



Council Minutes

June 25th, 2024

ROLL CALL: Mayor Craven called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council President Chambers, Councilor LaCoste, Councilor Winklepleck, Councilor Humphreys, Councilor Hansen, and Councilor Solberg present. Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman, Administrative Assistant Jannea Deaver, Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink, Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow, and City Administrator Scott McDowell were also present.

ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC: Tia Parrish (*The Times*), Ronda Heck, Benjamin Carey, Cam Elder, Laura Rolfe, Mary Lehto, Wayne & Jeana Graham, Lt. Brian Hardy (*Linn County Sheriff's Office*), Melody Nowak, Christine Crowe, Mike Nehls, Toni Reynolds, Summer Stephens, Jaime Gleason, Penny Rosenberg (*Albany Democrat Herald*), Chenoweth Robertson, Joshua Bloomfield, Natalie Wade, Donald Lyon, Katie Craven, Anne Clark, Michelle Micklewright, Mandy Cole, Stephen Brenner, Julie Gerig, Clive Clark, Matt Wyatt, Kerry Shatell, Max Phair-Worthing, Diana Barron, Joan Thompson, Yolanda Tauzer, Kathleen Swayze, Joe DeZurney, Kris Solberg, Adelind Coy, Abe Sword, Leia Landrock, Pamela Solberg, Chuck Smith, Joe Rackley, Melanie Mayne, Michael Crowe, Tricia Thompson, Ashley Flint, Kira Hughes, Paul & Rosann Winther, Lily Giannone, Denise Thornton, Betsy Ramshur, Patrick Starnes, Fitz Howe, Jeff Timpone, Melissa & Fred Selby, Denny & Maureen Robeson, Mike Moshofsky, Norina Columbaro, Krystal & Travis Overvig, Patrick O'Donnell, Colleen Becker, Nancy Hansen, Apollo Annisen, Scott McKee, Michelle Harper, Bill & Shauna Hand, Joni Nelson, Mary Oleri, Jean Chapins, Clyde Reed, Kim Kendall, Rose Kaler, Denise Lovejoy, Sabrina & Geneva Sedlar, Sally Lockhart, Walter & Sharon Beeson, Nancy Greenman, Cheryl Haworth, Fran & George Wepler, Kylie Jones, Terran Sobel-Smith, Wes Enos, Lisa McGinnis, Jolene Thomson, Michael Thomsan, Stevie Beisswanger, Steve Van Sandt, Phebe Howe, Donald J. Nealon III, Takur Conlu (*KVAL, Eugene*), Keith Kolkow, Iris Hodge, George Landrock, Tami Cockeram, Shane Wendell, Matt Shoemaker, Pamela Wright, Adam Tull, Mikayle Stole, Steven Haney, Zack Wright, Claire Gumbs, and Barbara Andersen.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS: Item 6) B. Halsey-Shedd Rural Fire Protection District Chief Travis Hewitt presentation will be tabled, due to being called to a conflagration in Eastern Oregon. Also, Action item 10) D. will be tabled and held for the July meeting.

Mr. McDowell also indicated that microphones have been set up for the folks next door in the listening room, and they are super sensitive. Please refrain from side bar conversations and keep noise to a minimum.

MINUTES: Councilor Solberg made a motion to approve the May 23rd, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. Councilor Chambers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING | PRESENTATIONS:

1. **Budget Public Hearing | FY 2024.2025 | Budget Passage.** Mayor Craven opened the budget public hearing and invited public comment. McDowell reported the Budget Committee had approved levying the full permanent tax rate of \$6.9597 per thousand, levying \$183,225 for the Wastwater Bond Debt, levying \$36,645 for the Water Bond Debt, a 3% Utility Rate increase, the historic use of the State Revenue Sharing for public safety needs, and the continued use of all designated funds and line items contained in the FY 2024.2025 budget document. In conclusion, the committee recommended approving the FY 2024.2025 budget as presented. He also reviewed



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the modifications made due to current projects extending into the upcoming fiscal year, including moving \$175,000 to cover the remaining GR12 project, funds for the completion of the Central Linn Rece Center project, and \$2,750 added to the beginning cash balance for the Cemetery Trust Fund which encompasses lot sales for this fiscal year. No public comment was made, and the hearing was closed.

