



Transit Center sites selected

The citizen-based Transit Center Working Group that has developed nine alternatives to the region's adopted light rail and transit center strategy has whittled its choices down to two.

One site is the transit center on the west side of Kellogg Lake and includes a pair of intersection rebuilds where 22nd Avenue and River Road intersect McLoughlin Blvd.

The other option sites the transit center on property owned by ODOT, near McLoughlin and Ochoco, and is favored because it removes laying-over and idling busses from the Downtown area.

At the time of print it was not yet known if the Working Group would deliver both sites or a single site as its recommendation to the Planning Commission. Whatever the recommen-

Please see **Transit Center** on page 2

Water rate increases

To keep pace with the increased costs of operating and maintaining Milwaukie's water system, City Council raised the water rate at its Jan. 20th Regularly Scheduled meeting.

For an average user, the result will be an increase of \$1.04 per two-month billing period. The new rate begins July 1st, 2004, and will increase on annual basis by about 4% until 2011.

The rate had not been adjusted since 1995. If you have any questions, please call (503) 786-7605. ☐

Milwaukie's Local Leaders

A changed life changing others

Each year for the past 10 years Milwaukie Police Officer Larry Giddings receives a phone call from a man he arrested for drunk driving on Dec. 13th, 1993.

Every year he calls and thanks Officer Giddings and tells him he hasn't had a drink since the day he pulled him over. This past December he called and reported his Auto repair business was doing well and that he married a wonderful woman in November.

Before his final arrest, Gary Presting Jr. explains his drinking had ruined his life. Without any money, a job or any relationships with friends or family, Gary had to walk home from the Oregon City jail to his apartment on 128th & Foster in Portland after his arrest.

But he says that night turned his life around, and he credits Officer Giddings with helping him do it. Now Gary visits area jails and intake centers trying to help others do the same.

"When I talk to people, I explain that I had an angel visit me to give me another chance," Gary said, "it's just that he was dressed as a Milwaukie Police Officer."

Gary doesn't discount the idea that he's put in a lot of hard work to reclaim his life and that everyday he's meeting the challenge to hold on to

Gary Presting Jr.



all that he's rebuilt, but he's equally committed to the idea that it was Officer Giddings' arrest that started it all.

"At that point in my life I was ready to change," Gary said, "but I needed a nudge, and Officer Giddings provided that nudge. He saved my life."

In addition to visiting those battling alcoholism and substance abuse at intake centers and jails in the region, he's hired a couple of young guys at his shop who've made the same kinds of mistakes he's made. Gary says he tries to serve as a mentor, and that by doing so, he sustains his own recovery.

"I'm not saving the world, but if I can help just one person out, that means the world to me."

The annual calls to Officer Giddings help him too, he says.

"It's important to me that he knows I'm not drinking," Gary said.

The calls are likely just as important to Officer Giddings. ☐

Help City set its fiscal policy

With Milwaukie facing another budget shortfall in the next Fiscal Year, the City is looking for a member of the community to give of their time and energy to serve the Budget Committee and help set our City's fiscal policy.

Serving the Budget Committee is one of the greatest ways to influence the direction of our City. The Committee is charged with approving the annual

budget and in doing so is asked to make some difficult decisions regarding the services our City provides.

The Committee includes the five City Councilors and an equal number of City residents. There is currently one vacancy.

If you're interested in serving this most important committee, contact City Recorder Pat DuVal at (503) 786-7502 or by email at duvalp@ci.milwaukie.or.us. ☐

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3 A new and true McLoughlin Boulevard; FREE live music!
- 4 AROUND TOWN section written by your Neighborhood Leaders
- 6 Calendar of Events - Meeting times and dates

Out with the Old, In with the New

To contact Mayor James Bernard, call (503) 786-7510 or send an email to bernardj@ci.milwaukie.or.us.



2003 posed a number of difficult challenges for the City of Milwaukie and its residents. Unfortunately, many of our citizens struggled to overcome the obstacles resulting from an economy that was sluggish at best. As many of you know, the poor economy has resulted in Oregon gaining the dubious distinction of having one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation. As you have experienced on a daily basis the challenges of "living within your means" and "doing more with less," rest assured that the City of Milwaukie has also had to respond to reductions in operating revenue.

