



## Council Meeting Synopsis

Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.



- ★ All members of Council were present. Mayor Craven presided.
- ★ *Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) | Deputy Frambes & Guests* | Frambes briefly reviewed the numbers from March. He said LCSO continues to follow-up on dog issues on Kirk Avenue. Frambes indicated that the County does have a dog pound but it is full, also laws have changed about the custody and disposition of holding dogs. Linn County belongs to an interagency task force that focuses on illegal drugs in Linn County and throughout Oregon. Operations were briefly highlighted with the number one focus being public safety and keeping cartels accountable to the laws of the State of Oregon and Linn County. Cartels have taken full advantage of Oregon's lax marijuana laws to bolster their operations and profits. Fentanyl continues to be the worst illegal drug to stop for a variety of reasons. One main reason is the profitability of producing the drug. It is cheap to make and has a tremendous street value.
- ★ *Semi-Annual TMDL Report | McDowell* shared the new requirements of the City's mandated TMDL DMA Plan. Frink and McDowell will make sure that the parameters of the current plan are met. McDowell pointed out the problems and benefits of the programmatic effort. The State is preparing to levy fines and penalties against any city in the State that does not exactly follow the prescribed regulations for TMDL.
- ★ *Public Works Report | Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink* reported that he is finishing up wastewater discharging April 30<sup>th</sup>. Obtaining sulfur dioxide, the main chemical needed for dechlorination of the wastewater effluent to meet NPDES permit requirements, continues to cause problems. New hardware and software will be installed this week at the Water Treatment Plant. The GR12 waterline project is waiting for the delivery of the generator. Public Works improved the floor and lighting in the Community Arts Building in advance of the Park season to better serve all who use the facility. Mowing is in full swing.
- ★ Citizen Patrick O'Donnell shared concerns about dogs on Kirk Avenue.
- ★ *City Administrator Report | Administrator Scott McDowell* is preparing for a software upgrade that runs the City website. Budget Committee meets Thursday. The City will be moving funds from the General Fund to the Cemetery Trust Fund to reflect the requirements of the Brownsville Municipal Code. Several years ago, the City Auditor required Council to move the funds, however this was in direct conflict with local law. The United States Supreme Court have heard arguments in two key cases that could have significant impact on the City regarding authority over public spaces and concerning bureaucratic rule making. Governor Kotek signed SB1576 that restores recreational immunity for cities, counties, and the State, however the bill is only valid for one year. The State Legislative Assembly will review the issue again during their next session.
- ★ Resolution 2024.06: State Shared Revenues & Services Verification | The City is required to file a resolution with the Secretary of State's Office to verify services provided by the municipality. Council unanimously voted to pass this resolution.
- ★ Resolution 2024.07: Accept River's Edge Subdivision Utilities | Council unanimously voted to pass this resolution that accepts specific infrastructure into the City's Capital Improvements Program.
- ★ Proclamation: Linn County Pioneer Association's Picnic | Mayor Craven recognized the Linn County Pioneer Association's 137<sup>th</sup> annual event.
- ★ Proclamation: Mental Health Month | Mayor Craven declared the month of May as Mental Health Month, underscoring the importance of personal mental health on a person's overall wellbeing.
- ★ Proclamation: Military Appreciation Month | Mayor Craven declared the month of May as Military Appreciation Month, thanking veterans and current service members and their families for their service to our Nation.

**City of Brownsville**  
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## LOCAL PATRON

- ★ Proclamation: Older Americans Month | Mayor Craven declared the month of May as Older Americans Month, and recognized the significant contributions senior citizens have made and continue to make in our community.
- ★ *Linn County Pioneer Association | Logistics Letter (Annual)* | Council passed a unanimous motion to forward a letter to the Picnic Board sharing logistical information for the upcoming Picnic celebration.
- ★ *Canal Company Insurance Verification (Annual)* | Council unanimously voted to authorize McDowell to verify insurance coverage prior to turning on the Mill Race pumps.
- ★ *May Council Meeting Reschedule | May 23<sup>rd</sup>* | Council voted unanimously to move the May Council meeting from May 28<sup>th</sup> to May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- ★ *Recycling Management Agency (RMA) | Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)* | Council heard a brief presentation about another unfunded mandate involving recycling. Sweet Home Sanitation is the City's franchisee for Solid Waste. Ultimately, these new rules and requirements will lead to higher rates for all.
- ★ *OLCC New Liquor Permitting Process* | McDowell clarified the new procedures employed by the State and cities responsibilities under this new system.
- ★ *Nuisance Abatement Process Modification | LCSO* | Council was notified that some recommendations on towing and other nuisance related issues will be brought to Council over the next few months.

All information the Mayor & Council received for the meeting can be found on-line prior to every meeting and afterwards at <https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/meetings>. Please contact City Administrator Scott McDowell with questions at 541.466.5880 or email at [admin@ci.brownsville.or.us](mailto:admin@ci.brownsville.or.us).

For more information, please visit <https://ci.brownsville.or.us>.



## Upcoming Events

**Carriage Me Back (to 1894)** | May 4<sup>th</sup> & May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | Linn County Museum  
**Election Day** | May 21<sup>st</sup> | Drop Box at City Hall | City Hall Hours | 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
**Council Meeting** | *Thursday* | May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 | Council Chambers | 7:00 p.m.