



## ***Council Meeting Synopsis***

*Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023.*

- ★ All members of Council were present. Mayor Craven presided.
- ★ Cascade West Council of Governments | *Executive Director Ryan Vogt* reviewed programs and efforts happening at the COG highlighting a new branding of the Meals on Wheels program, new efforts on supporting small communities with grant writing assistance and support, and a renewed focus on rural economic development activities. The City is a member of the COG that includes Linn, Benton & Lincoln counties. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.ocwcog.org/>.
- ★ Central Linn Community Foundation | *Chenoweth Robertson* requested Council continue their partnership with the Central Linn Community Foundation. Robertson highlighted the Foundation's grant program and philanthropic efforts in the Central Linn Community. More information on the Foundation is available at <https://centlinncf.org>. Council passed a unanimous motion to continue support of the Foundation.
- ★ Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Semi-Annual Report | *McDowell* provided the semi-annual plan review. McDowell covered the history of the U.S. EPA and the origin of these new requirements. The City is doing its best to deal with this unfunded mandate that carries a hefty, future price tag. TMDL focuses on regulations and requirements pertaining to stormwater runoff.
- ★ Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Report | *Sergeant Frambes* reviewed the stats for October highlighting several items that included reminding everyone that this is scam season. Make sure you know you are dealing with reputable people and companies to prevent yourself from being a victim. Cars are being stolen due to the cold weather. Owners are letting their cars warm up and thieves are taking the easy opportunity to drive off. Home security cameras are a good investment, most are easily mounted, and battery operated. Many come with an app for your phone that can provide a very effective level of home security. The LCSO has charged a suspect with the two burglaries at Napa; LCSO continues their investigation.
- ★ City Administrator Report | *Administrator Scott McDowell* shared photos of the Rec Center Renovation project before and after. The project schedule has been adjusted to be completed by the third week of December 2023 due to delay installing the main power supply. Pacific Power is ready and willing to energize the building once the necessary equipment arrives. McDowell reported Staff will be making bond payments soon, and finalizing & filing the annual audit. Several agreements were completed with local, non-profit groups and the City is awaiting a proposal from the Calapooia Food Alliance (CFA) for the potential use of public property for the Farmer's Market. McDowell briefly highlighted the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan that the City is working on with Linn County and the Department of Land Conservation & Development (DLCD) as part of a FEMA regulatory effort.
- ★ Resolution 2023.18: Business Oregon ROI Grant [Final] | *Council* unanimously voted to pass this resolution.
- ★ Resolution 2023.19: River's Edge Open Space Final Disbursement | *Council* unanimously voted to pass this resolution that returns funds to Chad E. Davis Homes due to the successful completion of the Planning Commission's open space requirements.



- ★ Ordinance 802: Parking Modifications (Second Reading) | Linn County Sheriff's Office requested a modification to the City's parking ordinance. Council unanimously passed the ordinance.
- ★ Ordinance 803: BMC 2.30.030 Removal From Office (First Reading) | Council gave this ordinance a first reading. The ordinance modifies attendance for Park Board members.
- ★ Officials Handbook Update | Council unanimously adopted changes to the Officials Handbook at the recommendation of the Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) concerning social media guidelines and Council member process rules.
- ★ Authorize Rec Center Open House | Council authorized Staff to plan an open house for the Rec Center Renovation early in 2024. Council would like to host the Open House in January.
- ★ Pioneer Park Recommendations | Council passed a unanimous motion to modify the Brownsville Municipal Code concerning camping. Council added Thursday to the days allowed for camping, which is Friday through Sunday. Council also defined camping season from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Council decided to make no changes to the alcohol policy in Pioneer Park. Pioneer Park is open from April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- ★ Recreational Immunity Implications | City/County Insurance Services are working on legislation to restore recreational immunity after a lawsuit ruling earlier this year which modified immunity relating to recreational trails. Recreational immunity allows public agencies such as the State, counties, and cities to operate parks without the threat of lawsuit. Public agencies do have certain responsibilities for the immunity to apply.
- ★ River's Edge Homeowner's Association | Staff recently attended an Association meeting. The City will be sending out a letter to each homeowner in January 2024 regarding City responsibilities and the Association's maintenance requirements & responsibilities.
- ★ Agreements | Art Association & Recreation Association | Both agreements have been successfully updated and executed under the direction of Council.

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

- **Home for the Holidays | Tree Lighting** on Spaulding Avenue | December 1<sup>st</sup> | 6:00 p.m.
- **Festival of Trees** | December 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> | Downtown Brownsville | Various Locations & Events
- **Park Lottery Applications** | Due December 15<sup>th</sup> at City Hall
- **Council Meeting** | December 19<sup>th</sup> | Council Chambers | 7:00 p.m.