In an effort to do more with less, the City of Milwaukie was forced to cut spending. One program that experienced first hand what doing more with less feels like, was the Milwaukie Police Department. So, how is it possible to live within your means without service reduction? In this case I asked Police Chief Larry Kanzler how he would respond to reduced department funding. Chief Kanzler's response was pointed and direct, "I can do the job with less."

Ultimately the result of such a financial challenge has proven that when our staff is empowered to find ways to streamline government, we get results! Recently, the City of Milwaukie chose to partner with the City of Portland for crime analysis services and to partner with the City of Lake Oswego to provide 9-1-1 services and equipment purchases in an effort to enhance department efficiency. Finally, thanks to an outstanding, dedicated team of employees, Milwaukie was fortunate enough to experience reduced crime rates during the past year while many of the surrounding communities reported increases in crime. Despite reduced operating funds, we continue to find innovative ways to partner with other local governments to maximize the expenditure of your money.

It is my hope that in 2004 Milwaukie's citizens will speak with one voice at the county and regional level. As your mayor, I pledge that the City Council and City staff will work diligently with Neighborhood representatives to not only solicit, but also to attempt to put into action your hopes, desires, and community goals.

If you are not currently involved in a citizen planning organization or other community forum, please consider participating. If you are currently involved, thank you—and please continue participating. In order for government to be effective we need to hear from you, our taxpayers, rate-payers, and most importantly our constituency.

Finally, I'd like to take a moment to express my appreciation to a number of people who, despite facing a number of challenging situations during the new year's hard-hitting ice storm, provided service continuity with a smile.

Thank you to our many dedicated public servants who consistently commit to provide our residents with the kind of outstanding public service the City of Milwaukie can and should be proud of! ■

Ice storm raises issue

The first week of 2004 brought an uncommon amount of snow and ice and with it a number of problems: icy roads and sidewalks, power outages and broken water lines. Here in Milwaukie we were fortunate to not experience another serious problem; that of roofs collapsing due to accumulated snow and ice.

Typically roof failures occur on commercial buildings that have flat or low-pitched roofs, but these types of roofs are not inherently dangerous if properly constructed and maintained.

The key word here is *maintained*. Property owners should make it a part of their routine maintenance plan to familiarize themselves with their roof's drainage system and be sure that it is functioning properly. Keep in mind that accumulated rain water is just as dangerous as ice and much more common. If your roof drains are blocked due to ice or even accumulated leaves or debris, water can build up quickly.

A mere three inches of water over a 10,000 square foot surface can add 78 tons of weight to your roof. So take some time to check your roof drains before the next big storm and on a regular basis thereafter. You'll be glad you did. ■

Manholes carry message

The 47 fish-themed manhole lids installed by the City's Storm & Sewer division in the Historic Milwaukie Neighborhood are designed to encourage residents to give a second thought about the kinds of materials they might be contributing to the storm system, and in turn, our rivers and streams.

Over the next few years, the new covers will be added on a Neighborhood by Neighborhood basis.

If you spot an act of pollution, or have any questions or concerns, please call (503) 786-7615. ■



Show off your garden

Do you control garden pests using organic and/or natural methods? Do you use techniques to conserve water? Do you maintain your own garden? If so, Metro is looking for you.

Metro's **Garden of Natural Delights**, an annual garden tour open to the public, is coming up on July 18, 2004. It showcases a number of lush, chemical-free residential gardens within Metro's boundary.

For more information and an application to be considered a host garden for this year's **Gardens of Natural Delights** Tour, call Metro Recycling Information at (503) 234-3000. Applications must be received by Friday, March 12, 2004. ■

Transit Center from page 1

dition, the Commission will review the data at its Feb. 24th and March 9th meetings, where public input is strongly encouraged.

The Planning Commission will deliver its own recommendation to City Council for Council's review at its April 20th meeting. For more information please call (503) 786-7503. ■

Library News & Notes

Come to the Ledding Library on Saturday, February 7th at 2 p.m. to enjoy the beautiful sounds of a performing group known as the "Slavov Bulgarian Duo".

Composed of accordionist Milen Slavov and vocalist Zhivka Papancheva, the group will take you to the Balkan country of Bulgaria, with folk music performed in the traditional way emphasizing improvisation, virtuosity, fast tempos and unusual rhythms.

