

Amity Grapevine

February 1, 2024

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MESSAGE FROM MAYOR RACHEL KING:

Hello Amity,

After last month's frigid temps and multiple day 'ice event' my hope is that February brings us our usual wet and chilly, but expected, weather for the region.

A big thank you to everyone who replied to the annual City survey or joined City Administrator Frarck and I at the Town Meeting held in January. Sharing opinions and weighing in on what matters to you regarding our city government and services is impactful to the goals and policies City Council will set moving forward. Thank you for your involvement!

This year is off to a good start here in Amity. Last month the City Council accepted a bid for our SCA sidewalk project along the frontage of the elementary school on Rice In. Construction dates have not been set, but the city will be coordinating with the school and will do our best to keep everyone updated and informed as this project moves forward. Like the bridge project (but less extreme and with a much shorter timeline) this project may create some temporary disruptions to normal traffic flow near Amity Elementary. While contractors will do their best to minimize these occurrences, I'm asking in advance for your patience and understanding during the implementation of these improvements. This spring the City will be reapplying for Safe Routes to Schools grant funding to further these enhancements by submitting project applications for further sidewalk construction and an additional flashing beacon on the south end of Trade St.

I'd like to use this opportunity to highlight a couple of topics that your City Council and Planning Commission will continue to discuss and deliberate on in 2024. Accessory dwelling units and short-term rentals are two areas where our current codes are being examined to see if current policies and regulations fit the needs and preferences of our community. Two joint public meetings of the Commission and Council have taken place and the next will be scheduled during our upcoming City Council meeting. Time and date info will be shared once confirmed. I encourage anyone who has interest or opinions on these subjects to please join us.

As always, your City Council and I are here to serve and represent YOU!

Wishing you all a fabulous February

AMITY INFO CORNER: City Hall often gets calls regarding requests for services that are not in the City's area of responsibility. So, we'd like to share some of the contact information for our partners.

- To report a streetlight outage, contact PGE through their website: https://portlandgeneral.com/outages-safety/report-a-streetlight-problem
- If you're concerned about animals being potentially mistreated, please contact the Oregon Humane Society at: https://www.oregonhumane.org/report-cruelty/suspected-animal-cruelty/ or by calling (503) 802-6707.
 - o On a related side note, please be sure to clean up after your pets. It makes a big difference in allowing others to enjoy the City's public spaces.
- If you have a possible natural gas leak, call NW Natural Gas at 800-882-3377.
- Finally, if you have a water or sewer issue contact City Hall at 503-835-3711.

AMITY DIG NEWS:

Winter is here and that means that daffodils will be on their way in the coming month... which also means the **Daffodil Festival** will be held on **Saturday**, **March 30**th, to celebrate the flower, welcome spring and our neighbors, provide an outing to showcase your daffodils for judging, purchase plants and crafts, and continue the long beloved Amity tradition.

Let's continue the tradition of the Daffodil Festival and community support and involvement is requested. Planning meetings in preparation for the event will begin on Thursday, February 1st at 5p.m. at City Hall. This festival will continue if there are volunteers to assist. Please contact Erin Rainey at rainflower94@gmail.com or phone 503-435-8589 if you want to be informed of future meetings or want to volunteer. We can find the PERFECT volunteer opportunity for you, from something small to something more involved. Please get involved to continue the Amity Daffodil Festival into the future.

Submitted by DIG

CHECK YOUR CHECKS:

The Water/Sewer Department has recently had some issues with a number of checks that are received for payment on utility bills. Please make sure that you double check the following before submitting:

- ✓ Written amount matches the number amount,
- ✓ Check is signed, and
- ✓ Check is dated correctly

Also, if you drop off a check <u>without</u> your remittance stub, please make sure that your <u>account number is written on your check</u>. This will help ensure that your payment is applied to the right proper account.

Lastly, please do not staple your check to your remittance stub. The check could be torn because of removing the staple, making the check unable to be deposited. Thank you!



Events/Closures

Council Goal Setting – February 3rd at 8:30 am

Council Meeting – February 7th at 7pm

ZOOM info:

Meeting ID: 815 9322 3516

Passcode: 041853

Planning Meeting – February 12th at 6:30pm

Amity Day Committee Meeting -

February 13th at 6:00pm

<u>City Offices Closed</u> – February 19th for President's Day

Tourism Committee Meeting -

February 20th at 6:30pm

<u>Council Work Session</u> – February 21st at 5:30pm

Council Meeting – March 6th at 7pm

www.cityofamityoregon.org Phone # 503-835-3711

Amity City Council:

Council President April Dyche, Melissa Bojorquez, Sandy McArthur, Alice Thompson, Caleb Shields and Mayor Rachel King.

Budget Committee Members Needed!

The City of Amity currently seeking members to join the Budget Committee for fiscal year 2024-2025. Each is a three-year term. To be on the Budget Committee, you must reside within the city limits and be a registered voter. The Budget Committee typically meets one evening each week through the month of May. Being on the Budget Committee is a great opportunity to contribute your ideas on how your tax dollars are spent.

Interested persons may pick up an application at the Amity City Hall or on our website <u>www.cityofamityoregon.org</u>. The deadline for submittal is March 22, 2024.