence Specialist I is moving along with interviews scheduled for next week.

Traffic Safety Unit (TSU):

Officer Powell has been heavily involved in the coordination of traffic control and safety efforts for the upcoming holiday parade. This task is very involved and requires weeks, if not months of planning. The hard work does not go unnoticed. The planning required and the coordinated efforts with outside agencies to provide a safe environment for our community is top priority.