

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

May 2023

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
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MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY COLUMBIA CITY VETERANS PARK

Please join us in honoring all American veterans on Monday, May 29 from 11 am to noon at the Columbia City Veterans Park.



Before attending the event, please review these **IMPORTANT transportation and parking instructions:**

Free bus service will be offered to and from the event! To catch the bus, park near the Caples House Museum, Community Hall, City Hall, or park at the CC Rider Park 'n Ride in St. Helens, and be bussed directly to the park! Bus service will start at 9:30 am.

Parking near the Veterans Park is **NOT RECOMMENDED.**

Vehicular access to the park from Highway 30 will be **PROHIBITED** on event day.

Parking along Highway 30 on event day will be **PROHIBITED.**

Refreshments will be available, compliments of the Daughters of the American Revolution

WATER AND SEWER RATE ADJUSTMENT PUBLIC HEARING - JUNE 15, 2023, 6:00 PM

The Columbia City Council will hold a public hearing on June 15, 2023, at 6:00 pm to accept testimony about proposed adjustments to the current water and sewer rates as recommended in the Water and Wastewater Rate Analysis Summary Report. It is anticipated that the new rates will

generate additional revenue equal to approximately 3% in sewer and 2% in water. If approved, the new rates will take effect on June 26 and show up on the July 26 bills. The additional revenue will help pay for operation and maintenance costs associated with the utility systems, make annual debt payments, meet loan debt coverage requirements, and complete necessary capital improvements as outlined in the water and wastewater system master plans.

Monthly Water Rates (inside City limits)		
Residential Meter 3/4" or 5/8"	Current	Proposed
Base Rate - includes 100 cf	\$39.5300	\$40.3206
Per cf over 101 and up to 500	\$0.0242	\$0.0249
Per cf over 501 and up to 1000	\$0.0384	\$0.0392
Per cf over 1001	\$0.0525	\$0.0536

Monthly Sewer Rates		
Residential Connection	Current	Proposed
Minimum Base Rate	\$45.0200	\$46.3700
Usage Fee (per cf - Oct-May)	\$0.0083	\$0.0090
Usage Fee (per cf - Jun-Sep)	\$0.0000	\$0.0000

cf = cubic foot

Information about the proposed rates for other customer classes may be obtained by contacting City Hall.

LIONS CLUB – EARTH DAY CITY CLEAN UP

A big **thank you** to the St Helens Lion's Club for organizing a garbage pick-up event in Columbia City on Saturday April 22nd. They were able to cover lower Columbia City, the main streets of upper

Columbia City & Highway 30 from L Street Bridge to Bundy Park. They collected 14 bags of garbage!



NEW COLUMBIA CITY T-SHIRTS

Stop by City Hall and get a new City t-shirt in either aqua blue or grey. We have limited quantities and sizes available. The S-XL t-shirts are \$10 each and 2XL are \$12 each.



Columbia City
Oregon

CAPLES HOUSE – MAY EVENTS

Fireside Chat

Tuesday, May 9th at 7 pm

Featuring John Glen who will be talking about the Columbia River Bar Pilots

Admission is \$5

Museum Tours

Friday, Saturday, Sunday
1 to 5 pm

Admission: \$5 Adults / \$4 Children

Friday Tea

Every Friday Afternoon 2 to 4 pm

In The Cottage

1925 First Street

\$5 for tea and sweets

MOVE OVER – IT'S THE LAW

From 2016 to 2020, Oregon experienced 207 crashes involving vehicles parked off-road. These crashes resulted in 7 fatalities, 13 serious injuries and 164 moderate and minor injuries.

In Oregon, from 2015 to 2020, there were 2,774 crashes that occurred in work zones, 25 of which were fatal and 114 resulted in serious injuries. From 2015 to 2021, ODOT vehicles were hit 50 times by the traveling public. Most recently in the Portland area, an ODOT worker was hit and transported to the hospital with serious injuries and is still recovering.

Oregon passed its first Move Over Law in 2010, requiring drivers to move over a lane or slow down five miles below the speed limit for an emergency vehicle, roadside assistance vehicle, a tow vehicle or ambulance, when it is displaying warning lights. In 2017, it was changed to include any vehicle stopped displaying hazard lights.



BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING SET

The Columbia City Budget Committee will meet on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 6:00 pm in the Columbia City Community Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to present the budget message, to receive comment from the public on the proposed budget for fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 and to discuss the possible use of revenue sharing funds. A copy of the proposed budget document may be inspected or purchased on May 19, 2023.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



The City is always seeking volunteers to help maintain the City parks. Now that the weather is improving and if you like being outside or working in the yard, this might be the perfect volunteer opportunity for you! Pick up a volunteer application at City Hall.


LIBRARY NEWS

We are now open on Wednesdays from 3 to 6 pm.

Thank you to Pamela Willemse Weber, who presented a fascinating slide show about her father's stained glass work. Bert Willemse founded Willemse Glass in Scappoose.

Book Sale in the Library! There is still a good chance of rain this time of year, so we will be holding a book sale in the library on Saturday, May 6 from 10 to 4. We will have tables of children's

**BOOK
SALE**



books in the front room, and the sale shelves in the back room will be full. Help us make a little room for the donations that are yet to come before the City Celebration in August!

Columbia City Celebration Vendors Wanted.

