March 2024

Mayor’s Message

There are times when we need “outsiders” to bring a little perspective on life. Back in January during the Ice Storm we had one of those moments. A couple volunteered at the warming shelter we set up. These folks had only lived here a few months and they were willing to come out and help folks that they really knew nothing about. They just wanted to serve. They had fallen in love with our town.

I mentioned back in January’s Message how my wife and I had traveled for a few weeks in December and how it had renewed our love for our town. I am sure that most of us feel that way after we have been gone for a time. Toledo is a special place where folks still come together to help each other in times of need and in times of community. We saw it in that time of need in the Ice Storm.

Last month we saw it when a group of young people and their coaches came together 10 years ago with a dream of winning a State Wrestling Title. Those folks and this community worked and sacrificed for that dream, and on February 23, it became a reality! Seven young men went to Portland and brought back the 2A/1A State Championship to Toledo! We have witnessed that power of community twice in less than four years. In 2020 Toledo brought home its first Team Title ever, and now it has happened again in a different sport with a community of parents, businesses and citizens who stood by them for all the years it took to bring these dreams to fruition.

Here in the City we are working with The Greater Toledo Pool and Recreation District to expand the pool and bring an Indoor Event and Recreation Center to Arcadia Park. The building will house Community rooms and Sports Facilities to include basketball. This has been a desire here for many years.

We will be coming to you in May with a ballot measure to fund the construction of a new water tank on Ammon Road. The current tank has reached the end of its functional life and has deteriorated rapidly. With the way tanks are constructed, it is much more cost effective to raise a new tank than to repair the old one. There will always be those things that will be in need of repair and those that any community will want to have to increase the quality of life. But one thing I do know is that Toledo will never have a shortage of true community spirit and willingness to work hard to improve our town and our neighbor’s lives.

April is National Volunteer Month!

To recognize National Volunteer Month, the City will dedicate the City newsletter in April to highlight nonprofits within the City of Toledo.

Include your organization in the newsletter by filling out the form on our website at http://tinyurl.com/ToledoOR or follow the QR code.

WE ARE HIRING!

We have several positions open in Library, Fire and Police Departments. Great benefits packages available! Visit at www.cityoftoledo.org/jobs for information and details on how to apply.

City of Toledo is an equal opportunity employer.
Visit the City of Toledo’s Webpage to Pay Bills, Manage Autopay, and More!

While our current system allows you to pay online and set up autopay through our website, the City of Toledo has some exciting news!! We are working at upgrading our system within the next couple of months. Keep your eyes open as we move our services to bring a better experience and additional payment options for our citizens. It will get easier and faster to pay your bill.

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**Toledo City Council February 2024 highlights**

City Council in February was busy this past month:

Amending the ordinance regulating business licenses, which adjusted the renewal process to the calendar year instead of the previous fiscal year and the prorated costs of the renewal costs.

Approved a resolution to submit a ballot measure to the voters in the primary election requesting $2,650,000 to fund the replacement of the Ammon Tank Reservoir.

They adopted their annual goals for fiscal year 2024-2025

They approved several contracts for road improvements in the City (10th Street and Butler Bridge Road crossing) as well as to seek consultation on a possible community center along A Street, where the current Greater Toledo Pool & Recreation District Pool is located.

Approved an expenditure of $55,000 to extend the water line on Business Highway 20 provide new services, allow for future expansion and also install three new fire hydrants for improved fire response.

The City Council meets on the first, third and fourth Wednesday monthly. All meetings are open to the public. You can attend in person or online via Zoom. Meeting information is available on the meetings page of the City website.

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**TEENS AND TWEENS**

Friday, March 29th 1-3PM  Watercolor Painting
Thursday, April 18th 1-3PM  Color and Connect
Saturday, May 11th 1-3PM  Tin Can Planters

Come, hang out at the library, make some art, and eat some snacks!
Limited seats, call Toledo Public Library to register: 541-336-3123
TOLEDO POLICE DEPARTMENT HIRES NEW EMPLOYEE, PROMOTES A HEAD DISPATCHER

The Toledo Police Department has been working hard at getting their open positions filled. This month we would like to introduce our newest police officer forward to introduce:

RYAN GAUGHAN:
Officer Ryan Gaughan was born in Eugene, Oregon before moving to Philomath and attending Philomath High School. Officer Gaughan is a graduate of Northwest Christian University with a Bachelor’s of Science in Criminal Justice. Hobbies include white water rafting, riding SeaDoo’s, exploring the Oregon coast and spending time with his Wife, Rachel, his 6 year old son, Oli and their cat, Raspberry Cappuccino Chicken Nugget Biscuit (named by his son). Officer Gaughan also enjoys watching college football and is a proud supporter of the OSU Beavers. Officer Gaughan has desired to enter into a career in Law Enforcement since he was approximately 4 years old and he looks forward to working with a great group of people and protecting and serving this community. Welcome Officer Guaghan to the Toledo Police Department.

