



## Council Meeting Synopsis

Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on  
May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.



- ★ All members of Council were present. Mayor Craven presided.
- ★ *Linn County Sheriff's Office | Lieutenant Brian Hardy* | Hardy reviewed the April statistics. Hardy indicated there were two prowling incidents that required extra patrol over the last few weeks. Investigations continue. Mayor Craven asked for an update on the Kirk Avenue dogs-at-large situation. Hardy stated there were no new complaints as far as he knew. He briefly mentioned the tracking system used by Animal Control.
- ★ *Proposed Use of State Revenue Sharing | FY 2024.2025* | Mayor Craven opened a public hearing concerning the use of the State funds. No public spoke on the issue. Craven said the City has historically used these funds for streetlighting.
- ★ *Budget Public Hearing | FY 2024.2025* | McDowell touched on highlights for the upcoming budget adoption including the bonded debt assessments and a proposed 3% utility rate increase that would take effect July 1<sup>st</sup>. No public spoke on the issue.
- ★ *Cascade West Council of Governments Annual Report | Ryan Vogt & Jaclyn Disney* | Vogt introduced the Cascade West Council of Governments new Community & Economic Development Director Jaclyn Disney. Disney shared her experience as an economic development director and her plans for the department. Disney will be focusing on advocacy efforts to increase infrastructure funding for Linn, Benton, Lincoln & Lane counties. Land use, transportation, and grant writing will also be important aspects of her administration. Vogt provided Council with their annual report. Mayor Craven & Councilor Hansen thanked Vogt and Disney for their regional efforts.
- ★ *Public Works Report | Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink* reported that the GR12 project will be finishing soon. The contractor finally received the transfer switch which was causing the delay. Plans are to install the transfer switch after Memorial Day. The City had two key components fail at the Wastewater Treatment Plants that have required attention. The restroom in Pioneer Park by the basketball court experienced vandalism. Someone tore out the toilet in the Men's restroom. Frink has made the necessary repairs to the restroom. The Rec Center locks have been installed. Staff continues to work on lighting and flooring issues. Returning Park Caretakers Fred & Terri have started for the season.
- ★ *Librarian Sherri Lemhouse* | Lemhouse reported on statistics and programming at the Library. She said the new e-book system has been very successful due to its popularity. The Library will be hosting the World War II Vanport Community exhibit in association with the Linn County Museum from September 24<sup>th</sup> through October 12<sup>th</sup>. World Cultures will be explored with Don Lyon throughout the year, Estate planning, the Summer Reading program, and a guest author are all part of the exciting opportunities the Library is set to offer this year. Please visit <https://www.brownsvillecommunitylibrary.org/> for more information.
- ★ *Administrative Assistant Jannea Deaver* | Deaver provided an overview of the City's processes pertaining to the Brownsville Pioneer Cemetery.
- ★ *Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman* | Coleman reviewed the reason for fence permits highlighting a variety of factors involved in issuing these permits. She shared several existing encroachments of fences and accessory structures that have been placed on City property or on a neighbor's property which were two of the main reasons for Council adopting the fence and accessory structure ordinance modifications in 2014.
- ★ *City Administrator Report | Administrator Scott McDowell* briefly reviewed concerns regarding the software upgrade for the City website. The Canal Company have reviewed the draft agreement with Staff. The agreement will now be reviewed by the City Attorney and be forwarded to Council meeting soon.

- ★ Resolution 2024.08: Election to Receive State Shared Revenues | Council unanimously voted to pass this resolution making the City eligible to receive State revenue.
- ★ Proclamation: Military Appreciation | Vietnamese American | Mayor Craven recognized April 30<sup>th</sup> as Vietnamese Americans Remembrance Day to honor those who lost their lives and those soldiers who fought honorably for freedom and democracy.
- ★ *Linn County Museum | Hands on History & Stand by Me Request (Annual)* | Council authorized the use of City parks and the closure of Park Avenue on August 24<sup>th</sup> and July 23<sup>rd</sup> for these two annual events.
- ★ *System Development Charges (SDC) Agreement* | Council unanimously set the interest for a SDC contract at 6%.
- ★ *Central Linn School District | IGA* | McDowell is working with Dr. Pelt on agreement that would formalize the use of youth sports activity on open spaces operated by the Central Linn School District properties with reciprocal uses on City property. The District and the City have partnered for a very long time to support youth sporting activities.
- ★ *Nuisance Abatement Process Modification* | Council weighed the pros and cons of developing an ordinance that would provide protection to neighboring properties when certain nuisance issues arise. Options and challenges to crafting such a policy were briefly discussed. Council tabled the issue and will be reviewing ideas for further discussion in July.
- ★ *Insurance Renewals* | Annually Staff reviews all City equipment & property schedules and coverages which is due by the end of the month.
- ★ Council authorized McDowell to negotiate real property.