Accordionist Slavov is an accomplished composer, arranger, performer and teacher. Vocalist Papancheva is one of Bulgaria's most famous vocalists.

This free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Ledding Library.

Responding to the growing Russian-speaking community living in the Milwaukie area, the Ledding Library has started a small collection of books in Russian. The growing collection includes both fiction and nonfiction books.

In the very near future, Ledding will be adding music CD's, videos and DVD's in the Russian language as well. Since no one on the Library staff speaks Russian, publicizing this collection has been a challenge.

To assist the Library getting the word out about its new collection, please let any of your Russian-speaking friends and family members know about the new materials. ☐

Basic McLoughlin design set

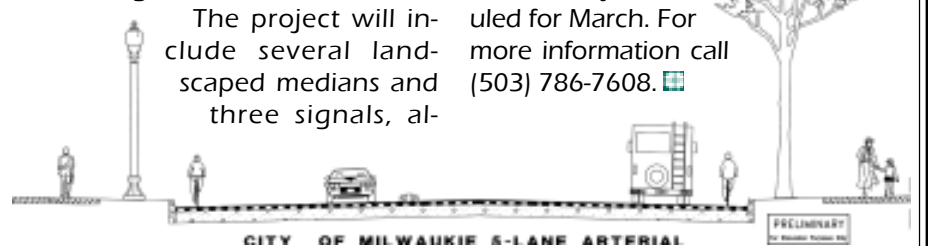
The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) informing the design of 2005's McLoughlin improvement project made significant strides at its January 15th meeting when it set the basic dimensions for the roadway's elements.

The roadway will feature new sidewalks and planter strips on both sides of the roadway, a pair of bike lanes, two travel lanes in either direction and room for turning lanes. The project extends from Harrison Street to Washington Street.

The project will include several landscaped medians and three signals, al-

though the exact intersections have yet to be determined. The signals and boulevard treatment are intended to create and encourage greater access to the Riverfront and Downtown areas. The PAC, comprised of City staff, representatives from ODOT, Metro, Milwaukie's Riverfront Board, the Historic Milwaukie Neighborhood and Downtown businesses, will continue to work on refining the design.

An Open House is tentatively scheduled for March. For more information call (503) 786-7608. ☐



Join Johnson Creek restoration

Join hundreds of volunteers from throughout the Johnson Creek watershed on Saturday, February 28th, to restore the creek's natural functions and beautify our community.

Volunteers of all ages and abilities help enhance the creek by removing invasive species, planting native trees and shrubs, and mulching new plants. Some learn the art of naturescaping their yards. Others help survey salmon and inventory vegetation.

There are 10 sites throughout the region; in Milwaukie volunteers will help care for young plantings at a site near Johnson Creek's confluence with the Willamette River. (SE 17th Ave. and Lava Dr.)

Work at all of the sites will begin at 9 a.m. and will end with a celebratory lunch at noon.

For more information and to register please call the Johnson Creek Watershed Council at (503) 239-3932. ☐

The Milwaukie Code Corner

No matter the time of year the Code Compliance and Police Departments can expect to respond to a fair number of noise complaints.

Simply put, the Milwaukie Municipal Code states that nobody within City limits can make excessive or unnecessary noise that disturbs the comfort, safety or welfare of anybody else.

While this sounds fairly subjective, the Code clearly lays out the kinds of noises prohibited, where they're prohibited, and when they're prohibited.

When a noise complaint is lodged, Code Compliance will take a reading

of the noise to determine whether or not the decibel level exceeds the code's threshold.

If the noise exceeds what is allowed in that particular zone, Code Compliance will speak with the involved parties in an effort to reach some sort of resolution.

However, should the situation escalate to the enforcement stage, the Police Department gets involved.

If the problem persists, the offender can be fined up to \$500. If you have any questions or would like to lodge a complaint, call (503) 786-7545. ☐

Center Advisory Board needs you

By serving the Milwaukie Center/Community Advisory Board residents have the unique and very real opportunity to help shape the programs and services provided to the older adults and people with disabilities of our community.

The board currently has openings for City of Milwaukie residents. Board members serve in an advisory capacity regarding the Milwaukie Center's functions and services.

