



Council Meeting Synopsis

Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on
May 28th, 2025



- ★ All members of Council present. Mayor Craven was excused. Council President Chambers presided.
- ★ *Stand by Me Day | Linda McCormick* | Mrs. McCormick talked about the planned activities including walking tours, antique cars, and the fan forum that will be held in the Rec Center. This year the event will be held on Saturday, July 26th, 2025. To learn more about the event, visit <https://linnparks.com/museums/linn-county-historical-museum>.
- ★ *Proposed Use of State Revenue Sharing (SRS) | FY 2025.2026* | Councilor Chambers opened a public hearing concerning the use of the State funds. No public spoke on the issue.
- ★ *Budget Public Hearing | FY 2025.2026* | McDowell touched on highlights for the upcoming budget adoption including the bonded debt assessments and a proposed 3% utility rate increase that would take effect July 1st. No members of the public chose to speak about the budget. McDowell said the City has historically used the SRS funds for streetlighting.
- ★ *Linn County Sheriff's Office Report* | Sergeant Frambes reported there were 32 traffic stops last month yielding 1 DUI and 3 warrants. Property crimes included a break-in at the local 76 station where cases of Coors Light were stolen. Stella Jones also experienced chainsaws being stolen. Event season is here, which is the busy season for the LCSO.
- ★ *Public Works Superintendent Report* | Superintendent Frink reported that the Park Caretakers have started. They are doing a great job so far. Frink is awaiting a new hydrant to fix the damaged hydrant on Park Avenue. Public Works will be relocating the hydrant. The Public Works team have been busy tending to mowing City properties. The team completed maintenance at Pioneer Cemetery, so everything looked great for Memorial Day.
- ★ *City Administrator Report* | Administrator Scott McDowell reported work will begin soon on the transition of the City website. Staff are working on scheduling the annual audit. Frink and McDowell submitted the required information for all City property & equipment insurance coverages. McDowell shared a letter from Pacific Power urging customers with medical concerns to investigate a generator due to possible power interruptions. Councilors received their Council Goals committee assignments.
- ★ *Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman | Planning* | Mrs. Coleman reviewed the FEMA PICM status and options. The City chose a permit-by-permit basis; however, this is an active case and will be changing during this year or next. Coleman touched on Senate Bill 6 & 974, both bills aim to restrict local control by adopting unmanageable timeframes for building permit reviews. She shared the City's process in working with a developer or a person building a home. The City always tries to get to yes for folks building in town, but Staff must ensure the Brownsville Municipal Code, the Public Works Standards and applicable laws and requirements are met. The City does not design projects, nor does the City dictate who can build or what they can build other than those general parameters found in the Code.
- ★ *Librarian Sherri Lemhouse* | Mrs. Lemhouse presented information on passes to the Oregon Gardens, the Gilbert House, the Museum of Natural & Cultural History at the University of Oregon, and the Oregon State Parks. Stop by the Library to check out these passes. To learn more about happenings at the Library, please visit <https://www.brownsvillecommunitylibrary.org/>.
- ★ *Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow* | Mrs. Morrow discussed the City's abatement process. She was happy to report that the program is going well. The City has been assisted by Sweet Home Sanitation, Linn County Sheriff's Office & Public Works through the years to clean up properties that were in violation of the Brownsville Municipal Code. Council has modified ordinances to give

Staff the proper tools to do advance this program. The City works with property owners to keep property in compliance and nearly everyone does a great job keeping Brownsville looking its best and ensuring safety for fire protection.

- ★ Resolution 2025.08: Election to Receive State Revenue Sharing Resolution (Annual) | Council unanimously voted to pass this resolution making the City eligible to receive State revenue. The City uses these funds toward the annual cost for streetlighting.
- ★ Ordinance 808: Nuisance Abatement Modification | Brownsville Municipal Code | Chapter 8.30.120 (Second Reading) | Council unanimously passed an ordinance that will modify the nuisance abatement ordinance that clarifies field procedures.
- ★ Linn County Museum | Hands on History Request (Annual) | Connie Bull requested the closure of Park Avenue & Averill Street to accommodate the event. Council approved the use of Library Park and the closure of Park Avenue, but did not authorize the closure of Averill Street.
- ★ Linn County Museum | Stand by Me Day Request (Annual) | Council voted unanimously to close Park Avenue as requested.
- ★ Central Linn School District | IGA | Council voted unanimously on a reciprocating agreement for the use of certain facilities and green space for youth athletics with the Central Linn School Board. The Central Linn Recreation Association was the beneficiary of this agreement.
- ★ James Land Lease Agreement | Council voted unanimously to continue an agriculture lease with an abutting property owner next to the North Wastewater Treatment Plant. The City has had a great relationship with the neighbor for many years.
- ★ June Council Meeting Schedule | Council unanimously approved moving the June meeting to June 30th, 2025.
- ★ Citizen Comments | No one commented.
- ★ Council Comments | Councilor Winklepleck requested that Mayor Craven & Mr. McDowell draft a letter to Pacific Power about the power blips. Council agreed by consensus for the letter to be sent.

