



AMITY GRAPEVINE

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MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MICHAEL CAPE

I hope that everyone has a wonderful holiday and here's to a fantastic new year! This new year will hopefully bring positive new changes to the city, starting with the Amity City Council! Please welcome Robert Andrade and Ryan Lehman as your new council members. Get to know your new council members in upcoming newsletters. I'd like to recognize the councilors that the City has said good-bye to. Councilor Dawn King served on the council from January 2015 through December 2018. Dawn was involved with many of the City's activities and events. She volunteered her time throughout her term to help with Movies in the Park, National Night Out, and the Tree Lighting Event to name a few. Dawn served as the chairperson for the Police Committee and the co-chair to the Ordinance Committee. Also leaving the council is Councilor William Daley. William served from September 2017 through December 2018. William also was involved in many of the City events. William participated in Movies in the Park, Pumpkin Decorating, and National Night Out to name a few. William served as the chairperson for the Water & Sewer Committee and the co-chair of the Parks & Streets Committee. Both councilors received plaques at the December 5th council meeting where they were recognized for dedication and service to the City of Amity. The City wishes them both the best!



In addition, former Police Chief Dan Brown was present at the December 5th council meeting, where he presented plaques to Amity Police Reserves for their dedication and service. The reserves present at the meeting were: Victor Kintz, Rick Noble, and Mike Brandt. The reserves not present were Jacob Secor and Christopher Edmison. The City really appreciates all the volunteer time the reserves put in to make our city safer and wishes them the best in their future endeavors.

On another note, enclosed with this newsletter is the 2019 Amity Resident Survey. Please take the time to complete the survey and return it to the City by January 22, 2019. The returned results help the Council identify where the community thinks improvements are needed. ~Continued on backside

UTILITY RATE INCREASE

On December 5, 2018, the Amity City Council approved to increase the water and sewer rates, effective this month. The Council annually evaluates the ability to maintain financially sustainable water and sewer utility systems and, if deemed necessary, revise the base and usage rates based upon the Portland Consumer Price Index. The current increase will raise the base rate for water and sewer \$2.00 and will increase the consumption charge 3.9%.

The City Council never wants to increase rates; however, the City needs to ensure that we can pay the debt obligation requirements, as well as receive adequate revenue to properly operate the water and sewer systems and make necessary improvements when needed.

CHRISTMAS DONE BRIGHT RESULTS

The results of the Christmas Done Bright decorating contest are in! Congratulations to:

- Best Decorated House – 1004 Jellison Avenue
- Best Decorated Yard – 110 Enos Street
- Mayor's Choice – 413 Sherman Avenue
- Best Decorated Business – Amity Truck and Tractor

Awards were delivered to the residents on Sunday and Amity Truck and Tractor received their award on Monday. Amity Truck and Tractor had a star on their building that can be seen from across town and it is a nice reminder of all the businesses that call Amity home and the positive influence that they have on our community! Thank you to everyone that participated with wonderful displays!

Honorable mentions go to: 132 Getchell Avenue and 101 Rice Lane.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

The council reviews your responses during the annual goal-setting workshop in February. The Council will also set goals for the upcoming year based on your concerns. A link to the survey is also available on our website at www.cityofamityoregon.org and on our Facebook page.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM AMITY DIG!

Amity Downtown Improvement Group (DIG) had a wonderful 2018 providing a re-start to a Daffodil Festival, movies during the summer, flower baskets planted by Amity High students and hung downtown, business promotional opportunity during the Art Harvest tour and of course Santa arriving for the Tree Lighting. We look forward to 2019... and hope to have your participation in meetings and/or events this year. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at 5:30 at Trade Street Commons, 516 Trade Street. Now that you have your 2019 calendars, save the date for March 16, 2019 for the Daffodil Festival at the community center. If you want to help with the festival, contact Erin at rainflower94@gmail.com. Thank you and Happy New Year!

~Submitted by Amity DIG

EVENTS/CLOSURES

Council Meeting- January 2 at 7pm

Committee Meetings- January 16 at 5pm

- Police committee
- Ordinance committee
- Parks/streets committee
- Water/sewer committee
- Community engagement committee
- Finance committee

City Hall Closed- January 21 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Council Meeting- February 6 at 7pm

City Hall Closed- February 18 for President's Day

www.cityofamityoregon.org

Amity City Council:

Council President Max Walker, Rudy van Soolen, Robert Andrade, Joshua Simonson, Caralyn Miller, Ryan Lehman, and Mayor Michael Cape.

Calling all good people who live in or near Amity!

Join your friends and neighbors at City Hall on Thursday, January 31st, from 7 to 9 pm to help guide positive economic development for our community. Amity received a sizable grant from Travel Oregon, the state tourism office, a few months ago aimed at enhancing the Amity area as a tourist destination through developing a compelling "Brand" that will inspire travelers to visit our town and area and spend money at our local businesses. The grant is a tourism grant, not city dollars, and the grant can only be used for the purpose of promoting tourism to the area to create positive, local economic impact.

Amity is already a wonderful city and a desirable destination for tourists who appreciate our small-town atmosphere and beautiful agricultural setting. With a solid branding and marketing campaign, we can encourage more tourists, and tourism dollars, to come to our area. But we need your help! For this to have a positive impact on the community, it is essential for our community to be involved and provide input. The meeting on January 31 will offer everyone a chance to share their opinions and for our branding team to listen.

We're looking forward to a great turnout on Jan 31! (Oh, by the way, there will be cookies!)