For more information or to apply, please contact Milwaukie Center Director Joan Young at (503) 653-8100. ☐



AROUND TOWN

The Around Town section gives elected Neighborhood Leaders an opportunity to interpret issues facing their community as well as promote greater neighborhood involvement. As a result of this open forum the opinions presented may not always represent the attitudes of the City or of the author's entire Neighborhood. The Pilot and its participating Neighborhood Officers welcome your feedback. Please see page 6 for contact information.

HISTORIC MILWAUKIE

Written by **Ed Zumwalt**, Chair

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: **Feb. 9, 7 p.m.**; Where: **Milwaukie Elementary**

So often when we hear leaders of various cities expound on their vision for their towns they put great emphasis on the desirability of being a "destination city." You know: arts, fashion, theater, fishing – on and on.

Let's look at our situation in Milwaukie: first off, we're not going to be a theme park town with an attraction like Disneyland. The only chance we have for that is if we can finally realize our dream of converting our sewage treatment plant into a fantastic plumbing museum, featuring out-

houses throughout the ages. (Just a little joke, folks.)

The main point pounded home by these people is that niches bring density, jobs and prosperity. Well, anytime density is mentioned a red flag should go up. If it could be limited, fine, but once politicians start talking density they mean the elbow-to-elbow, bumper-to-bumper, mind-numbing type, all to the detriment of what most families want – livability.

Our goal now should be to develop our City's new Downtown shops and residences tastefully and with an eye to accentuate its beauty and livability, with focus on our Riverfront.

What an interesting concept: people actually making our City their destination just because it's a nice place to be.

ARDENWALD/J.C.

Written by **Carlotta Collette**, Chair

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: **Feb. 10, 6:30 p.m.**

Where: **Ardenwald Elementary**

Spring around Johnson Creek means time to clean up the plastic bags and other debris that floats downstream and sticks to branches along the way. It's time to plant young native trees and shrubs to help protect stream banks and provide habitat for birds and other wildlife.

This February, as in the past, the Ardenwald Johnson Creek Neighborhood Association will participate in the annual cleanup and planting known as the Johnson Creek Watershed Wide Event. This year, however, instead of

working where we usually do, in Tideman Johnson Park, we'll be crossing the creek to work on the remaining 8-acre parcel of Tideman Johnson's original homestead.

Jean Johnson's husband, Kenneth, was Tideman's grandson, still lives in the family's home on Johnson Creek Boulevard above the creek, and her son Steve still lives in another home on the property closer to the creek. The event welcomes all volunteers. Join us February 28th, at 9 a.m., and

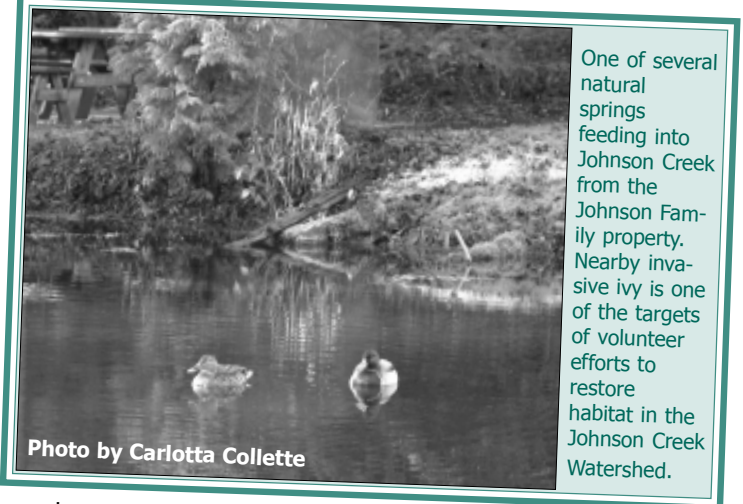


Photo by Carlotta Collette

One of several natural springs feeding into Johnson Creek from the Johnson Family property. Nearby invasive ivy is one of the targets of volunteer efforts to restore habitat in the Johnson Creek Watershed.

park along 36th Avenue across from the Johnson home. Dress for the weather. We'll provide hot coffee and other goodies.

LAKE ROAD

Written by **Debby Patten**, Chair

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: **Feb. 11, 7 p.m.** • Where: **Rowe Middle School**

Have you noticed how everyone is rushing around all of the time? Hey, that includes you and me! Well, next time you've got the pedal to the metal, look around. There's a good chance you're speeding in front of someone's house.

