

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**FORM OR-LB-1 NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING**

A public meeting of the IRFPD 6-604 will be held on May 8th, 2023 at 7:30 pm at the Lone Fire Hall in Lone, Oregon. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 as approved by the IRFPD Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at MCGG in Lone, OR, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. This budget is for an X annual budget period. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is the same as the preceding year. If different, the major changes and their effect on the budget are:

Contact: Sharon Camarillo Telephone: Email: irfpd@outlook.com

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - RESOURCES			
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	Actual Amount 2021-2022	Adopted Budget This Year 2022-2023	Approved Budget Next Year 2023-2024
Beginning Fund Balance/Net Working Capital	727,000	711,000	565,000
Fees, Licenses, Permits, Fines, Assessments & Other Service Charges			
Federal, State & all Other Grants, Gifts, Allocations & Donations			
Revenue from Bonds and Other Debt			
Interfund Transfers / Internal Service Reimbursements			
All Other Resources Except Current Year Property Taxes			
Current Year Property Taxes Estimated to be Received	304,542	307,392	292,984
<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>1,031,542</b>	<b>1,018,392</b>	<b>857,984</b>

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASSIFICATION			
Personnel Services	4,300	4,300	4,300
Materials and Services	146,850	166,850	166,940
Capital Outlay			
Debt Service			
Interfund Transfers	170,000	400,000	401,744
Contingencies	10,000	10,000	
Special Payments			10,000
Unappropriated Ending Balance and Reserved for Future Expenditure	700,392	437,242	275,000
<b>Total Requirements</b>	<b>1,031,542</b>	<b>1,018,392</b>	<b>857,984</b>

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES (FTE) BY ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT OR PROGRAM *			
Name of Organizational Unit or Program			
FTE for that unit or program			
GENERAL FUND	727,000	711,000	565,000
FTE			
EQUIPMENT and CAPITOL FUND	304,542	307,392	292,984
FTE			
Not Allocated to Organizational Unit or Program			
FTE			
<b>Total Requirements</b>	<b>1,031,542</b>	<b>1,018,392</b>	<b>857,984</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>			

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACTIVITIES and SOURCES OF FINANCING *			

PROPERTY TAX LEVIES			
	Rate or Amount Imposed 2021-2022	Rate or Amount Imposed This Year 2023-2024	Rate or Amount Approved Next Year 2023-2024
Permanent Rate Levy (rate limit 0.7385 per \$1,000)			
Local Option Levy			
Levy For General Obligation Bonds			

STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS		
LONG TERM DEBT	Estimated Debt Outstanding on July 1.	Estimated Debt Authorized, But Not Incurred on July 1
General Obligation Bonds		
Other Bonds		
Other Borrowings		
<b>Total</b>	\$0	\$0

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# Lexington passes on town-wide security

-Continued from PAGE ONE

ities, such as cloud-based storage and license-plate recognition.

Because Verkada cameras do require internet connection, the issue was raised that PrineTime, now Blue Mountain Networks, had originally entered an agreement to install internet at various city properties in lieu of paying a town franchise fee, which had never been done. Lexington Mayor Juli Kennedy said that, rather than looking at a new security system, she thought the town should focus on making sure the town internet is in place and that the current security cameras are working. The council also discussed the need for an additional camera at the city well.

“Those are our buildings and our places that we need to focus on,” Kennedy said.

“I think protecting the town’s assets is one thing, but having cameras around town just because is a whole different thing,” agreed Lexington Councilor Katie Imes.

Ferguson also told the council she had been reviewing water deposit histories. She said she thought the \$50 deposit should be returned or credited after a year of successfully paid service. She said there were more than 40 accounts she believed were more than a year old but added that, because of previous record keeping and switching software in 2021, it was difficult to tell if that had ever been done for any of the accounts.

“I don’t know that anybody’s ever received a deposit refund,” said Lexington Councilor Bill Beard.

Kennedy asked if the town had a policy regarding refunding the deposits, and Beard said he didn’t think so.

“I think we need to have something written up,” said Kennedy.

“It sounds like there’s no policy surrounding it, so we don’t have anything to

go off of,” agreed Imes, “to say, ‘Yes, do this,’ or ‘Don’t do that.’”

“It would make sense that it would be credited back when they close their account,” Imes added.

The council directed Ferguson to create a draft policy and investigate further.

The council also discussed the new Sunstone solar project by Pinegate Renewables, also known as the Echo Solar project. It’s one of the largest solar projects in Oregon and will be built on Hwy. 207 between Butter Creek and North Lex. The project expects to maintain between 500 and 700 workers on the project during the peak construction years of 2027-2029.

Imes said the information was helpful in order to plan for a possible influx of workers. She said she assumed many workers would commute from Boardman and Hermiston, but workers would come from all over the nation and would be staying for weeks at a time, and those workers would be looking for housing or RV parks.

Kennedy reported that she had submitted a proposal to Morrow County Health District to get two AED units for the town.

“The district has been really good about community involvement and making sure that places up at Blake Ranch have some and the schools have them,” said Kennedy. She added that one would be with the fire department so it could be taken on calls and the other would be mounted outside the town hall.

Kennedy said she also requested training on how to use it for anyone who might be interested.