**Brownsville Senior Center**

**Senior Center** | The Brownsville Senior Center, located at 339 N. Main Street, would like to invite you to stop in to visit and have a cup of coffee or tea. We are open between the hours of 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

We have several fun events each month that you can enjoy including Bingo every Saturday night, a monthly potluck, and various ongoing card and board games. We usually have a puzzle set up for enjoyment as well. We would love to have you join our group!

If you have any questions, or need more information, please call 541.466.5935. We hope to see you soon!

## Linn-Benton-Lincoln County | Home Repair Program

DevNW, a local nonprofit agency, is offering home repair loans with no monthly payment to low-income homeowners. Loans can be used to adapt a home for accessibility, repair or replace items to reduce maintenance and operating costs, or repair a home to a safe, healthy, decent condition.



SCAN ME



Typical repairs include plumbing, septic, water heaters, electrical, heating/cooling equipment, roofing, siding, windows, or doors. No out-of-pocket loan fees. Low interest APR .8364% (3.25% for the first 7 years), and no monthly payments. Loans have a 30-year term, and are payable when the house is sold, refinanced, or the owner no longer lives in the house.

Contact DevNW at 2525 SE 3<sup>rd</sup> Street | Corvallis, OR 97333 | 541.903.9089 or online at [devNW.org](http://devNW.org) for more information.



**Fall Fire Safety** | Heating and electrical fires can happen any time and in any room of your home because of overloading electrical outlets or extension cords or placing combustible materials too close to heating equipment. In winter months, heating and electrical residential fires spike because of increased use of heating appliances and lights.



To lower the risk of a fire caused by heating there are several simple things you can do to make your home more fire safe.

- ❖ Keep things that burn such as paper, curtains, bedding, or furniture, at least three feet away from all heating equipment, including fireplaces, wood stoves, and pellet stoves.
- ❖ Use newer, portable space heaters with an automatic shut-off so if they're tipped over, they will shut off.
- ❖ Clean all portable heaters each year before use, and check for product recalls.
- ❖ Unplug portable space heaters when not in use, before going to bed, or when leaving the room.
- ❖ Make sure fuel-burning heaters are designed for indoor use and are properly ventilated.
- ❖ **ALWAYS** plug appliances, including portable space heaters, directly into a **WALL OUTLET**, and **NEVER INTO A POWER STRIP** or extension cord. Extension cords are for temporary use only.
- ❖ Make sure you have working carbon monoxide alarms on every level of your home, inside each bedroom, and in the hallway outside each bedroom.



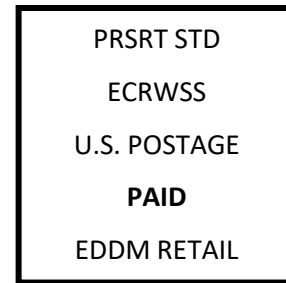
**What is a Troll?** | A troll is a term for a person, usually anonymous, who deliberately starts an argument or posts inflammatory or aggressive comments with the aim of provoking either an individual or a group into reacting.

The phrase was coined after a fishing term meaning that basically they (the troll) attach their bait (their comment) and wait for others to bite.

Remember, social media is a public arena. First Amendment applies. People are allowed to say what they want, to whoever they want, however they choose to reply or comment. There are many websites that provide social media guidance, advice, and best practices that you may find helpful.



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



## LOCAL PATRON

### Pioneer Park Rental



Are you interested in renting Pioneer Park facilities for a summer event? There are several rustic facilities to rent including a kitchen, pavilion and dance hall, community arts building, and grandstand area.

Due to the overwhelming popularity of the facilities, the City of Brownsville holds a lottery drawing on the first working day of January to award dates for the upcoming summer season. Pioneer Park is open April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> each year.

An application and a \$150 deposit will need to be submitted to City Hall no later than December 15<sup>th</sup> to be included in the drawing.

On the application you will have an opportunity to list your three preferred dates.

When choosing rental dates, it is important to note that the following dates will be unavailable due to ongoing annual community events:

- Pioneer Picnic | June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 – June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024
- Fourth of July Celebration | July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Rally on the River | July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024
- Stand By Me Day | July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024
- Antique Faire | August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024
- Festival of Tents | August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024



The rental application can be found online on our website, [www.ci.brownsville.or.us](http://www.ci.brownsville.or.us), or you can pick up a copy at City Hall. Don't forget to submit the application by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023. It is also possible to rent the facilities later if dates are not filled through the lottery system. You can check the City calendar online for availability and submit your request there. Give us a call at City Hall if you need further information!