



Council Meeting Synopsis

Council met in regular session at 7:02 p.m. in Council Chambers on September 26th, 2023.

- ★ All members of Council were present. Mayor Craven presided.
- ★ Cascade West Council of Governments Executive Director Ryan Vogt cancelled due to illness. Vogt will attend the November Council meeting.
- ★ Linn County Sheriff's Office Report: Sergeant Frambes reviewed the stats for July & August highlighting several items that included shoplifting calls, noise ordinance violations, and juvenile runaways. Frambes reported that Brownsville Napa has been burglarized twice in a six-day period. He reported that the group burglarizing businesses is very organized, and these crimes are being committed throughout the mid-Willamette Valley. The investigation is on-going. Frambes demonstrated how spike strips are used by deputies. He said these spike strip units can be deployed in high-risk situations and safety is the number one priority for the public, the assailant, and the deputies. Deputies are trained regularly on the safe deployment of this tool. Please come to "Coffee with a Cop" which will be held on October 4th, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at Randy's Main Street Coffee.
- ★ Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink reported progress on projects throughout town. Frink is waiting on parts for the waterline installations for the Rec Center Renovation project. Frink reported that Park Caretakers Fred & Terri Shepherd did a great job filling in this summer. The City has extended their contract for next summer. Trees have been thinned and trimmed in Pioneer Park. Frink will be hosting the Oregon Health Authority for a sanitary survey of the Water Treatment Plant. Public Works dealt with several water leaks over the course of the summer. Frink is wrapping up the details for the backflow testing program. Frink had to adjust the Water Treatment Plant for several weeks due to several factors. Fortunately, everything worked smoothly, and the City was able to meet the demand. The Plant is now operating at normal flow rates.
- ★ Administrator Scott McDowell discussed details, logistics, and shared photos of the Rec Center Renovation project. The project schedule has been adjusted to be completed by October 24th, 2023. McDowell reported that the Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC) is finalizing agreements and training of elected officials continues October 19th, 2023, in Harrisburg. McDowell finished the initial work for Council's advocacy efforts. The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will meet to review and edit those recommendations for Council's consideration at the October meeting. McDowell reported that City Auditor SingerLewak will deliver the audit for FY 2022.2023 very soon. McDowell shared an article about the Council's responsibilities pertaining to the annual audit as provided by the Secretary of State's Office. McDowell showed a decision-making model discussed by Council at their retreat in July. Many factors and analysis should be done by elected and appointed officials when making decisions for the City.
- ★ Arbor Day Proclamation: Mayor Craven proclaimed November 6th, 2023, as the City's Arbor Day celebration. More details to follow in the upcoming City newsletter.
- ★ Resolution 2023.17: Planning Fees: Council unanimously passed this resolution adopting a few changes to the City's planning fee schedule. Fees are reviewed annually.
- ★ Council passed a unanimous motion accepting Staff's plan for the implementation of the Water Management & Conservation Plan (WCMP). The City was required to implement this plan due



to a lawsuit brought against the State of Oregon and the City of Cottage Grove in 2010 by the special interest group known as Water Watch. Staff's plan includes hiring a leak detection service to audit the water distribution system, check the City's production meters, and coordinate monthly reports from Public Works and Utility Billing to name a few. The City has a list of tasks that must be accomplished over the next five years to ensure compliance with the requirements of the WCMP.

- ★ Council passed a unanimous motion accepting Staff's recommendations for the City's required five-year TMDL report that is due to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) by September 30th, 2023.
- ★ Council passed a unanimous motion to open the agreement with the Brownsville Art Association to address the taxation issue raised by Linn County.
- ★ Council passed a unanimous motion to open the agreement with the Central Linn Recreation Association to address logistical issues raised by the Rec Center Renovation.
- ★ Due to an unforeseen delay, the GR12 waterline project will be let this Fall with completion occurring throughout the winter months. The new waterline will extend through Kirk's Ferry Park, which is located at the corner of Main Street and Kirk Avenue, run underneath Main Street and County property, and continue through City owned property (City Hall & Rec Center) to the Water Treatment Plant. Once completed, the City should have enough water supply for the next forty years. Currently, Linn County is helping the City secure the necessary easement for the installation of this important waterline.
- ★ Patrick Starnes reported that he is the new President of the Calapooia Food Alliance (CFA). Starnes thanked Don Lyon for his excellent leadership and service. Starnes also thanked the City for being a valued partner. He said that with the City's help, the CFA can accomplish their mission and programmatic objectives for our community which include the Farmer's Market, the Community Garden, education, sustainable food production and food security. For more information, please visit calapooiafoodalliance.org/word/.

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>.