We all know how unpleasant it is to be in your yard while loads of cars are just flying down your street. Where are they all going? Why do they have to get there so fast? The answers are ... the same places you go and the same reasons you might exceed the speed limit.

Hey, it's got to stop somewhere. Don't think about being

ten minutes late for work. Instead, remember you're driving through a Neighborhood. A Neighborhood that's full of people just like you who want to enjoy their front yards or a nice stroll down the street.

With this thought in mind, I would like to bring your attention to the fact that the lower school-zone speed limit has been extended on Lake Road heading towards Highway 224. The Neighborhood Association recommended this change because we want our Neighborhood to remain livable and safe in spite of change and population growth.

So, the next time you're heading down Lake Road (or any Neighborhood street!), please note the speed limit and abide by it. Most people will appreciate you showing them the same courtesy you would expect from them. Let it start with you.

AROUND TOWN

ISLAND STATION

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: Feb. 19, 6:30 p.m. • Where: Milwaukie Grange

The Island Station Neighborhood Association will be taking a look at what it hopes to accomplish in 2004 at their February meeting. With all of the successes of 2003, there's much to look forward to and much to be gained.

A perfect example is the work that got underway in Spring Park and Elk Rock Island. The Neighborhood will further both efforts this year, and plans are already afoot to install a newly purchased picnic table, bench and trash receptacle in the park. Furthermore, Island Station resident Lisa Batey is planning another SOLV cleanup event for the park in April, so please stay tuned for more information on that.

The Friends of Elk Rock Island group is also gaining momentum. They met in January to discuss upcoming projects and establishing a walking patrol for the Island. Please call (503) 786-7503 for more information.

At the January meeting Engineering Director Paul Shirey introduced himself and talked about the projects on his Department's slate. Of key interest, Paul discussed a nearly completed study investigating the costs of consolidating regional services at the TriCity plant in Oregon City so the Kellogg Creek Treatment Plant could be closed. He said the study hopes to be published by this spring.

LINWOOD

Written by Dolly Macken Hambright, Chair

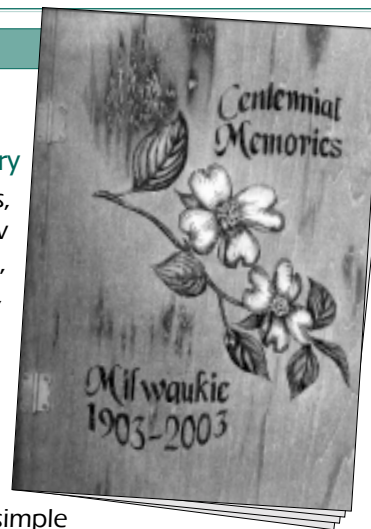
NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: Feb. 12, 7 p.m. • Where: Linwood Elementary

Due to weather and very few pressing agenda items, Linwood did not have a meeting in January. The new year is a very good time to review those resolutions, however, and in so doing, we reflect on the past year, as well.

Milwaukie's Centennial Celebration is behind us. Looking back, what have we learned?

Well, we have a nice little City wedged between Clackamas County and Portland and we have an ongoing struggle to maintain our day-to-day livability, for one thing. And I think most folks rediscovered the simple fact that our town is worth fighting for. Getting involved is as important today as it has ever been, and we owe a large



"Thank You" to those who came before us, kept an ear to the wind and preserved what we have today.

The Centennial Memories book is most likely going to be printed and will be for sale to remind folks of where we have been. We may go forward with perhaps a clearer vision of where we really want to be 100 years from now.

Our next meeting will have a representative from the City Planning/Engineering Department on hand to discuss further issues and answer questions regarding the Ukrainian Bible Church's plans for expansion.

Please plan to be on hand February 12th at Linwood Elementary's Library and bring your questions.

LEWELLING

Written by Art Ball, Chair

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:


When: Feb. 5, 7 p.m.; Where: Lewelling Elementary

The Royal Marc Retirement Residence has become a big asset to our Neighborhood organization since becoming involved last year. Managers Grant and Kathi Calin have hosted a fund-raising dinner for the Lewelling Community Park and recently sponsored the Lewelling Holiday Social.

