



THE MILWAUKIE PILOT

PROVIDING THE CITIZENS OF MILWAUKIE WITH INFORMATION TO BETTER GOVERN THEMSELVES

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 11

November 2005

Milwaukie's Local Leaders

Pitching in

Few people of our community have given of himself as much as John Denny has.

For more than 25 years John has been the backbone of Milwaukie girls softball. He stepped down as the league's administrator last month, but until then, for six months out of every year of his involvement, John would volunteer as many as 40 hours a week making sure young girls of our community would have a softball league to play in.

"The list of stuff, it's non-stop, it's always something," John said.

But to John, the result was well worth the work.

"I think it's a wonderful activity for kids," he said. "I wanted to see the program continue."

John estimates that in his 28 years of coaching he's taught about 380 girls the fundamentals of softball and sportsmanship.

"I haven't started coaching the kids of kids I've coached," John said, "but I'm getting pretty close."

Point in fact, John began his career so he could coach his niece. John expects to resume coaching after a little break so he can coach her niece's daughter.

"It's my niece's fault I got involved in the first place," John said behind his broad smile. "And in a couple years I'll go back to coach her daughter. It all starts with that niece!"



City to address tax issue

Last May Milwaukie residents overwhelmingly supported annexation to Clackamas Fire District No. 1, assured by the City Council and staff that annexation would not result in higher taxes.

The ballot measure stated that, if passed, the City Council would reduce property taxes at the same rate as the Fire District's assessment so that the resulting tax would remain neutral. At the time the ballot measure was constructed the City received advice that newly annexed City residents would not assume the District's existing bonded debt of approximately \$.16/\$1,000 of assessed value. However, it appears that the advice was incorrect, and the annual tax statements released last week include an amount for the bonded debt.

There is no way to make a correction on the current year tax statements. However, City Council will maintain its commitment to Milwaukie voters that annexation to Clackamas

Please see **Rates** on page 2

Gramor gets rolling

Buildings have been removed and the land use application has been submitted to the City in order to make way for the Gramor Development that's to be constructed across from the Milwaukie Marketplace off of Highway 224.

The project consists of three buildings. The anchor tenant will have 14,600 sq. ft. of space, and the two smaller buildings will be 4,800 sq. ft. and 4,200 sq. ft.

Dramatic traffic improvements will result as part of the project. The intersection of Oak Street and Highway 224 will be expanded to accommodate six lanes of traffic, with dedicated left and right turns to Highway 224. New sidewalks along Oak and Myrtle Streets will also be constructed as part of the project.

The application is expected to be reviewed by the Planning Commission in either late November or early December.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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- 3 Manhole Design Contest extends its deadline; Council to consider sewer rate increase
- 4 AROUND TOWN section written by your Neighborhood Leaders
- 6 Calendar of Events - Meeting times and dates

Leaf drop event builds on success

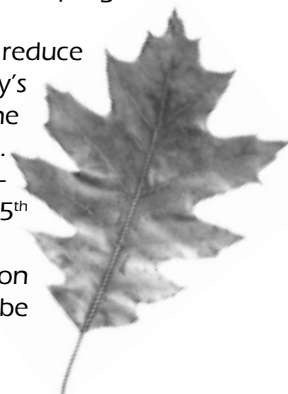
Last fall the City of Milwaukie conducted its first leaf disposal program and collected more than 57,230 pounds of leaves.

The aims of the effort are to promote public participation, reduce the amount of work needed to sweep and unclog the City's stormwater drains and to improve fish habitat by raising the quality of stormwater that's released to our creeks and rivers.

This year's drop site is at the City's Johnson Creek Boulevard facility (6101 SE JCB) and the collection dates are Nov. 5th & 19th and Dec. 3rd & 17th from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Leaves brought in plastic bags will have to be dumped on site, while leaves brought in paper (Kraft) bags can just be dropped off.

For more information, please call (503) 786-7615.



Vital Downtowns bring city-wide benefits

This month's Councilor Column is written by Mayor James Bernard. To contact Jim call (503) 786-7510 or send an email to bernardj@ci.milwaukie.or.us.