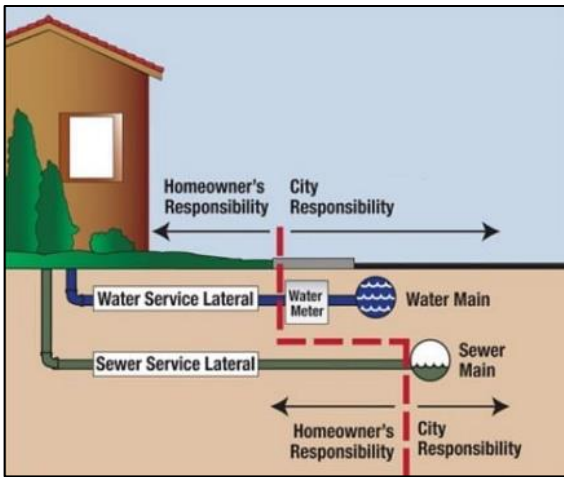


Upcoming Events

- **Council Meeting** | October 24th | Council Chambers | 7:00 p.m.
- **Farmer's Market** | Every Thursday | Library Park on Park Avenue | 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- **Trick or Treat Street** | October 31st | Downtown | Chamber sponsored | 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **Haunted House** | October 28th, 30th & 31st | American Legion | 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- **Chamber of Commerce** | October 11th | General Meeting | Community Room | 6:00 p.m.



Water Leaks | Extreme weather, either hot or cold, can cause water lines to break or leak. In summer months, sprinkler systems can also be a primary source of high-water usage, even more so if systems experience a break or leak. Sprinkler system breaks are most often found at the beginning of the season but can occur at any time. As the weather gets colder, please take precautions to winterize outside spigots and water systems. Keeping residual heat near indoor water pipes will help pipes from freezing. The diagram explains the homeowner's responsibility, and the City's responsibility for the water lines and sewer lines. If you believe the leak is on the City side of the meter, please contact City Hall.



TMDL | The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) under the direction and requirement of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are concerned about what is known as non-point source pollution. Pollutants such as herbicides, pesticides, and other residues runoff into water sources such as the Calapooia River. Pollutants can be harmful to the watershed and river system. The DEQ requires cities to monitor certain parameters to ensure a healthy river system.



sedimentation that would potentially get into the river system. You can report any illegal dumping into ditches or sewer manholes.

Make sure that your downspouts are attached properly to your home and your internal storm drainage system. Homeowners are encouraged to provide a way to retain storm water on-site either through retention/detention ponds or swales. The City requires new construction to eliminate practices that would cause excess runoff, sedimentation, and any other potential, unwanted effects from directly entering the river. Please remember - all drains go to the river.



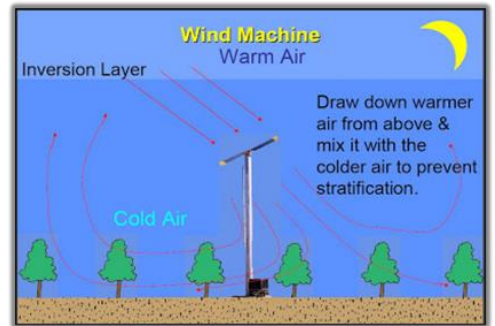


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LOCAL PATRON

Vineyard Wind Machines | The machines may turn on soon depending on temperatures. Due to low overnight temperatures, the wind machines are used to prevent ‘cold injury’ to the grape vines which could negatively impact harvest. The wind machines are very noisy due to the engines used. Basically, the machines are programmed to turn on at certain temperature levels, generally around 36° F and can only be ran during certain wind speeds. The site has numerous wind machines, and they generate a very noticeable sound throughout town. The motors sound like an old farm tractor and the blades have a high-pitched sound. A low frequency hum can be heard throughout certain parts of town when all the wind machines are operating.



Rec Center Renovation Nearing Completion | The Rec Center officially became City property in 2018 after the Central Linn School Board agreed to convey the property to City ownership at the request of City Council. The Central Linn Recreation Association has been operating youth sports programming for over fifty years for the Central Linn community. Since 1981, the City has maintained the building with the help of the Association. The building serves as the center of operations for the Association as well as a valuable community asset that serves all.

The renovation components include a new fire suppression system, seismic improvements, new restrooms, improved entrances and exits, a new gym floor, a new scoreboard, new basketball hoops, new windows throughout, new entry sidewalks, and fresh paint inside and out. Bringing the building up to 21st century standards has been challenging but the City’s architect, Woodblock Architecture, and the City’s general contractor, J.E. John, have been up to the task.



The renovation facility will allow the building to serve the community for another fifty or more years. The renovation began June 5th and is slated to reach completion by October 24th, 2023. City officials are planning to host an open house once the renovation is completed.