2. **Halsey-Shedd RFPD | Chief Travis Hewitt.** Mr. McDowell stated that this item will be tabled tonight.

Citizen Comments. Due to a large audience turnout, Mayor Craven stated that the Citizen Comments section of the meeting will be moved earlier to accommodate the public better. Mayor Craven asked that comments be limited to three minutes per audience member, and asked that citizens would please state their name and address for the public record prior to commenting.

Bill Sattler thanked Mr. McDowell for dealing with a neighboring nuisance situation so quickly and efficiently. Mr. Sattler is concerned with the way the City is handling Canal Company business. He maintains that the Canal Company is a private landowner. They need to be taking care of their own property; the difference here may be that the canal provides drainage through town. The legal process to deal with the situation would be to create a Local Improvement District (LID), which has some protections for folks, and that seems to be the best way to proceed. Sattler says the City should rethink whether this agreement is worth all the strife and trouble it will create. Mayor Craven assured Mr. Sattler that there will be plenty of opportunities for public comments on the issue going forward.

Kathleen Swayze began her comments with a definition of bullying. She further stated that Resolution 718 addresses rules of conduct for City Councilors. This resolution clearly lines out ethical behavior, and is agreed to when the new member takes the oath of office. Swayze stated that Councilor Solberg clearly violated these rules over more than the past year. He and his wife have repeatedly sought out two community members, Joshua Bloomfield and Cam Elder, harassing, baiting, menacing, mimicking, name calling, and yelling at them on city streets, the bar, at the Farmer's Market, and their private property. Clearly this is not one incident, it has happened repeatedly over the year plus. This obsessive, abusive behavior has been witnessed, recorded, and recently reported to the Sheriff. It must stop; Joshua and Cam are the victims here. They just want to live quietly in this small town without harassment and fear. Mrs. Swayze moved here 40 years ago, to this perfect, imperfect little community. We all had different views, politics and beliefs. We chose to find the things we all had in common. We were a welcoming town to all kinds of folks. Consequently, Swayze stated that this kind of alienating, bullying behavior makes her sad, sick, and brokenhearted. She states that there should be consequences for Councilor Solberg's inappropriate behavior. An investigation is needed, and an apology is a small start.

Pam Solberg commented next stating that everyone is here tonight due to an editorial in the Brownsville Times featuring a one-sided editorial. She is asking herself why it was even published. Trapper and Nichole have been attacked many times over a disagreement in a conversation. She has been called ugly names, time and time again. Trapper has not engaged because he is on the City Council, and he knows that he and Nichole have been provoked. Mrs. Solberg believes that if Trapper was not a City Councilor, this would never have been an issue. She is ashamed of anybody behind these attacks. Solberg and her husband have been hairdressers in this community for years. Trapper has had a beauty business for nearly 30 years. Many folks in the beauty business are part of the LGBTIQ+ community. They would have no chance of being successful in the industry if they were homophobic, which is the last thing any of them are. There are always two sides to every story.

Laura Lehto spoke next, stating that she is a friend to all, including Trapper, Cam and Joshua. Ms. Lehto likes these people, she sees them almost daily. These actions were no way to behave to each other. We live in a small community, and every Councilor must represent all of us, or none of us. We can all do better, and she hopes that starts today.



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Jeana Graham spoke next stating that she really likes Trapper and Joshua. She referenced an incident where she was accosted, but she didn't write about it in the paper. She stated that folks should be aware that alcohol changes people.

Mandy Cole spoke next, asking for Mr. McDowell to make a joke to ease the tension; there were a lot of strong emotions in the room. Ms. Cole stated that this is a heartbreaking situation. The issue is not a political issue, it is a community issue, maybe a legal issue. It is how we treat each other in Brownsville, and how we expect our elected officials, our leaders, to behave to our citizens, not rudely, offensively, aggressively, or with harassment. There must be consequences when our officials behave in this manner. Ms. Cole stated that she is embarrassed on the City's behalf, and the jeopardy the City may now be in. She stated that with this misbehavior, she would like this Councilor replaced by others that can better represent the best Brownsville has to offer.

