



Council Meeting Synopsis

Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on October 24th, 2023.

- ★ All members of Council were present. Mayor Craven presided.
- ★ Community Services Consortium (CSC) | *Executive Director Pegge McGuire* asked Council to pass a Continuum of Care resolution committing to a ‘wrap around services’ solution for homelessness in the mid-valley. Governor Kotek has declared the elimination of homelessness as a goal of her administration. The CSC is also interested in improving their overall rural ‘scorecard’ so they can be more competitive for the Federal HUD funding opportunities. In order to do this, CSC needs rural communities like Brownsville to pass a resolution of support. McGuire said that right now is the perfect time to execute this plan because nearly everyone is at the table.
- ★ Brownsville Art Association | *Dr. Lori Garcy* gave a brief annual report stating that it has been a slow return after the pandemic closure. She is happy to report that public classes have started back and the Association stands at nearly full membership. Garcy wanted to thank the Chamber, the City and the residents of Brownsville for their support. The Association is a labor of love for all involved and they are proud to call Brownsville home. Please visit <http://brownsvilleart.org/> for more information.
- ★ Chamber of Commerce | *President Jenna Stutsman* gave a brief annual report and requested the closure of Spaulding Avenue for Home for the Holidays. Stutsman reported that events were bigger and better than ever this year. She highlighted the City-wide Garage Sale’s hottest day of the year and the amazing attendance at this year’s Antique Faire. Estimated attendance for the Faire was over 5,000. *Trick or Treat Street* and *Home for the Holidays* is coming up fast. Please visit <https://www.historicbrownsville.com/> for more information.
- ★ Linn County Sheriff’s Office Report | *Sergeant Frambes* reviewed the stats for September highlighting several items that included shoplifting calls and motorists operating without proper insurance. Frambes said the Sheriff’s Office (LCSO) recovered the truck used in the NAPA burglaries. The LCSO learned that the truck had been used in multiple crimes all over the mid-valley to the Coast. The investigation continues. Two separate crimes were committed against the Hair Care Saloon on E. Bishop Way. The LCSO continues their investigation of these crimes which includes possible arson.
- ★ Public Works Report | *Superintendent Karl Frink* reported progress on the waterline installation at the Rec Center. Public Works encountered two rocks that caused additional delay. The City received a favorable review of the City’s Water Treatment Plant from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Frink is working on preparing for wastewater discharge this winter. Public Works will be closing the parks and winterizing the facilities on October 31st.
- ★ City Administrator Report | *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 November 15th, 2023 due to delay in the ADA decking for three entrances. The City is in the process of making arrangements for gym space with Pioneer Christian Academy for the Central Linn Recreation Association’s basketball program. McDowell reported that the Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC) is working on logistics for the upcoming short session in Salem. The City hopes to secure the easement from Linn County for the GR12 waterline project next week. McDowell reviewed infrastructure priorities as set by Council.



- ★ Resolution 2023.18: Establishing a Continuum of Care: Council unanimously voted to not approve & pass this resolution. Council cited that throwing money at a complex problem like homelessness is not the answer. Dealing with the root cause of homelessness is what is needed. As long as the State promotes efforts such as Measure 110, no progress will be made.
- ★ Ordinance 802: Parking Modifications (First Reading) – Linn County Sheriff’s Office requested a modification to the City’s parking ordinance. Council will have a second reading of the ordinance at their November meeting.
- ★ Spaulding Avenue Closure | *Home for the Holidays* – Council unanimously approved the closure of Spaulding Avenue provided the Chamber meets the necessary requirements. The Chamber will conduct a tree lighting ceremony on the evening of December 1st, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. General public is encouraged to attend. To see the entire list of offerings and events, please visit <https://www.historicbrownsville.com/home-for-the-holidays>.
- ★ Council passed a unanimous motion accepting the 2024 Council calendar. August is a recess month for Council.
- ★ Council passed a unanimous motion to modify the Brownsville Art Association agreement that includes a plan to pay for taxes to be levied by Linn County.
- ★ Council passed a unanimous motion to modify the agreement with the Central Linn Recreation Association. Building rentals and other logistical issues were addressed.
- ★ Council re-appointed the following officials, Wendy Toshitsune (Budget Committee), Jack Alzman, Rob Wingren & Steve Schilling (Planning Commission), Brandi Simon & Betsy Ramshur (Parks & Open Space Advisory Board), and Barbara DeRobertis & Jennifer Ashcraft (Library Advisory Board). The City will be posting openings for the Parks & Open Space Advisory Board and the Library Advisory Board.
- ★ Council passed a unanimous motion to accept the policy statements recommended by the Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC). These statements will serve as guidelines for future policy discussions with State lawmakers. Council also adopted the Committee’s recommendations for a new social media policy and modifications to Council meeting processes for Council members. Council will modify the Officials Handbook to incorporate these changes at their November meeting.