I recently had an opportunity to speak at the National Historic Trust Conference about the relationship between downtowns and big boxes such as Wal-Mart. Milwaukie's downtown is certainly not immune to the effects.

In the 1970's Clackamas Town Center was built. That was followed in the 1980's by the construction of Milwaukie Market Place. Are they to blame for the past decay of our downtown? We always like to blame others for our failures, but many of our downtown businesses did not adapt or were too small to provide the mix and variety of products demanded to compete, so they slowly disappeared.

Downtowns provide the opportunity for you to meet your neighbors, talk about your community, discuss where the community is going, build community bonds, and get your questions answered. If there is no downtown, there is no community.

Where am I going with this? We are nearing the end of our 7th year of the Farmers Market and I have a philosophy. This market is a micro-downtown and a lot of its success is due to the fact that you can meet your neighbors, you can get answers, and if you stop by the community booth you can even get involved as little or as much as you like.

I figure I have been there at least 150 Sundays since it was started and I have met and talked to thousands in Milwaukie and surrounding communities.

So what is it I'm saying? Downtowns are a key to a community's success and without this "special place" rumors become fact and distrust grows.

We spent lots of money during a huge community process coming up with a downtown plan and we listened. You know what? You were right. According to the National Main Street program for every \$1 invested in your downtown the return is \$38 community-wide. That in turn means your biggest investment, your home, becomes the best investment you've ever made and Milwaukie the right place to invest. But more importantly, a strong downtown will enable us to build a community that is strong and united.

I ran for Mayor nearly five years ago because I was tired of nothing happening and thanks to your vision, past and present City Councils, City Staff, and our Neighborhood leadership, that has changed.

McLoughlin Building open for business

It's hard to miss the transformation the office building near McLoughlin Boulevard and Harrison Street has undergone this past summer.

Gone is the boxy building with the metal siding. In its place is a modern structure with colors and details that reflect a traditional downtown design.

The building's owner, Ed Parecki, describes his draw to the project in fairly simple terms.

"I love turning ugly things into beautiful things," Ed said.

The building currently holds nine businesses, including a coffee shop, an attorney, and a photographer's studio, and offers substantial square footage for four more businesses.

Those interested in learning more about the existing businesses or details about the available space can call Ed at (503) 977-9988.



Library News & Notes

Ledding Library offers a couple different ways residents can help local school children. One is to donate school supplies, and another is to donate a toy to the Library's annual Toy Drive. The Toy Drive is in its fifth year and last year the Library delivered more than 1,000 toys to children of need at local Elementary Schools and at the Annie Ross House, a shelter for homeless families.

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Old printer cartridges aren't junk ... to the Ledding Library they're cash. Turn in your old printer cartridges to the Library and they can turn them in to funding for new books!

View the Christmas fleet at Winter Solstice event

For the past three years hundreds of Milwaukie residents have gathered at the Milwaukie Riverfront to watch the Christmas Ships cruise the Willamette River at the City's Winter Solstice Event.

This year's event will be held near the Jefferson Street Boat Ramp on Dec. 10th from 5 to 7 p.m., and like previous years, there will be a roaring bon fire, plenty of caroling and the Lewelling Neighborhood will sell hot dogs, brownies, hot chocolate and coffee.

Volunteers are needed to help out with the event. Those interested are asked to call Program Coordinator Beth Ragel at (503) 786-7568.

Rates from page 1

County Fire District #1 will not result in an increase in taxes. In the coming weeks the City will examine options, such as implementing an adjustment to next year's tax bills, to maintain its commitment that there be no increase owing to the annexation.

If you have any questions, please contact Information Coordinator Grady Wheeler at (503) 786-7503.

Center offers thanks

Written by the Director of the
Milwaukie Center, Joan Young

On behalf of the many patrons served through the Milwaukie Center, our thanks to the Linwood Neighborhood Association and the Hector-Campbell Neighborhood Association for your support!

The Linwood Neighborhood Association provided a grant for \$500 to help purchase food for Meals on Wheels recipients.

The Hector-Campbell Neighborhood Association provided a grant of \$800, with \$400 each for the Nutrition Program and the Transportation Program.