In addition to our new officer, the Toledo Police Department introduces our new Dispatch Supervisor:

KATIE PIMENTEL:
Katie was born and raised local growing up in Newport. In 2004, she began her public safety career with Deschutes County 9-1-1 as a Telecommunications Specialist. Throughout the course of her public safety career, she lived and dispatched in Texas for the Horseshoe Bay Police Department and the Marble Falls Police Department, both small, bustling communities near Austin. Shortly after returning to Lincoln County in 2017 Katie joined the Toledo PD Dispatch Center. With nearly 20 years of communications service, Katie has obtained her Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced certificates in both Texas and Oregon. She has experience in various leadership roles, major media, mass casualty, multi-jurisdictional, and unusual/exemplary events. The fun for Kati side has always been serving in community events. You have more than likely seen Katie painting faces at National Night Out, spooking the kids at Trunk or Treat, and representing 911 for Blue Santa, Shop with a Cop, and 1st Responders Day.

Katie and husband, Peter, have a chaotic and loving family consisting of five giant Labradors (Pierce, Arsyn, Kindlynn, Felony, and Siren), their kitty (Catalyst), and an enormous flock of chickens.

Katie believes life has come full circle by coming back to the Oregon Coast. Katie is elated to return home and continue working locally while advancing her career. According to Katie, this job is a calling that has forever remains in her blood and continues to bless her with life-long friends and a family. Katie carries an immense amount of pride as a 911 Dispatcher. Katie states, “It is both an honor and privilege to share my passion, and my experience as the Communications Supervisor for the Toledo Police Department, in service and commitment to my department, and our community.”

CONGRATULATIONS KATIE ON YOUR PROMOTION!

IMPORTANT UPCOMING COUNCIL BUSINESS

Budget season is amongst the Council and many discussions will be had over the next few months on projects for the coming Fiscal Year. Your input is greatly appreciated in these discussions.
New Public Works/ Municipal Grounds Crew Employee: Brent Butler

Brent grew up in Sacramento, California where he was raised by parents who shared the love of art and nature with him. He attended college at Cal State Sacramento where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, with a minor in Geology. He worked as a field paleontologist through college which allowed him to purchase a “fixer-upper” house on the Oregon Coast.

Brent has been fortunate to work in his fields of interest as he did at the Oregon Coast Aquarium where he became an expert on invasive species removal and upland forest restoration with an emphasis on native fauna & flora and nature-scaping. His job with the aquarium led him to working on the grounds crew for Oregon State University for eleven years, where he was able to utilize his skillset to nature-scape and restore over 50 acres of land on Yaquina Bay.

After more than a decade with OSU and working in Corvallis, he decided to look closer to home for employment and was hired by the City of Toledo.

In his free time he enjoys spending time with his wife doing things like; traveling, woodworking, gardening, making glass art, collecting books and planning their next adventure.

We are excited to have Brent onboard and see what he contributes to our team. Be sure to say “Howdy” if you see him out and about!

New Public Works/ Municipal Maintenance Worker: Jason Brooks

Jason grew up in Toledo and is a 1996 graduate of Toledo High School. Prior to joining the City, he had worked in manufacturing for the majority of his adult life, including 18 years at the Georgia Pacific Mill here in Toledo. He worked in production on the #3 paper machine at GP, in the lab and as a Millwright. He brings a skillset of troubleshooting, problem solving and has a knack for understanding how things work. His experience with mechanical maintenance, pumps and motors of all sorts is also an added bonus.

Jason and his wife Betsy have 4 children and 2 grandchildren. Most of his spare time is spent with his family whether it be on camping trips, sporting events, at local theatre productions his kids are in, or hunting with his Brother and his Dad. He has a strong sense of family and community and we are happy to have him on Team Toledo.

BUDGET COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Budget Committee serves as an advisory committee to the City Council and meets annually between late April and early June to review the proposed City budget for the next fiscal year. You can learn more about the committee and how to apply at https://www.cityoftoledo.org/bc