



## Council Meeting Synopsis

Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on  
December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025



- ★ Council members Hansen, Eversull and LaCoste were excused. Councilors Chambers, Solberg and Winklepleck were present. Mayor Craven presided.
- ★ *Central Linn Community Foundation | Chenoweth Robertson* | Mrs. Robertson highlighted efforts supported by the Foundation. Councilor Chambers thanked the Foundation for the role they play in Brownsville and the greater Central Linn community. Council voted unanimously to continue the partnership with the Foundation and to increase the City's effort.
- ★ *Brownsville Art Association | Dr. Lori Garcy* | Dr. Garcy shared many shows that happened at the Art Center this past year. The Association has forty-three artists on display with a waiting list. The Association has many more members. Garcy shared that the recent one-day holiday event yielded \$3,500 for those involved, which shows great support from the community. The Art Center offers classes throughout the year and plans to host a writer's conference in 2026. Garcy thanked Council for their continued support and partnership.
- ★ *Annual Audit Review | FY 2024.2025* | McDowell reviewed the audit as provided by City Auditor SingerLewak. The City continues enjoying solid financial health while completing major infrastructure projects. Inflationary factors continue to pose concern. McDowell reviewed the bond and debt schedule along with the month end report that is included in every agenda packet.
- ★ *Cybersecurity | Bi-annual Review* | McDowell shared the numbers and impacts of cybercrime nationally and worldwide. Cybercrime is equivalent to the third largest economy in the world according to Cybersecurity Ventures research. Artificial Intelligence (AI) continues to be a major Force in computing technology and, so far, it hasn't been for the better. Technology keeps running ahead, leaving most behind. The City takes necessary precautions, but there are many pitfalls. Councilor Winklepleck and Councilor Solberg shared personal experiences as a warning to be extremely careful while interacting with technology.
- ★ *Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Report* | Sergeant Frambes reported on a few crashes around Brownsville noting one just outside of town on Seven Mile Lane. No thefts to report. Someone vandalized the Park; LCSO continues their investigation. Administrator Scott McDowell pointed out how the destruction of the prairie in Pioneer Park will have a negative impact on many of the community events if the weather doesn't allow for the damage to be rectified.
- ★ *Public Works Report* | Frink reported on a few key repairs along with the acquisition of a piece of equipment that will help maintain gravel roads. Frink said Public Works is catching up on tasks due to the tractor being out of commission for longer than anticipated and now the weather isn't cooperating. The crew continues working on leaf collection. The wells were activated on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Frink is in the process of discharging at the South Wastewater Treatment Plant. He said the task is much less stressful thanks to the new controls that were recently installed.
- ★ *City Administrator Report* | Administrator Scott McDowell continues working on transitioning the website from Drupal to a different platform. The City ended the relationship with CivicsPlus due to limitations with their new platform and the high associated costs. Staff hope to have a new website ready for launch in February 2026. The City continues their role in the Rural Economic Alliance (REAL) which is working on economic and community development within nine cities and two counties here in the mid-valley. Staff installed security cameras at the Rec Center and the Library along with new computers at the Library.
- ★ *Council Comments* | Mayor Craven asked McDowell to share a video of the first annual Christmas parade and tree lighting. Craven thanked Connect Linn County who did an amazing job

organizing the parade. He thanked the Council for donating their time and money for the procurement of the tree and decorations. Craven welded and donated the stainless-steel stand and personally decorated the tree. A big thank you goes out to all who were in the parade. They made the night magical. Councilor Chambers thanked Randy's Main Street Coffee for opening to serve visitors. Councilor Winklepleck said it was one of his highlights of the year.

- ★ Resolution 2025.19: Acknowledging Oregon State Treasury Fund Transfers | Council unanimously approved the transfers as presented.
- ★ Resolution 2025.20: Audit's Division FY 2024.2025 | Council unanimously passed this resolution to address historical data shown on the LB1 form.
- ★ Resolution 2025.21: Authorize Geider Building Permit & SDC Refund | Council unanimously approved the refund as presented.
- ★ Canal Company Agreement | Authorize Letter | Council unanimously authorized a letter to be sent to the leadership of the Company to determine if they are interested in pursuing the maintenance agreement forwarded to the Company earlier this year.
- ★ Schedule Annual Goals Review | Council asked McDowell to send out a scheduler for this event due to low attendance this evening. The meeting is for Council's annual review of goals and priorities through 2026.
- ★ Authorize Funding Sponsorship | Central Linn School District | Council unanimously approved this resolution that allows the City to serve as a pass-through for any available public funding for the CTE (Career & Technology Education) building at the Central Linn High School campus.
- ★ Fourth of July | Fireworks Display Assist | Staff will work with the Brownsville Rural Fire District to place a QR code for the upcoming 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of America in the synopsis asking for donations. It is going to be a big and impressive display for the 250<sup>th</sup>!
- ★ Citizen Comments | No one commented.
- ★ Council Comments | Councilor Chambers pointed out concerns with the new OGEC requirements, hope that the Endangered Species Act will be modified by Congress, and urged members to continue to watch the continuing developments on the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) efforts being made by the Federal government. These policy decisions will greatly impact Brownsville.

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



**Council Meeting** | January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.  
City Offices will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> in observance of Christmas.  
City Offices will be closed December 31<sup>st</sup> & January 1<sup>st</sup> in observance of the New Year.





Pacific Power reports that with wildfire risk decreasing, they will be transitioning out of enhanced safety settings for most customers in our area. Pacific Power continues to work to improve coordination with public safety partners and communication with customers.

Pacific Power encourages you to prepare for winter weather and possible outages. Don't forget to update your contact information with them for alerts, and prepare or refresh your **outage preparedness kits** with winter essentials. It is also important to use generators and heating devices safely. Check out their website for more information.



Floods are the most common disaster in the United States. Failing to evacuate flooded areas or entering flood waters can lead to injury or death.

#### **Ways to Stay Safe During a Flood**

- Evacuate immediately, if told to do so. Never drive around barricades. Local responders use them to safely direct traffic out of flooded areas.
- Contact your healthcare provider if you are sick and need medical attention. Wait for further care instructions and shelter in place, if possible. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 9-1-1.
- Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions regarding flooding.
- Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. **Turn Around. Don't Drown.**
- Stay off bridges over fast-moving water. Fast-moving water can wash bridges away without warning.
- Stay inside your car if it is trapped in rapidly moving water. Get on the roof if water is rising inside the car.
- Get to the highest level if trapped in a building. Only get on the roof if necessary and once there, signal for help. Do not climb into a closed attic to avoid getting trapped by rising floodwater.





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## LOCAL PATRON

# FIRST ANNUAL BROWNSVILLE CHRISTMAS PARADE



The first annual Brownsville Christmas Parade was held on Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. hosted by Connect Linn County. The event was a fabulous success! There were over 57 entrants and well over 1,100 folks in attendance. Festivities that evening also included a Welcome speech from Mayor Adam Craven, a seasonal word from Councilor Michael Winklepleck, and the tree lighting in front of City Hall. The tree in front of City Hall was hosted entirely by your City Councilors. Council and Staff wish you the very best Christmas Season and New Year.



**Connect Linn County Parade Committee**  
Tika Harrison, Karmel Curtis,  
Melissa Dalevout, and Leise Rolfe



Mayor Craven and Councilor  
Solberg decorating the tree