MCHD approved not two, but three AEDs for the town at its April 24 board meeting.

Kennedy also said she had a short conversation with Morrow County Commissioner David Sykes.

“He’s very committed to the county, and especially the south end of the county,

I believe,” said Kennedy. “Even though he can’t attend the meetings, he still watches out for Lexington and is excited about the things that we’re doing.”

Lexington resident Dianna Dougherty raised concerns about the speed of traffic through town.

“I know that it’s something that’s in the works as far as sidewalks and public safety,” she said but added that she would like to see something that reminded drivers, especially trucks, to slow down through town.

Kennedy said they had the Morrow County Sheriff’s Office bring down a speed sign several times, and it worked for a while.

“But we need to try and do something different and see if can’t even finagle them into writing tickets,” she added.

Imes mentioned she had just heard that the town’s pre-application for a Transportation and Growth Management (TGM) plan had been accepted and that the program director seemed excited about it.

“But it takes time,” she said. “Government moves very slow, so to see anything substantial downtown is going to take a few years for us.”

“Which is unfortunate for us, but I think there are short-term solutions to these problems that we’re all aware of,” she added.

Lexington Town Maintenance Director Keith Hess reported that he wanted to put valves on two dead-end pipes so the town could flush them. He had consulted with Blue Mountain Plumbing, and they don’t do that kind of work, but he thought the town could do the work in-house.

Beard asked about the fire hydrant on Arcade that isn’t working, and Lexington Fire Chief Charlie Sumner said it had been out of service for a long time.

“We even had it covered, a number of times, in plastic so nobody would use it,” Sumner added.

“I think we need to get quotes,” said Gordon. “And

make sure there’s not others that need to be replaced, too.”

Hess said there was another one on F Street, as well as at least one other.

Ferguson said she had also met with Lexington Assistant Fire Chief Josie Miles to discuss fire department business. The fire department typically meets once a week on Wednesdays. Ferguson said she thought it would be beneficial if she attended one of the meetings each month, especially since 10 percent of her wage is from the fire department.

Lexington Councilor Bobbi Gordon told the council the people who own the Madras drag strip were looking for a fire truck. She said the town’s American LaFrance fire truck was just sitting there and couldn’t be used by the fire department, so she suggested giving the truck to them. The town purchased the truck from Crooked River for a dollar several years ago. The council agreed to sell the truck to the drag strip as is for two dollars.

In other business, the council:

-heard citizen complaints about trucks coming through town using their jake brakes, especially early in the morning, and about chickens free ranging through town;

-learned from Imes that the education and outreach portion of the town’s TGM would be starting soon, and that she had been handing out parade flyers for May Day;

-heard from Kennedy that there has been positive feedback from the community regarding the book library and discussed placing a second library box somewhere else in town;

-received a \$1,000 Morrow County tourism grant and discussed using the funds to create a brochure for the town with contact information, events and town highlights;

-learned from Gordon that the town hall IT project

has hit some road bumps, but they are planning on a shared drive where all city documents will be stored rather than being stored on individual computers; and

-discussed the application for the upcoming Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group. Ferguson suggested applying for the grant to update the FEMA park and make it more welcoming. Sheila Miller said she had been

on the council during the town’s previous work with the park, and FEMA had a lot of stipulations about what could and couldn’t be done on the property. Gordon suggested, somewhat tongue in cheek, that they use the funds to paint a giant rabbit in the street similar to Heppner’s shamrock.

The next meeting of the Lexington Town Council will be Tuesday, May 9, at 6:30 p.m.

**ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:**  
**MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.**

## Morrow County Board of Commissioners Notice of Public Hearings

### To Update the County’s Ambulance Service Area Plan

The Morrow County Board of Commissioners will hold a series of Public Hearings to consult with and seek advice from each person, city entity or rural fire protection district within the County that provides or desires to provide ambulance services and has notified the county of its desire to be consulted prior to the adoption of the update of the Ambulance Service Area Plan and the boundaries of any ambulance service areas to be established under the plan. In addition, the County will hear testimony from interested public citizens.

Oral and written comments will be accepted. Written comments must be received by Wednesday, May 10, 2023 and can be submitted either via email to [rvanderwall@co.morrow.or.us](mailto:rvanderwall@co.morrow.or.us) or by mail to Morrow County, P.O. Box 788, Heppner, OR 97836.

The Board will consider the comments received to draft and adopt a new Ambulance Service Area Plan and designation of the boundaries of any ambulance service areas at a future meeting. The County is currently operating under the 1998 Ambulance Service Area Plan and Ordinance MC-C-4-98.

The Public Hearing details are as follows:

1. 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room, 110 N. Court St., Heppner
2. 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room, 110 N. Court St., Heppner
3. 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> – Port of Morrow Riverfront Center, Riverfront Room, 2 East Marine Drive, Boardman
4. 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> – Morrow County Government Center, Courtroom, 215 N.E. Main Avenue, Irrigon

*Oral comments from a person, city entity or rural fire protection district within the County that provides or desires to provide ambulance services will be limited to 10 minutes, and comments from the public will be limited to three minutes.*

Direct inquiries to: Roberta Vanderwall, Interim Administrator [rvanderwall@co.morrow.or.us](mailto:rvanderwall@co.morrow.or.us) 541-676-5613



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