



# Council Minutes

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Craven called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council President Chambers, Councilor Hansen, Councilor Solberg, Councilor Humphreys, Councilor Winklepleck, and Councilor LaCoste present. Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman, Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow, and City Administrator Scott McDowell were also present.

**ABSENT:** Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink was excused.

**PUBLIC:** Barbara Andersen, Debie Wyne, Karmel Curtis, Dan Murphy, Rod Souza, Jorden Parrish, Don Ware, Gary Shepherd (7:45 p.m.), Tia Parrish (*The Times*), Penny Rosenberg (*Democrat-Herald*) & guest, and Deputy Hardy (*LC*SO) were present.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS:** McDowell added a motion to be considered after the TMDL presentation...

**MINUTES:** Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve the March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting as presented. Councilor Solberg seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **PUBLIC HEARING | PRESENTATIONS:**

**Pioneer Association | Debie Wyne & Karmel Curtis** – Linn County Pioneer Association President Debie Wyne & Karmel Curtis requested permission to have a beer garden for this year's Picnic. Ms. Wyne briefly discussed the history of the Picnic and their plans for the beer garden. Karmel Curtis is working with Deluxe Brewing Company from Albany to make this happen. Friday night will be karaoke night. A live band, Pendleton Highway, is planned for Saturday night. Councilor Chambers liked the layout in Option #1 which was part of the materials provided to Council. Councilor Solberg asked about open container in the Park. Curtis said that OLCC requires all alcohol to stay within certain confines which will be in the Dance Hall. Councilor Chambers was concerned about kids being around alcohol on Saturday night. Councilor Hansen felt that adding a beer garden would be a departure from the family atmosphere created by Picnic. Councilor Solberg thanked the Association for generating attendance and excitement for the Picnic by adding this to their event.

*Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve their request as submitted as presented. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion and the motion passed 6-1 with Councilor Hansen voting no.*

**Semi-Annual TMDL Review** – McDowell reported on the required the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) mandates concerning Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The State deemed all cities Designated Management Agencies (DMA) in March 2021 so the State can start fining and levying mandatory improvements for stormwater systems. The City has been trying to comply with the mandate that started as a voluntary program, but is anything but that now. The City is working on complying with this unfunded mandate and was unnecessarily threatened by DEQ. The end goal of TMDL is to require cities to treat stormwater. For Brownsville to install the necessary infrastructure for this program, the costs would be close to \$25 million dollars. The City already has \$56 million in assets with nearly half in critical condition.

**Legislative Advocacy & Awareness Webpage Review** – McDowell gave a brief overview of a newly made webpage for Council and the public to use. The page has quick links to State and Federal representatives as well as a direct link to the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS) which has everything being considered by the State Legislature available to all. There is a link to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) that allows anyone to sign up for email alerts, notices and hearings from any State agency.



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## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

1. **Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Report.** Deputy Brian Hardy filled in for Sergeant Frambes. Hardy reviewed the stats for March. Hardy said that the State has cleared the way for a mental health emergency line, 988, which will act like 911. The program does not have enough funding to work just yet, but is being built out. Linn County does have a mental health team that responds to certain kinds of law enforcement calls. Hardy indicated that no progress has been made on the counterfeiting issue due to tracking logistics. Councilor Winklepleck asked for the counterfeiting update. Councilor Hansen pointed out the traffic report for Blakely Avenue as presented by the LCSO. Hansen felt this highlighted how safe people are driving overall.
2. **Administration.** Administrator Scott McDowell shared that Budget Committee will meet Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and on May 4<sup>th</sup>. McDowell reviewed several construction logistics for the Rec Center Renovation project. City Hall will be an official Ballot Drop Site for the May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 election. Morrow and McDowell made a line item on the monthly financial report that shows Court revenue instead of providing a full report to Council. McDowell briefly reviewed the way the City prepares information for the public. The City is required by the Comprehensive Plan to include many inputs. McDowell said the City exceeds what is required in many different ways. Citizens receive the same information at the same time as Council members. The City sends out a monthly synopsis to every person in the 97327 zip code. The City is lucky to have great citizens who volunteer in many meaningful ways.
3. **Planning.** No comments.
4. **Library.** No comments.
5. **Office.** No comments.
6. **Court.** No comments.
7. **Council Comments.** No comments.
8. **Citizen Comments.** Stephen Irwin introduced himself as a candidate for the Linn Benton Community College Board of Directors, position #1. Irwin shared a bit of his personal history which included many years in law enforcement. Irwin asked Council for their vote on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Rod Souza expressed concern about homelessness camps being mandated by the State of Oregon. Souza cautioned Council about potential negative impacts of such a policy.