Applications are open for vendors who want a booth at the Columbia City Celebration, Saturday, August 12. Remember, items must be handcrafted in Columbia County, Oregon. Applications are available at City Hall or the Library.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library. We have been participating in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for five years now. 1229 children are currently receiving a book each month, and 1300 have graduated from the program at age 5. Our Friends of the Library group sends a check each year to support the project. You can too. Send a check to Columbia County United Way, and designate it for DPIL. Make sure your children and grandchildren from birth to age 5 are signed up!

Novel Quilters. Our next book is *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. This book traces a widow's unlikely connection with a giant Pacific octopus. Expect lots of blues and oranges in our quilts! We will meet to discuss the book in June.

Display in the Library. John Knight has enjoyed photography over the years. In the year 2000 he started to take it seriously and had his first photography exhibit in St. Helens. Over the years he has shown his work at galleries and at art shows. Photographs from his journey around the world, along with his poetry are published in the book, *Mars & Venus Circle Planet Earth*.



New to the Library. This month we added 84 titles to the library, some include:

Till Murder Do Us Part: True-crime thrillers by James Patterson
The Book of Eels by Patrik Svensson
Food and Wine Annual Cookbook 2021
Keep Moving by Dick Van Dyke
Humans of New York by Brandon Stanton
Storm Watch by C.J. Box (best seller)
I Will Find You by Harlan Coben (best seller)
Fox Creek by William Kent Krueger (best seller)
Rick Steeves' All 80 Shows (2000-2009) (video)
The Big Lebowski (video)

Large Print:

Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano (best seller)
Use of Force by Brad Thor

Graphic Novels:

Kitten Construction Company by John Patrick Green

Library Hours:

Monday and Saturday 10 am to 2 pm
Wednesday and Thursday 3 to 6 pm

Friends of the Library

Monday, May 15th at 6:30 pm* **Time Change!**

Mystery Book Club

Wednesday, May 31st at 7 pm

Columbia City Community Library

2000 Second Street / PO Box 189
503-366-8020 / ccclibrary@live.com

Website: www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com

Reach our book catalog:

<https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com>



Do you have an online account setup to access your water & sewer account information?

NO YES

Do you want one?

YES NO

Register at https://columbiacity.merchanttr ansact.com.

To complete the first time sign in you will be sent a confirmation e-mail that must be acknowledged. If you do not see it right away, please check your junk email. If you are still not seeing it, contact us at 503-397-4010.

Once your account has been registered and a sign-on created you will instantly be able to see billing, payment, and water usage history. Please note that additional steps will need to be taken to opt in to receive e-bills.

Do you receive your bill and newsletter electronically?

NO YES

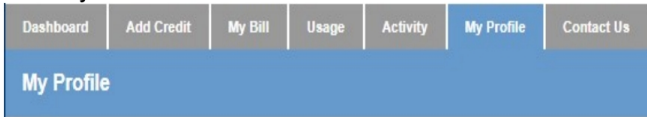


The Trees Thank You!

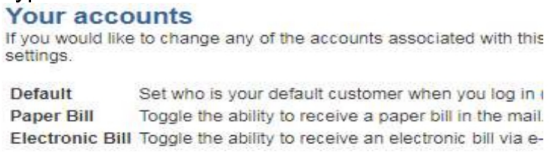
Do you want to? YES

Follow the instructions below to 'Opt In' to receiving E-bills:

1. Go to the 'My Profile' tab



2. Scroll down to the 'Your accounts' section and click on the account number hyperlink



3. Select the radio button for 'no' under the paper bill section and 'yes' under the electronic bill section, then click the 'Submit' button



To be signed up for E-bills and not to receive paper bills and newsletter, your setting should look like:



MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - MAY 2023

May 2 nd	6:00 p.m.	Streets Committee Meeting at City Hall
May 16 th	2:00 p.m.	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
May 16 th	6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting - canceled
May 18 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
May 19 th	8:00 a.m.	2022-23 City Budget available for public review
May 25 th	6:00 p.m.	Budget Committee Meeting at the Community Hall
May 29 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Memorial Day
May 29 th	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Memorial Day Ceremony at Veterans Park

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CITIZEN SATISFACTION SURVEY

Columbia City provides a range of services to the community. We'd like to ask you to please take a moment to let us know how we are doing. Your input is important to us, and we look forward to hearing how we might better serve you. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and you need not answer all of the questions.

Your feedback is appreciated!

Please return completed surveys to City Hall during the month of May

PO Box 189 ♦ 1840 Second Street ♦ Columbia City, Oregon 97018

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Question 1:

A. In the past year or so have you or anyone in your household had direct contact with a representative of the City Hall Office?

Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 2)

B. If you answered yes to Question 1A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Water or Sewer Utility Payment or Inquiry	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Municipal Court Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Building, Plumbing or Mechanical Permit	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Nuisance/Code Violation Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Land Use Related	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Street Light Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 2:

A. In the past year or so have you or anyone in your household had direct contact with a representative of the Police Department?
Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 3)

B. If you answered yes to Question 2A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):
1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Criminal Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Traffic Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Traffic Stop	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Nuisance/Code Violation Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 3:

A. In the past year or so have you or anyone in your household had direct contact with a representative of the Public Works Department?
Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 4)

B. If you answered yes to Question 3A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):
1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Water Service Need or Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Sewer Service Need or Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Park Facility Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Storm Drain Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Street Maintenance Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 4:

What is your perception of the overall quality of services provided by the City of Columbia City?
(circle one)

1 (Poor) 2 3 4 5 (Excellent)

Additional comments you would like to make: _____