These programs, which serve thousands of older adults and people with disabilities in our community, are dependent upon the revenues they generate.

Thank you!

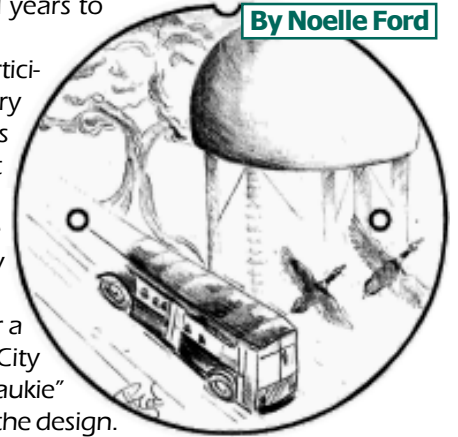
Art contest continues

The City of Milwaukie is holding open its manhole cover design contest through at least the end of the year in order to give even more residents a chance to submit a design.

The winning design will be displayed on manholes at more than 1,500 different locations throughout the entire City for years and years to come.

Those interested in participating can grab an entry form off the City's webpage at www.cityofmilwaukie.org or pick one up at the Ledding Library or at City Hall.

Judges are looking for a design that ties into the City and has "The City of Milwaukie" featured somewhere on the design.



What's recyclable?

One of the most common questions that's received by the City is, "What can I recycle at my curb?"

Here's a good general list to use as your guide:

Scrap paper • Tin and aluminum cans (aerosol cans okay) • Plastic bottles (with necks or screw tops) • Glass (brown, green and clear) • Newspaper • Cardboard • Motor oil

If you have any questions about what you can and can't recycle, please call JoAnn Herrigel at (503) 786-7508.



Sewer rates get a look

An Open House providing information regarding the proposed sewer rate increase will be held Nov. 7th from 6 to 8 p.m. at City Hall.

Council will review the increase at its Nov. 15th meeting.

Staff is recommending a 6% increase to be assessed each year for the next four years for three reasons. First, the rate needs to be adjusted in order to catch up with inflation. Second, the system is depreciating and setting aside money for unforeseen repairs is sound fiscal policy. Staff forecasts an approximate 4% increase to cover these costs.

Third, the City needs to raise additional funds to participate in the Clearwater Project. An additional 2% increase is proposed to raise these required funds.

For more information, please call (503) 786-7503.

Local kids need a Buddy

Do you spend your lunch time doing the same thing every day? Have you always wanted to get involved but never had the time?

You can change all that by spending just one lunch hour a week with an Elementary student. Over 300 kids would like you to be their Lunch Buddy.

What is a Lunch Buddy? A Lunch Buddy is a friendly adult who would like to provide positive role modeling, friendship and support to an elementary student throughout the North Clackamas School District.

The Lunch Buddy Program operates in 15 Elementary schools. Won't you please give the best gift of all – your time?

You can make a difference in the life of a child just one hour a week.

For more information, contact the Lunch Buddy Program at (503) 653-3622. All volunteers are screened prior to placement.

The City Code Corner

Often times we receive calls about issues that Code Enforcement has no jurisdiction over. Some of these calls may be about the neighbor's tree branches hanging over a fence line, or a tree roots tearing up a neighbor's driveway. The City does not have any ordinances that address these issues, but take heart; there is help. If you have these types of issues, there is a book titled "Neighbor Law" written by Cora Jordan that can offer some assistance.

This book has examples of the above, as well as many other neighbor issues that you may face. If these problems sound like something you are dealing with, the Ledding Library has a copy available, and if it is not there, they can order you one from another library. This book is a valuable resource, which Code enforcement staff refers to often. Go to your library and "check it out".



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 six for contact information.

HECTOR CAMPBELL

Written by **David Aschenbrenner**, Chair

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: **Nov. 14th, 7:00 p.m.**

Where: **Public Safety Building**

As Thanksgiving approaches I want to say thanks to those that help make our Neighborhood and community better.

First, thanks to our Neighborhood Leadership Team for giving their time to make this Neighborhood thrive.

Second, thanks to the neighbors in-

involved in their community in one way or another. By getting involved you help others to thrive.

