



Council Meeting Synopsis

Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on
June 30th, 2025



- ★ All members of Council were present. Mayor Craven presided.
- ★ *Muddy Creek Solar Park | Troy Jones* | Mr. Jones provided an update outlining the progress that has been made with the citing of the Muddy Creek Solar Park. Jones shared several instances where Q Cell had not followed proper procedure or made conclusions on studies that proved inconsistent with State Law. Jones was complimentary of the State agencies working on the citing project because they were attempting to get the requirements met. Jones said that Q Cell was granted a one-time extension until May 16th, 2026 to submit all the required plans. Jones explained the measures that Marion County has taken to protect EFU lands and said that the Linn County Commissioners are considering their legal options. To learn more and track progress, visit <https://www.friendsofaproad.com/>.
- ★ *Proposed Use of State Revenue Sharing (SRS) | FY 2025.2026* | Mayor Craven opened a public hearing concerning the use of the State funds and the FY 2025.2026 Budget. No members of the public spoke on the issue.
- ★ *Budget Public Hearing | FY 2025.2026* | No members of the public chose to speak about the budget.
- ★ *Linn County Sheriff's Office Report* | Sergeant Frambes reported there have been strange incidents around town including two domestic situations, one involving a firearm and the other involving a vehicle used as a weapon. Charges are pending on both cases. The Office has been busy with hiking accidents that have claimed the lives of area teenagers. Deputies are preparing for the Fourth of July celebrations throughout the County with Harrisburg and Mill City being the largest celebrations. Deputies will be in town for Brownsville's celebration.
- ★ *Public Works Superintendent Report* | Superintendent Frink reported that the team has been busy preparing for events. There was a water leak in the middle of the night on Spaulding Avenue. The Park Caretakers are doing a good job taking care of Pioneer Park.
- ★ *City Administrator Report* | Administrator Scott McDowell reported the City's S & P rating review is this week. A three-year contract has been signed with the Linn County Sheriff's Office to continue providing police services. Preparations are being made for all summer events. The City is working on building a new City website with CivicsPlus. Staff will put out a proposal for the painting of City Hall soon. Council is working on committees to complete recommendations for Council goals.
- ★ *Resolution 2025.09: Water Rates Annual Adjustments (Annual)* | Council voted unanimously to pass this resolution adjusting water rates by 3%.
- ★ *Resolution 2025.10: Sewer Rates Annual Adjustments (Annual)* | Council voted unanimously to pass this resolution adjusting sewer rates by 3%.
- ★ *Resolution 2025.11: Adopting FY 2025.2026 Annual Budget* | Council voted unanimously to pass this resolution adopting the FY 2025.2026 budget. The resolution appropriates funds, categorizes taxes and allows for delinquent assessments to be added to the tax rolls.
- ★ *Resolution 2025.12: Year End Transfers (Annual)* | Council voted unanimously to pass this resolution for accounting purposes.
- ★ *Approve Delinquent Assessments (Annual)* | Council voted unanimously to levy one delinquent assessment to the tax rolls in the amount of \$506.90.
- ★ *OLCC | Local Licenses* | McDowell shared the new process implemented by the State two years ago. Liquor licenses are now done online. Council approved all licenses for 2025.



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LOCAL PATRON

- ★ *Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) | TMDL | Shade Study* | The City received a certified letter from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requiring the City to conduct a shade study on the Calapooia River. Council referred the matter to a subcommittee to develop a response.
- ★ *Council Comments* | Councilor Chambers wished everyone a happy and safe Independence Day. Mayor Craven thanked the person who returned his son's bicycle helmet.
- ★ *Citizens Comments* | Michael Humphreys expressed concern about the public comment period change recently made by Council. Humphreys thought it would be better to have the comment period after the legislative items. Craven and McDowell explained that as it stands, citizens have the opportunity to share concerns prior to any item being adopted. The process does require citizens to read through items they may be concerned about. The last comment period was rarely used. Jack Alsman expressed concern about the public restrooms on Spaulding Avenue. Staff shared the reality of having public restrooms and facilities. Unfortunately, many people do not respect public facilities, which often leads to vandalism.

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

Rally on the River | July 18th & 19th, 2025 | Pioneer Park
Citywide Garage Sale | July 19th, 2025
Stand by Me Day | July 26th, 2025



Wildfire Season



Fire authorities are busy preparing for another very busy fire season. It is imperative that folks keep weeds, tall grasses, overgrown trees and shrubs cut back to provide a wildfire defensible space to protect yourself and your property. A big thank you to everyone in town for keeping our community risk as low as possible and complying with the City's weed and nuisance ordinances. For more information on wildfire preparedness, check out the Oregon State Fire Marshal's website.