

City of Westfir Newsletter

August 2023



City Hall Hours: Mon Wed Fri 9am – 2pm

***City Council meetings are the first Monday of the month at 5:30pm.
Meetings are held at City Hall and also via audio/video teleconference.***

CITY DIRECTORY

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- ◆ Katherine Bishop
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The Future of Fire Services in Westfir

The local firefighting/EMS community is hoping for your involvement in keeping our citizens safe.

The City of Westfir is working toward having our own Fire Station again, in cooperation with Oakridge and Hazeldell. We have our own volunteer Fire Chief, Jim “Gunny” McKee; have received some donations; and are looking at grant opportunities to build a new station to house the fire engine that belongs to Westfir. In the meantime, Chief McKee and other volunteers are modifying the north end of City Hall to accommodate the equipment. Westfir needs volunteer firefighters to be trained with Oakridge and Hazeldell folks.

Oakridge, Westfir and Hazeldell jointly hired a consultant last fall to analyze three options for fire services, and we will receive his final report this summer. Westfir will then need to decide how to proceed based on his analysis. Please consider reviewing the options when they're released, and lend your voice to help us choose the best option for our community

— Mayor D'Lynn Williams



Fatal Drug Overdose in Westfir

Westfir City Hall received an urgent call recently requesting Life Flight for a citizen because neither an ambulance nor police officer was available.

The Mayor later verified with Scott Hollett, Oakridge Fire Chief, that only an on-scene EMT can request Life Flight. In addition, Life Flight will not fly a patient who is in cardiac arrest.

A Westfir resident suggested that the City have the overdose treatment, Naloxone/Narcan, on hand and provide citizens with training in how to administer the drug. The City Council will take up the issue at the next Council meeting on August 7.

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Procedure to Report Animal Incidents Within the City of Westfir

1. Report the incident (including dog bites *) to the City of Westfir.
2. The City will notify Lane County Animal Services (LCAS) in the following situations:
 - An animal bite, when the owner is unknown and the animal is at large.
 - A vicious animal is at large (the animal is endangering the public safety).
 - An injured animal.
 - An animal is in immediate danger due to neglect or abuse.
3. The complainant will be contacted by LCAS and asked to complete an online report.

Please note:

- Only adult victims or parents of juvenile victims can file a complaint. Witnesses cannot file a complaint on behalf of an adult victim.
- LCAS will not respond to incidents more than three weeks old.
- LCAS will want to know the full extent of events leading up to an animal bite to determine whether it is a citable offense.
- LCAS does not handle feral cat issues.

Other violations of City Ordinance 120, which regulates animals, will be handled through the regular complaint procedure: notifying owner of violation and requiring abatement; issuing a citation if not abated; and pursuing fines in Oakridge Municipal Court.

* For dog and other domestic animal bites, complete and submit the Animal Bite Form, which can be found on the City website:

<https://www.ci.westfir.or.us>

City Government > Forms & Applications

Notice of Land Use Public Hearing

The City of Westfir Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Monday, August 21, at 5:30 p.m.**, to consider three land use applications pertaining to the mill site. To learn more, including how to attend, go to the City's website—www.ci.westfir.or.us—or pick up a copy of the notice at City Hall.

Community Cleanup

Fall community cleanup is happening again this year! City Hall will host a large dumpster for use by City of Westfir residents to dispose of unwanted items.

Watch the September newsletter or Facebook for dates and a list of items allowed for disposal.



Ordinance Violation Complaints

City code enforcement in Westfir is mostly complaint-based. A complaint may be submitted by email, mail or phone, or in person. A complaint form is available on the City's website and at City Hall, but submission of the form is not required to make a complaint.

Please keep in mind:

- Complaints cannot necessarily be kept confidential as they may be subject to public records requests.
- You can submit a complaint anonymously, but the City cannot pursue the matter in Court without witnesses.
- Never put yourself in danger when documenting an ordinance violation.
- The City will not put employees in danger when documenting an ordinance violation.
- Our hope is to work with the homeowner to resolve the issue.

The most requested ordinances are posted on the City website, and copies are available at City Hall.