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.

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



Upcoming Events

138th Pioneer Picnic | June 20th – 22nd, 2025 | Pioneer Park
Council Meeting | June 30th, 2025 | Council Chambers | 7:00 p.m.



FY 2025.2026 | Final Budget Hearing | June 30th

The Budget Committee met April 24th, 2025, and completed their recommendations for the upcoming fiscal year. Below are links to the LB1 and the complete proposed budget.

LB1 Form: <https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/bc-budget/page/2025-lb1-fy-20252026>



Completed FY 2025.2026 Recommended Budget:



Recommended Budget: <https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/bc-budget/page/2025-budget-fy-20252026-budget-committee-approved>

All City Budget Information: <https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/bc-budget>.



Pioneer Park Rules

Camping is allowed in Pioneer Park from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. Camping days include Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights (some exceptions around holidays are allowed). Park hosts will be on site to collect camping fees and answer any questions.

Pioneer Picnic 2025

June 20th, June 21st, & June 22nd, 2025

Theme: Pioneer Logging Camps

The Linn County Pioneer Picnic has been a local staple since 1887 when it was created as a reunion for the early homesteaders. Pioneer Picnic is now the longest continuously running event in the State of Oregon. The event cherishes our pioneer history and builds community. Admittance is free. Activities include exhibits and entertainment in the park. It also features a Kiddie Parade on Friday and the crowning of the Linn County Pioneer Picnic Princesses and Queen. Saturday events include a fireman's breakfast, and the Grand Parade on Main Street starting at 10:00 a.m. After the parade, there are events in the park including a quilt show, flower show, art display, horseshoe tournament, logging competition, crafts, and a children's penny scramble. On Sunday start your morning off with the Pioneer Dam Run, a 10K run or a 5K run/walk. The race starts next to the Linn County Historic Museum at 8:00 a.m. Proceeds will be donated to help Central Linn High School cross-country and track teams. A nondenominational church service is held in the grandstands, and park events continue throughout the day.



Weeds & Nuisance Season



June 1st is the official start of noxious vegetation season in Brownsville. The Brownsville Municipal Code, Chapter 8.30.060, states that weeds and noxious vegetation more than twelve inches (12") high must be cut by June 1st. With typical spring weather, rain showers and then bursts of sunshine, weather has encouraged the grass and vegetation to grow quickly. Staff will be reviewing all properties in the City soon to check for weeds & nuisance compliance.

This ordinance is designed for fire hazard mitigation. Recent local wildfires over the last few seasons have shown the importance of maintaining a defensible space around your home and property. Thank you to all the folks that have been actively maintaining your property during this busy growing season!



City of Brownsville
 255 North Main Street
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PRSR STD
 ECRWSS
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 EDDM RETAIL

LOCAL PATRON

Brownsville Community Library



Did you know that your local library has a Cultural Pass Program? Passes include the Gilbert House Children’s Museum, the Oregon Gardens, the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History, Oregon State Parks day use parking permit, and the Central Cascade Wilderness Permit pass. Check with the library for more information on how to check them out!

The City of Brownsville has been receiving a lot of complaints about speeding around town. With the busy summer months upon us, school letting out for the summer, and increased biking events in the area, there will be more foot and bike traffic on the roads. Traffic patrols increase during the summer months, so please be aware of speeds and traffic laws to keep our community safe. Thank you for being a good neighbor!



Emergency Preparedness



The City of Brownsville’s Emergency Preparedness Committee has been participating in educational awareness at the Central Linn Elementary Play Day for several years. Volunteers meet with each class and talk about things such as how to call 9-1-1, the importance of knowing your address, what to pack in an emergency go-bag, how much water each person needs per day, doing pre-fire escape route drills and having a designated meeting place outside, etc.

This information, plus much more, is available to access on the Central Linn Community Emergency Preparedness Committee page at <http://clcepc.org/>. You will find lots of useful information! Check it out!