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

- **Trick or Treat Street** | Downtown Brownsville | October 31st | 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** | November 8th | General Meeting | Community Room | 6:00 p.m.
- **Council Meeting** | November 28th | Council Chambers | 7:00 p.m.





DEA Drug Take Back Day – October 28th, 2023

Linn County Sheriff’s Office (LCSO) will be participating in the national event with several local satellite locations to drop off unwanted, unneeded, or unused prescription drugs.

The following locations will be collections sites:

- Mill City | 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | City Hall – 444 S 1st Avenue
- Scio | 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Scio Fire Hall – 38975 SW 6th Avenue
- Halsey | 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. | City Hall – 100 Halsey Street
- Harrisburg | 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | City Hall – 120 Smith Street

LCSO also has a prescription drop box in the lobby of the Sheriff’s office. This is an option for people to drop off their medications if they aren’t able to make it to any of the satellite pickup locations.

NO SHARPS (needles) of any kind will be collected.



Arbor Day Celebration | Brownsville has been a Tree City USA

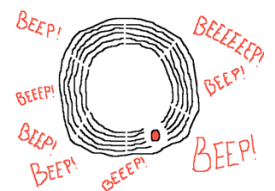
Member and celebrating Arbor Day since 2005. Now, more than ever, is the time to support reforestation efforts. Visit the Arbor Foundation website at www.arborday.org for educational tools (tree identification, planting & care) and “tree swag” (coffee, apparel, gifts cards, stationery). Celebrate Arbor Month by planting a tree, take a nature walk in Pioneer Park, visit the City Hall lobby for Pioneer Christian Academy, “If I Were a Tree” art, coloring pages, tree poetry, and more from October 4th - 31st, 2023.

Tree Planting | A tree will be planted in Pioneer Park on November 6th, 2023. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Coleman at 541.466.5880.



Time Change | Daylight Saving Time (DST) ends on Sunday, November 5th, 2023. Clocks will need to be set back an hour. The general idea is that this allows us all to use natural daylight better: moving the clocks forward one hour in the spring grants us more daylight during summer evenings, while moving clocks back one hour in the fall grants us more daylight during winter mornings.

Check Your Smoke Detector | With the upcoming time change, it is a great time to test your smoke detectors and change the batteries. Smoke detectors should be tested every month. Smoke detectors play a crucial role in keeping you and your family safe, but even the best smoke alarms provide no value if they do not have working batteries, and are not functioning properly.





City of Brownsville
255 North Main Street
P.O. Box 188
Brownsville, OR 97327

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

LOCAL PATRON

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month



USE STRONG PASSWORDS
Use strong passwords and ideally, a password manager to generate and store unique passwords.



UPDATE YOUR SOFTWARE
Update your software. In fact, turn on automatic updates.



THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK
More than 90% of successful cyber-attacks start with a phishing email.



TURN ON MULTIFACTOR AUTHENTICATION
Implement multifactor authentication on your accounts and make it significantly less likely you'll get hacked.



Want to pay your utility bill by credit or debit card? PayGov.us is the vendor for the City of Brownsville. Paygov charges a 3% convenience fee (or \$1.00 minimum) per transaction. You can download the app, location code 37033, or access their website online. There is also an online payments tab on the City's website near the bottom of the home page that will take you directly to their payment screen.