Third, thanks to the City staff. We have a great City and the staff helps to make it so. They provide the services that keep us safe and make sure the services we want and need are there when we need them.

Fourth, thanks to the community that steps up to help our City. These are the new people and companies that are in-

vesting in our community and the outside agencies that are providing the dollars to improve this community in many ways.

This community is on the move. We're not back on our heels and complaining and moaning. Milwaukie is a thriving City and has lots to offer to its citizens, the county and the region. We all should be proud of where we are going.

LAKE ROAD

Written by **Debby Patten**, Chair

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: **Nov. 9th, 6:30 p.m.**

Where: **Clackamas ESD**

Last month, we had a very well-attended meeting with the Mayor as our guest speaker.

Mayor Jim Bernard updated us on the many projects currently going on in Milwaukie and the surrounding areas. If you missed the meeting and would like to know more, you can visit the Community Booth at the Harvest Market on Nov. 20th. Knowledgeable volunteers will assist you with any questions you may have.

Staff from the Engineering Department also attended our meeting. There are some funds available for traffic-calm-

ing due to the new project that was recently started at Oak Street and 224 by the Milwaukie Marketplace.

Hopefully, these funds can be applied to 34th Avenue, which is a major traffic collector. More information will be available in the upcoming months.

At our meeting in November, we will be discussing grant funds, having a December potluck, and finishing up with some old business. Also, I hope to have a speaker from the American Cancer Society meet with us.



Along with Mayor James Bernard (sunglasses) Lake Road Neighborhood Chair Debby Patten (speaking) thanked Congressman Earl Blumenauer (left) for helping secure \$4 million in federal transportation funding for the Lake Road MultiModal project. An event was held at Rowe Middle School on Oct. 11th and students from Rowe joined the celebration with balloons and signs of "Thanks!"

ARDENWALD/J.C.

Written by **Lisa Gunion-Rinker & Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno**, Cochairs

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: **Nov. 8th, 6:30 p.m.**

Where: **Ardenwald Elementary**

Hello Everyone! It's that time of year again! Don't forget to check your own water and sewer lines, natural gas or oil tank lines, and your furnace to make sure all is in good working order for the upcoming winter.

If you are new to the Neighborhood and your home and have questions about an average water bill for your resi-

dence, please contact the City of Milwaukie at (503) 786-7525.

Our planting/weeding party at the terraces on JCB on Oct. 16th went exceedingly well! The assembled group weeded all three beds and planted many hardy spring and summer blooming plants. The group determined that a mulching party will soon follow.

At the October meeting there was much discussion concerning speeding in our neighborhood and in other neighborhoods. Did you know that 80% of our neighborhood traffic is 10 miles over the posted 25 mph speed limit? For more information, please go to our website at

www.ardenwald.org and read our minutes from recent meetings. Also available are slow down reminder signs from Clackamas County. Please contact Cheryl at (503) 653-7800 to find out how to get one for yourself.

Please join us at our next meeting to further discuss neighborhood traffic concerns, receive an update about the Lents Sewer Project that will start next spring at Tideman-Johnson Park, sign-up to move and transplant native plants from the construction zone this fall and winter, and sign a transit support letter.

See you there!



AROUND TOWN

HISTORIC MILWAUKIE

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: Nov. 14th, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Milwaukie City Hall

The Historic Milwaukie Neighborhood Association will host a meeting in which Metro Councilor Brian Newman will give a presentation focusing on the region's rapid growth and the far-reaching implications such growth has on Milwaukie and other jurisdictions.

The meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 14th at 7 p.m. in City Hall.

Councilor Newman points out that the most recent growth projections suggest that the Metro region is growing much faster than expected when Metro adopted the 2040 growth management plan in the mid-1990's. Current projections show we will reach the population forecasted for 2040 by 2020 - 20 years sooner than anticipated.

Councilor Newman's presentation will

**DON'T FORGET THE
HARVEST MARKET!**

Sunday, Nov. 20th
Across From City Hall
9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

address the questions this kind of growth raises - where will these people settle and what impact will this growth have on existing communities?