Leia Landrock spoke next stating that there are two sides to every story. We are one community, and we need to find healing. She worked for over 20 years as a civil servant. Not once, was she allowed to ever respond with name calling or homophobic slurs, etc. When serving in a civil servant capacity, you need to hold yourself to a higher standard and respond better in the future; this whole situation has been a sad state of circumstances. It is never appropriate to use homophobic or racial slurs. Councilor Solberg encouraged her to watch the video for the real story.

Yolanda Tauzer spoke next with a message of love in honor and recognition of pride month. She and her husband support Brownsville's LGBTIQ+ community and their families and friends; they dearly love and appreciate them. The Navajo concept says that beauty exists within and around us as the light reflects through a rainbow. The symbol of the rainbow is our sovereign communication with the Creator. She would like to say in the spirit of love and compassion and solidarity, to all the beautiful people, happy pride month. May you always reflect your light, may you always speak your truth, and may you always walk in beauty with respect.

Chuck Smith spoke next stating that he has lived in Brownsville for many years. He stated that he has known Trapper since he was born, and has never known him to be disrespectful; he is a courteous, great guy. Mr. Smith believes that this situation is a ploy to get Trapper off Council. Perhaps the sticks and stones adage applies here. He thanked Council for listening, and everyone for being present.

Summer Stevens spoke next stating that she was advised not to come tonight, because nobody is going to listen. She related past experiences with both Trapper and Adam. This community is her roots, but it was hard to grow up here. It is a town of lookers. Her only wish tonight is that Council will hear her message. Ms. Stephens stated that we are messy humans, and alcohol makes us do things that we might not necessarily otherwise do. We need to do better as human beings; how can we come together? She asks that Councilor Solberg own up to his behavior, and apologize. This town has her heart. We need to think of the question, what are we growing here? Is it hate? Is it love? What do we want to support? How can we come together and grow in our togetherness rather than separate and be divisive. Ms. Stephens stated that she hadn't seen the video, but she is asking for Councilor Solberg to own up. She asks that when Councilor Solberg does own up, that people choose to take him into their heart and allow to receive that he is taking that step. Don't berate him, let's come together.

Michael Worthing stated that he owns the Brownsville Fitness Center, and as business owners it is best to stay out of the fray. That said, he thinks the issue is too important, it strikes at the core of who they are, and it is his moral obligation to respond. Mr. Worthing talked about his upbringing, and the best lesson he ever learned was the golden rule. The Brownsville Fitness Center members represent a political, religious cross section of the community. They welcome everyone, but require that they be respectful of one another, and the vast majority of folks are. Those that cannot, or will not follow their rules, are encouraged to find a different gym. It is extremely disappointing to him that our leaders have set a bar much lower than that. Brownsville deserves better.



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Dianna Barron stated up front, that she doesn't know the facts, but things seem to accelerate quickly here. She is not political, but is the party of human decency, and it seems that there is lack of decency going on, and that needs to be addressed. City Councilors are held to a higher standard, and she referenced the code of conduct. She is here tonight because of the call to action she received, and she sees that Trapper and his family are being attacked because of their conservative values. Behaviors are a different thing, though. The letter to the editor had one view of things, and she would like to hear the other side as well. It sounds like neither behavior was ok, similar to middle school behavior. Ms. Barron hopes that we can find the human decency among us, and would like an investigation into the situation so that everyone feels respected.

Mike Nehls stated that he just came to listen tonight. He has observed everyone listening very well, except Councilor Solberg who has done a lot of eye rolling. It has been hard to watch that, and empathizes with the situation. He believes that we can have candid conversations in this town. He said that alcohol was involved, and that we should try to make the bar the best place in town!

Christine Crow stated she has lived here for about 2½ years. She stated that testimony tonight stated that alcohol is the cause of the problem. Her background as a counselor believes that, stating that the belief system drives the bad behavior. It is not ok to act out, regardless of alcohol consumption. This behavior should not happen from a Councilor. She would like this to be a community of love and equality.