## **LEGISLATIVE:**

1. **Resolution 2023.08: State Shared Revenues & Services Verification** – Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve the annually required resolution as presented. Councilor Humphreys seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
2. **Resolution 2023.09: River's Edge Open Space Disbursement Accounting** – Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
3. **Ordinance 797: Curfew (Second Reading)** – Councilor Chambers moved to read the ordinance by title only. Councilor Humphreys seconded. The motion carried. Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve the ordinance as written. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.



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4. **Ordinance 800: Farm Animals (Emergency)** – McDowell presented an email from Dr. Rodia about residential beekeeping rules. McDowell said the City Attorney had assisted with the writing of this ordinance and that many cities prohibit beekeeping due to health and safety reasons. *Councilor Hansen moved to read the ordinance by title only. Councilor Chambers seconded. The motion carried. Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve the ordinance as written and pass as an emergency. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion and the motion passed 6-1 with Councilor Solberg voting no.*
5. **Proclamation: Linn County Pioneer Association** – Mayor Craven recognized Pioneer Picnic as a time honored, Brownsville tradition.
6. **Proclamation: Mental Health Month** – Mayor Craven declared May Mental Health Month to highlight the importance of mental health awareness.
7. **Proclamation: Older Americans Month** – Mayor Craven declared May Older Americans Month highlighting the invaluable contributions senior citizens make in Brownsville.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **Central Linn Rec Center Renovation | Award Bid** – McDowell shared logistical issues being handled by the City. McDowell also discussed the need for additional financing for the successful completion of this project. *Councilor Chambers made a motion to award the Central Linn Recreation Center Renovation project to JE John Company out of Vancouver, Washington in the total amount of \$2,095,400 which includes a 10% contingency as presented and to authorize the Mayor and City Administrator to execute all necessary, associated documents for the project as needed. Councilor Solberg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
2. **Linn County Pioneer Association | Annual Letter** – Councilor Solberg made a motion to approve the coordination letter as requested. Councilor Humphreys seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Hands on History Request** – Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve the closure of Park Avenue on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 for Linn County Museum's Hands on History Event in Library Park. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **Finalize Council Values** – Councilor Chambers made a motion to adopt Council Values as presented. Councilor Solberg seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
5. **OLCC Liquor License Renewals (Annual)** – Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve the OLCC renewals as presented. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Senior Center Agreement | Modification** – Councilor Winklepleck made a motion to approve the modification of the partnership agreement with the Senior Center to raise the level to \$1,500 starting immediately. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Canal Company Insurance | Annual** – McDowell informed Council that it was time to check in with the Canal Company to make sure insurance is in place for the upcoming pumping season.



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2. **CIS Renewals** – McDowell let Council know that Staff is in the process of reviewing all insurance coverages carried by the City for the upcoming renewal. McDowell shared the unprecedented, rising costs of coverage.
3. **March Financials** – No comments.

### **CITIZEN QUESTIONS & COMMENTS.**

Rod Souza readdressed the Council thanking them for defending employees from getting the Covid-19 vaccine and for standing up for freedom.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilor Chambers shared the ODOT work zone safety public service announcement that reminds everyone to drive safely in work zones and on farming roads.

Councilor Hansen shared the stats on the traffic counter report for Blakely Avenue.

Councilor Winklepleck told Council he did a ride along with Sergeant Frambes for four hours in Brownsville. Winklepleck noted the importance and quality of the work performed by the Linn County Sheriff's Office.

**ADJOURNMENT** Councilor Chambers moved for adjournment, Councilor Solberg seconded and the meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Handwritten signature of S. Scott McDowell in blue ink.

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City Administrator S. Scott McDowell

Handwritten signature of Adam Craven in blue ink.

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Mayor Adam Craven