ISLAND STATION

Written by Lisa Batey, Chair

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: Nov. 17th, 6:30 p.m. • Where: Milwaukie Grange

There's a light at the end of the tunnel when it comes to the Spring Park Master Plan. Thanks to the efforts of JoAnn Herrigel, we have the pro bono services of a professional landscape architect, Pat Lando, who has prepared a detailed set of concept drawings. Anyone who hasn't yet seen the drawings and would like to should contact me at (503) 353-1825 (afternoon or evening is best) or by e-mail at lisabatey@msn.com.

On Nov. 2nd, we will meet with Mr. Lando to try to gain consensus on what the Neighborhood wants - and can afford - to do in Phase I of the Master Plan. If you would like to attend this meeting, please contact me for details on the time and location.

The need for dedicated parking, which has been a thorny issue, is being addressed on a parallel track. Pursuant to discussions at previous meetings, parking will be provided in three or four separate locations, with a few spaces in each location. Lando's drawings provide for three spaces on Sparrow on the southwest side of the railroad track, on Sparrow east of the railroad tracks and on 20th Avenue.

We should have more details on the timeline for the Master Plan at our Nov. 17th meeting, in addition to having special visitors from ODOT (to discuss plans for the McLoughlin/River Road intersection) and the American Cancer Society.

LEWELLING

Written by Jeff Klein, Chair

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: Nov. 3rd, 7:00 p.m. • Where: Lewelling Elementary

How about this for a New Year's resolution? How about resolving to help out the Seth Lewelling Environmental Magnet School and their 4H Wildlife Stewards program?

Over the last five years it has helped students and teachers develop many sustainable wildlife habitats on and near the school. For more information, please call (503) 916-6074 and ask how you can help.

At our next meeting we will have more speed reducing signs available for anyone who wants one and we will talk more about the possibility of the NDA's buying a radar sign.

We will also have a representative from engineering to explain the street improvement on 42nd Street and we will be going over ideas for our "Festival of Lights" event and looking for volunteers for our booth at the Winter Solstice event.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge JoAnn Herrigel and her daughter Hazel. JoAnn has been our liaison to the City for more years than I know. Hazel has been her trusted assistant sitting through many a boring meeting, quietly reading books and testing cookies and snacks. Though JoAnn will still be with the City she is stepping down as our liaison. She has helped us tremendously over the last few years and we have enjoyed her and Hazel's input in the development of Our Neighborhood.

LINWOOD

Written by Dolly Macken Hambright, Chair

NEXT MEETING'S INFO:

When: Nov. 10th, 7:00 p.m.

Where: Linwood Elementary

Community Services Director JoAnn Herrigel was at our last meeting to bring folks up to date on the rate increases proposed for the Clearwater Project which includes removal of the Kellogg sewage treatment plant in the future.

JoAnn also answered questions about

the Three Bridges Project which has begun in order to connect the Spring Water Trail and the hopeful start date for the development of both the old and new Safeway sites.

Thanks to the Planning Department we also had information to pass around regarding the Gramor project which has begun near Milwaukie Marketplace on Oak Street at Highway 224.

Pricing and information was presented to possibly use some grant funds for the possible purchase of an electronic

speed sign. We will be discussing this further at our next meeting. Hope to see you there!

COME JOIN THIS FESTIVAL OF FUN!

Linwood School PTA

Harvest Festival

Saturday, November 5th. 1 - 4 p.m.

Carnival Games for all ages • Live Holiday Music by
Mila Polevia • Farmers Market with local area vendors
• Great food and drinks • Family Craft Room for
families to enjoy crafting together • Much Much More.

