



City of Milton-Freewater 2021 Summer Newsletter

Meet your new City Councilor Damien Reino

Article by City Manager Linda Hall



Photo Credit: Laurie Bubar

On April 12th the newest member of our City Council, Damien Reino was sworn into office for his position as City Councilor, At Large Position No. 1. Damien applied for the position which was vacated by the death of former Councilor Verl Pressnall who passed away from a battle with cancer.

Councilor Reino and his family have been residents of Milton Freewater for four years and enjoy the community. He has stated he is honored to serve in this role and is looking forward to working with the rest of the Council for the betterment of our city.

He is an employee of Washington State and prior to that served his country as a United States Marine. He has served as the Co-Chair of a Diversity Advisory Council at his workplace and has recently completed his Associate of Arts Degree.

Councilor Reino has expressed an interest in working on policies and objectives to continue to lower our crime rate in the City and is committed to continuing to make our city a better place for his and everyone's children to grow up in.

Congratulations Councilor Reino!



Meet the newest members of the Milton-Freewater Police Department & Dispatch Center

By Chief Doug Boedigheimer



Left to right: Officer Craig Robinson, Dispatcher Scott Hockaday & Dispatcher Karen Lagier

Craig Robinson is the most recently hired officer in the Milton-Freewater Police Department. Craig was hired on June 3rd, 2020, and recently completed the Oregon Police Academy on March 4th, 2021, scoring a 94% on his final examination.

Craig graduated from Ukiah High School in 1997, then enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served for 7.5 years where he rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant. Craig served in the 82nd Airborne Division and 10th Special Forces, serving multiple overseas deployments.

Prior to joining the Milton-Freewater Police Department, Craig worked as a Corrections Deputy for the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, serving there for over 6 years. In 2018 while working at the Sheriff's Office, Craig also completed a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Excelsior College.

Craig served as a field training officer, and a firearms instructor for both the Army and the Sheriff's Office. Craig runs a chapter of the "Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association", which is a nonprofit organization to help veterans in need.

Since joining the department, Craig has shown himself to be a valuable component to public safety in Milton-Freewater. A team player, Craig is always willing to help, and always willing to learn and do new things.

Craig's off duty interests include camping, fishing, and hunting.

The City of Milton-Freewater dispatch center welcomes one of its new team members: Mr. Scott Hockaday. Scott was born and raised in San Antonio Texas, where he started his public safety career as a volunteer firefighter. Scott received formal training in the Texas A & M Recruit Fire Training program.

In 1991 Scott joined the United States Air Force where he continued on as a firefighter. Upon leaving the Air Force, he continued in this profession until 1999, when he moved to the Seattle/Everett Washington area and made the change to 911 dispatching.

In 2018, Scott and his family moved to Walla Walla Washington to be closer to family. Scott was hired by the City of Milton-Freewater as an emergency communications specialist in January of 2021. Scott's past experience has proven to be valuable to him in the training process, as well as to the dispatch center.

Scott's hobbies and interests include target shooting, 3D printing, video gaming, woodworking, and as he says, "anything in a garage." Scott's background, experience, and personality have made him a good addition to the Milton-Freewater 911 Center.

The Milton-Freewater Dispatch Center welcomes Karen Lagier as its newest member.

Karen grew up in Hermiston Oregon and graduated from high school there in 1987. She earned an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice in 1990 from Blue Mountain Community College Pendleton.

Karen says that growing up, she had always wanted to be a police officer or hair dresser. Instead, she first became a dedicated mother, and a dispatcher for the Umatilla Police Department from 2003 through 2012, where she served as Lead Dispatcher and Office Administrator.

During her career, Karen has also dispatched for the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office as well as the Alamogordo Police Department in New Mexico, which was her position prior to coming to the Milton-Freewater Dispatch Center.

Karen feels that being a mother to her three daughters (now all adults) was the starring role in her life, with dispatching being a close second. Karen feels that dispatching is actually in her DNA! Karen is glad to be a part of the Milton-Freewater team, and, those in Milton-Freewater public safety are glad that she is with us.

REMINDER

YOU MUST CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG!

Before placing a fence on your property, please call the Planning Department at 541-938-8235 to get a fence permit. Also, please call 811 for underground utility locates before you dig. IT'S THE LAW!

The new Splash Pad is OPEN for splashing FUN!!!

The hours of operation are – 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. daily.

To get the pad to turn on– There are two buttons in the middle of the pad. One for each side. They are black and to get it to work you must touch them with your hand. The water is set on a timer to shut off after so long.

The address is Freewater Park – 17 NE 8th. But it is at the corner of NE 8th and Robbins.



The Pool is open for the Season!!

Beginning on June 3 the pool opened for the 2021 season. Please check the city website www.mfcity.com for the full schedule of times and programs available this year. We are very excited for the new season and looking forward to seeing you there!

Milton-Freewater Golf Course

Starting March 1, 2021

HOURS: March thru August 2021

Monday-Thursday 7:00 am to Dusk. Friday, Saturday & Sunday 6:00 am to Dusk.

Tee Times are required SEVEN (7) days a week.

Due to COVID-19 Protocols, hours and availability are subject to change at any time. Based on CDC & Governor Brown's orders masks are required when social distancing requirements cannot be practiced and when inside the Pro-Shop building. Please Call First 541-938-7284

City of Milton-Freewater

PO Box 6

Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #5
97862

City Council

Lewis S. Key, Mayor

John Lyon, Ward 1

Bradley J. Humbert, Ward 2

Jose Garcia, Ward 3

Damien Reino, At Large/Position 1

Steve Irving, (*Council
President*) At Large/Position 2

(Vacant) At Large/Position 3

City Manager

Linda Hall

Meetings and Closures

* meetings may be held virtually over Zoom (to be determined)

July 2021

- 5th—July Fourth Holiday—Observed—City Offices Closed
- 6th—Planning Commission Meeting—7pm—Albee Room—City Library*
- 12th—City Council Meeting—7pm—Albee Room—City Library*

August 2021

- 2nd—Planning Commission Meeting—7 pm—Albee Room—City Library*
- 9th—City Council Meeting—7 pm—Albee Room—City Library*

September 2021

- 6th—Labor Day Holiday—Observed—City Offices Closed
- 7th—Planning Commission Meeting—7 pm—Albee Room—City Library*
- 13th—City Council Meeting—7 pm—Albee Room—City Library*

Library Board Meetings typically held the last Thursday of the month, 4pm in the Monahan room. Please check with the library by calling 541-938-8247.

Recreation Committee meetings typically held the first Tuesday of the month at 5pm in the Monahan Room. Please check with Public Works by calling 541-938-8270.

Please check the city's website calendar for any changes/cancellations to the schedule at www.mfcity.com

All meetings are open to the public. The locations of the meetings are handicapped accessible. Please call City Hall at 541-938-5531, if you will need any special accommodations or an interpreter to attend or to participate in the meetings.

Publisher/Editor Laurie Bubar

Due to ever changing COVID-19 restrictions, please check the city website: www.mfcity.com or call before the meeting date to verify any venue or date changes.