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

**137<sup>th</sup> Pioneer Picnic** | June 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 | Pioneer Park  
**Council Meeting** | June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | Council Chambers | 7:00 p.m.

## Weeds & Nuisance Season

June 1<sup>st</sup> is the official start of noxious vegetation season in Brownsville. The Brownsville Municipal Code, Chapter 8.30.060, states that weeds and obnoxious vegetation more than twelve inches (12”) high must be cut by June 1<sup>st</sup>. With a typical May spring, rain showers and then bursts of sunshine, weather has encouraged the grasses and vegetation to grow, and yet made it difficult at times for the ground to be dry enough to mow. Staff will be reviewing all properties in the City soon to check for weeds & nuisance compliance.

This ordinance is designed for fire hazard mitigation. Recent local wildfires over the last few seasons have shown the importance of maintaining a defensible space around your home and property.

The Oregon State Fire Marshal proclaimed May as *Wildfire Awareness Month* and promotes a program known as *Community Wildfire Protection Program (CWPP)*. Please visit their website at <https://www.oregon.gov/osfm/pages/default.aspx> to find more information. Halsey-Shedd RFPD is also promoting this effort. Feel free to check with them to learn more about their program, (541) 369.2419.



# Pioneer Picnic 2024

June 21<sup>st</sup>, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, & June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

**Theme:** *Pots 'N' Pans and Apple Jam*

The Linn County Pioneer Picnic has been a local staple since 1887 when it was created as a reunion for the early homesteaders. Pioneer Picnic is now the oldest, annual, continuously running event in the State of Oregon. The event cherishes our pioneer history and builds community. Admittance is free.



Activities include exhibits and entertainment in the park. It also features a Kiddie Parade on Friday and the crowning of the Linn County Pioneer Picnic Princesses & Queen. Saturday events include Fireman's Breakfast and the Grand Parade on Main Street starting at 10:00 a.m. After the parade, there are events in the park including a quilt show, flower show, art display, horseshoe tournament, logging competition, crafts, spelling bee, talent show, and a children's penny scramble. On Sunday start your morning off with the Pioneer Dam Run, a 10K run or a 5K run/walk. The race starts next to the Linn County Historic Museum at 8:00 a.m. Proceeds will be donated to help Central Linn High School cross country and track teams. A nondenominational church service is held in the grandstands, and park events continue throughout the day.



**ROAD CLOSURES:** Main Street will be closed for approximately 45 minutes for the Kiddie Parade on Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, from 12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Main Street will be closed for just over an hour on Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 9:55 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. for the Grand Parade. **Please remember: There will be no way to get over the bridge during these times unless you go back out to the freeway.** Highway 228 will be closed, and the detour will be on Blakely Avenue.

We hope to see you at the Pioneer Picnic this year! Check out the Linn County Picnic Association website for more information: <https://www.pioneerpicnic.com>.



## Pioneer Park Rules

Camping is allowed in Pioneer Park from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. Holidays such as the Fourth of July and special events do offer some exceptions. Park hosts are on site to collect camping fees and answer any questions. All camping is dry camping and done on a first come first served basis. Tents are \$10 each and RVs are \$15 each.

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

PRSRT STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
EDDM RETAIL

**LOCAL PATRON**

A vibrant green poster for the Brownsville Thurs Market. The text is arranged in a dynamic, staggered layout. At the top left, 'BROWNSVILLE THURS' is written in large, bold, white letters with a yellow starburst behind 'THURS'. Below this, 'MARKET' is written in white inside a red oval. To the right, 'NEW LOCATION!' is written in yellow with a starburst, followed by 'AT THE COMMUNITY GARDEN ON MAIN ST. ACROSS FROM DAIRY MART' in white. Further down, 'EVERY THURSDAY 3PM-7PM' is written in yellow and white. To the right of this, 'STARTS APRIL 18TH' is written in yellow with a starburst, and 'PRODUCE VENDORS WANTED' is written in red with a starburst. At the bottom right, 'WWW.CALAPOOIAFOODALLIANCE.ORG' is written in white. The background features stylized green leaves and a red tomato. An orange banner at the top right contains the email 'INFO@GOCFA.ORG' in white.

**BROWNSVILLE THURS**  
**MARKET**  
**EVERY THURSDAY 3PM-7PM**

**NEW LOCATION!**  
AT THE COMMUNITY GARDEN ON MAIN ST.  
ACROSS FROM DAIRY MART

**STARTS APRIL 18TH**  
**PRODUCE VENDORS WANTED**

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[WWW.CALAPOOIAFOODALLIANCE.ORG](http://WWW.CALAPOOIAFOODALLIANCE.ORG)