If you have any questions contact
Shelly Stephens at (503) 659-1233 or
sksunflower@aol.com

City Events Calendar

November 2005

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>MCH - Milwaukie City Hall, 10722 SE Main Street</p> <p>PSB - Public Safety Building, 3200 SE Harrison Street</p> <p>JCB - Public Works Building, 6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd.</p> <p>MC - Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive</p> <p>LED - Ledding Library, 10660 SE 21st Avenue</p> | <p>CITY OF MILWAUKIE</p> | <p>5:30pm City Council Work Session, (MCH)</p> <p>7:00pm City Council Regular Session, (MCH)</p> <p>1</p> | <p>6:00pm Citizens Utility Advisory Board, (JCB)</p> <p>2</p> | <p>7:00pm Lewelling NDA, (Lewelling Elementary)</p> <p>3</p> | <p>10:00am Milwaukie Center/Community Advisory Board (MC)</p> <p>4</p> | <p>Leaf Drop Event 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Johnson Creek Blvd. Facility</p> <p>5</p> |
| 6 | 7 | <p>6:30pm Planning Commission (MCH)</p> <p>6:30pm Ardenwald/Johnson Creek NDA, (Ardenwald Elementary)</p> <p>6:00pm Riverfront Board (MCH)</p> <p>8</p> | <p>6:30pm Lake Road NDA, (Clackamas ESD)</p> <p>Milwaukie Riverfront Park Open House 6 to 8 p.m. Milwaukie City Hall</p> <p>9</p> | <p>7:00pm Linwood NDA, (Linwood Elementary)</p> <p>10</p> | 11 | <p>Landlord Training Forum 9 to 11 a.m. City Hall Conference Room</p> <p>12</p> |
| 13 | <p>Historic Milwaukie NDA hosts presentation on growth, 6:30 p.m. (MCH, see page 5)</p> <p>7:00pm Hector Campbell NDA, (PSB)</p> <p>14</p> | <p>5:30pm City Council Work Session, (MCH)</p> <p>7:00pm City Council Regular Session, (MCH)</p> <p>15</p> | 16 | <p>6:30pm Island Station NDA, (Milwaukie Grange)</p> <p>17</p> | 18 | <p>Leaf Drop Event 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Johnson Creek Blvd. Facility</p> <p>19</p> |
| <p>Special Harvest Market! 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Across from City Hall</p> <p>20</p> | 21 | <p>6:30pm Planning Commission (MCH)</p> <p>7:00pm Parks and Recreation Board (MCH)</p> <p>22</p> | 23 | <p>6:00pm Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSB)</p> <p>24</p> | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | <p>6:30pm Ledding Library Board, (LED)</p> <p>28</p> | 29 | 30 | | | |

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

ARDENWALD AND JOHNSON CREEK

Meetings held on second Tuesdays
6:30 p.m., Ardenwald Elementary
CoChairs: Lisa Gunion-Rinker, (503) 659-7807
Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno, (503) 653-7800

HECTOR CAMPBELL

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

HISTORIC MILWAUKIE

Meetings held on second Mondays
6:30 p.m., Milwaukie City Hall
Chair, Ed Zumwalt, (503) 654-2493
email: PEMCZUM@aol.com

LINWOOD

Meetings held on second Thursdays
7:00 p.m., Linwood Elementary
Chair, Dolly Macken-Hambright, (503) 659-8908

ISLAND STATION

Meetings held on third Thursdays
6:30 p.m., Milwaukie Grange
Chair, Lisa Batey, (503) 353-1825
email: lisabatey@msn.com

LAKE ROAD

Meetings held on second Wednesdays
6:30 p.m., Clackamas ESD
Chair, Debby Patten, (503) 653-7908

LEWELLING

Meetings held on first Thursdays
7:00 p.m., Lewelling Elementary
Chair, Jeff Klein, (503) 653-8639
email: jeff@jkws.com

Meeting Broadcast Information Channel 30: **NEW!**

City Council Work Sessions:

Mon., Wed., Fri.: 1 a.m., 5 a.m., 1 p.m., 8 p.m.
Tues., Thurs.: 5 a.m., 9 a.m., 4 p.m.,
5:30 p.m., 11 p.m.
Sat., Sun.: 6 a.m., 1 p.m., 9 p.m.

City Council Regular Sessions:

Mon., Wed., Fri.: 9 a.m., 4 p.m., 2:30 p.m.,
8:30 p.m.
Tues., Thurs.: 1 a.m., 1 p.m., 7 p.m.
Sat., Sun.: 2 a.m., 10 a.m., 5 p.m.

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



Community 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
To reach the City by phone:
(503) 786-7555

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