Both of these events were very successful. That Calins are enjoying their involvement in Neighborhood affairs and are looking forward to helping the community in various other ways. In fact Grant has another idea that he and I briefly discussed that will be brought up at our February meeting.

Also at the February meeting Ruthanne Bennett, Civil Engineer for the City of Milwaukie, will speak to us on an upcoming project in the Neighborhood.

Other business will include a light rail update and a school project that could possibly use our help.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MCH - Milwaukie City Hall, 10722 SE Main Street PSB - Public Safety Building, 3200 SE Harrison Street JCB - Public Works Building, 6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd. MC - Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive LED - Ledding Library, 10660 SE 21st Avenue 1	2	5:30pm City Council Work Session, (MCH) 6:30pm City Council Regular Session (MCH) 3	6:00pm Citizens Utility Advisory Board (JCB) 4	7:00pm Lewelling NDA (Lewelling Elementary) 5	10:00am Milwaukie Center/Community Advisory Board (MC) 6	First Saturday Music Program Ledding Library 2-3 p.m. Admission is free 7
Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery Association Milwaukie Center Presentations at 1 & 2 p.m. Introductory Meeting, Please Attend 8	7:00pm Historic Milwaukie NDA, (Milwaukie Elementary) 7:00pm Hector Campbell NDA, (Campbell Elementary) 9	6:30pm Ardenwald/Johnson Creek NDA, (Ardenwald Elementary) 6:30pm Riverfront Board (MCH) 6:30pm Planning Commission (MCH) 10	7:00pm Lake Road NDA (Rowe Middle School) 11	7:00pm Linwood NDA (Linwood Elementary) 12	13	14
15	16	5:30pm City Council Work Session, (MCH) 6:30pm City Council Regular Session (MCH) 17	18	6:30pm Island Station NDA (Milwaukie Grange) 19	20	21
22	6:30pm Ledding Library Board, (LED) 23	6:30pm Planning Commission Work Session (MCH) 7:00pm Parks & Rec. Board (MCH) 24	6:30pm Design and Landmarks Commission (JCB) 25	6:00pm Public Safety Board (PSB) 26	27	Johnson Creek Restoration Event 9 a.m. at sites throughout region (see page 3) 28
29						CITY OF  MILWAUKIE

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

ARDENWALD AND JOHNSON CREEK

Meetings held on second Tuesdays
 6:30 p.m., Ardenwald Elementary
 Chair, Carlotta Collette, (503) 653-5771
 email: carlottacollette@comcast.net

HECTOR CAMPBELL

Meetings held on second Mondays
 7:00 p.m., Hector Campbell Elementary
 Chair, David Aschenbrenner, (503) 654-4258
 email: dlasch@comcast.net

HISTORIC MILWAUKIE

Meetings held on second Mondays
 7:00 p.m., Milwaukie Elementary
 Chair, Ed Zumwalt, (503) 654-2493
 email: PEMCZUM@aol.com

ISLAND STATION

Meetings held on third Thursdays
 6:30 p.m., Milwaukie Grange
 Chair, Rick Farasy, (503) 786-2437

LAKE ROAD

Meetings held on second Wednesdays
 7:00 p.m., Rowe Middle School
 Chair, Bob Moore, (503) 794-2946

LEWELLING

Meetings held on first Thursdays
 6:30 p.m., Lewelling Elementary
 Chair, Art Ball, (503) 786-4016

LINWOOD

Meetings held on second Thursdays
 6:30 p.m., Linwood Elementary
 Chair, Dolly Macken Hambricht, (503) 659-8908

Meeting Broadcast Information:

City Council Work Sessions: Channel 30
 Tues., Thurs., Sat.: 10 a.m., 2 p.m.,
 7 p.m., 2 a.m.

City Council Regular Sessions: Channel 30
 Sun., Mon., Wed., Fri.: 6 a.m., 2 p.m.,
 7 p.m., 12 a.m.

And when meetings aren't being rebroadcast, check out the City's Cable Information System

The City of Milwaukie looks forward to any questions or suggestions you might have. Please drop us a line or give us a call.



Neighborhood Services
 10722 SE Main Street
 Milwaukie, Oregon 97222
 Phone: (503) 786-7503
 email: wheeler@ci.milwaukie.or.us



City of Milwaukie
 10722 SE Main Street
 Milwaukie, Oregon 97222

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