Julie Barry stated that she worked in this town. It takes two to tango, and it takes two to fix the situation. Trapper deserves some respect and support with all the things said about him and his lovely wife.

Anne Clark echoed Dianna Barron's and everyone else's words tonight. She referenced the code of conduct, oath of office, and implications. Councilor members must practice civility and decorum at public meetings and find common ground with the public. Private encounters should be handled with respectful public officials' conduct as well. Ms. Clark was called to action, and as a citizen is asking for an investigation so that we can all know the truth. Council sets the stage, and you all represent us, and if your behavior is not acceptable to members of the community, it needs to be addressed. (Clark also relayed a personal story that included language that was racially insensitive and has been edited, for that reason, from these minutes.)

Wayne Graham spoke next stating that it sounds like no one knows anything. It sounds like hearsay, a lot of drunk talk from behind the tavern, and he is embarrassed that we are here addressing this.

Lily Giannone spoke next. She has lived here for a few years, happy to be here in Brownsville. Ms. Giannone stated that who she walks with in the world is important, and how we treat other people matters. It is very important to have an ethical and moral code. She was saddened to hear that civil servants who have agreed to represent all of us, which is a special honor, and maybe some people who sit at that table, don't represent all of us. This statement has nothing to do with Councilor Solberg as a person, or a man. She agrees that if individuals have a dispute, they should work it out. Hateful words from somebody in a position of power, that matters. She asked that Councilor Solberg step back and evaluate whether he is capable of holding that power.

Kira Hughes is a new member of the community of only a few months. A few weeks later she attended a Council meeting. She was disappointed that attendance was so low; she was thrilled to see everyone here tonight. Hughes encouraged all to keep coming to Council meetings, so that we all have a role. City Council does represent every single person in Brownsville, no matter what. Hughes said that if a Councilor cannot do that, they should not be on City Council.

Ronda Heck stated she is a bartender at the bar, and part of the LGBTQ+ community. She would like to have no drama at the bar. She stated that Trapper and Nichole have been in the bar twice wearing MAGA hats stating Make America Great Again. She thinks this is unacceptable, because she feels it shows he is not supporting the whole community; that it is his (own) agenda. Ms. Heck asked that he



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please not wear that garb in the bar anymore. She further stated that if he is part of the conservative values, then she thinks that Trapper should be ticketed for drinking outside the bar and doing disorderly conduct.

Cheryl Haworth stated that she has been here as long as the Solbergs. Her daughter and Trapper even had ballet lessons together. She has always loved Trapper, and stated he has a wonderful heart. Haworth has heard a lot of things lately about slurs and lewd physical actions that Trapper has taken. She stated that this is not what she wants from Trapper, and that he is way better than that. She stated that Trapper is a wonderful person, and she would like him to be on the Council. She stated Oregon Department of Justice bias description and rules. She stated that under this law, certain behaviors are crimes. Haworth stated that these crimes are serious, and we expect the best of everyone on City Council. We all need to have a good code and she hopes that we can all come together on this.

Iris Hodge stated that she is here today speaking because she wanted Trapper to see her face, further stating that she knows everything that he did. She has seen every video as it occurred over the last 12 months. She further stated that anyone talking about we don't know what happened, is not true. The victims are in this room, and there are witnesses in the bar when you and your friends were talking to the victims in a way that is hate speech, harassment, and derogatory. She is speaking tonight because she does not believe that Trapper represents her. Ms. Hodge quoted from Resolution 718 that talks about the expectations and code of conduct from City Councilors, elected officials, and appointed residents. She stated that this resolution has clearly been violated. She charged the Mayor, City Manager, and others to make sure that appropriate action is taken. Ms. Hodge stated that she is respectfully asking for Trapper and Nichole to step down from their positions because they don't represent us, and their behavior is unbecoming, and it is unacceptable. She further stated that hate speech and lewd gestures were used by Trapper and Nichole in the video. We all love the First Amendment Right, freedom of speech. Ms. Hodge stated that using the *f- * - * - t* word is hate speech. She again asked that Trapper step down; it may actually help him in the criminal case and urged his wife to step down as well.

Michelle Micklewright moved here because they appreciated the cooperation in the town. She stated that she sat here tonight watching a man smirking, rolling his eyes, and commenting out of time and out of place, when the City Manager has asked you not to. She said this behavior reminds her of her 10-year-old son. She asked Trapper why this situation is not a serious matter to him? Everyone else seems to think it is.

Abe Sword spoke next stating that he has lived here for 32 years, and he believes that we can learn from this incident. He believes that Trapper can be a leader to these people, and while we are not necessarily here to legislate the incident, we can all be open to learning from it. He stated that when Trapper smirks, talks out of turn, and lacks decorum, that is not it. We are all human, and we can all be better. Mr. Sword stated that there will be a lot to reflect upon from tonight. That will include not shutting people down who are different from you; show that you care with your actions.

Mayor Craven thanked everyone for coming out tonight and expressing their views. He stated that no one is perfect, and we can all be better as people. We are all hoping to move forward and find some common ground; it is not always about politics, but sometimes that is a motivator. Let's move forward together as one Brownsville; we are all Americans. Mayor Craven stated that he has lost friends because he ran for Mayor and the flag that he displays.

Councilor Solberg addressed the comments about his inattentiveness, eye rolling, and unintended gestures. He stated that it is very hard to be passive when folks are saying untruthful things about you, and therein lies the reason for the body language and gestures. As a human being, he is the furthest thing from being against the LGBTQ+ community. He has many, many folks in that community that he calls friends, and they would stand behind him all day long. There were a lot of half-truths told tonight, and he would encourage everyone to watch the video. Councilor Solberg stated that there is a certain person in our crowd that is here to stir things up, therein lies the problem.



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Mayor Craven asked for a 5-minute recess.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. **Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Report.** Lt. Brian Hardy was present to report May statistics. He indicated a traffic blitz in May comprising 68 traffic stops and 36 citations. Hardy also related an incident of care and compassion by saving kittens crossing a busy highway. He stated that Pioneer Picnic went off without a hitch. LCSO is preparing to cover the July 4th fireworks event in the park as well.
2. **Public Works.** Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink reported that Public Works focus has been cleaning up the town, and preparing for summer events. The park hosts arrived last month; however, one person was unable to fulfill their duties due to an injury. A temporary worker was hired to help facilitate mowing and other miscellaneous chores. Public Works has had a mirage of equipment breakdowns, but Staff is working through the issues.
3. **Administration.** Administrator Scott McDowell recapped the progress on the GR12 project. There are some elements that are extending the project into the next fiscal year.

Mr. McDowell reported that he and Mayor Craven recently traveled to Portland to attend a Daily Journal of Commerce award presentation to Woodblock Architecture for the Central Linn Rec Center Renovation project. Tasks still needed to be addressed include landscaping, lighting issues, painting, windows, as built plans, floor issue, and owner manuals. Staff is diligently working to resolve the issues, and trying to get the building to open as soon as possible.

McDowell reminded Council that the Library will be closed this week for annual maintenance.

McDowell reported that the City website is transitioning to a new platform. A major concern will be the elimination of our current building reservation calendar. Drupal and Civic Plus are working on finding a product that will work. The City website is a major way of communication with our citizens.

McDowell touched on Ordinance 805: Abandoned Vehicles Modification coming before Council tonight. State towing laws have changed, which is precipitating this ordinance update. This Ordinance would help LCSO streamline enforcement of towing laws across Linn County. If passed unanimously, this Ordinance can be passed tonight as an emergency.

McDowell reported that he attended a REAL meeting on May 27th. Pacific Power is advising folks to consider utilizing generators, especially if medically needed. Fire season is quickly approaching, and with climate challenges and wildfire season, it is likely that more brown outs will be occurring.

McDowell informed Council that extra portable toilets have been ordered for the summer event season, and will be cost-shared with some of our community partners. Light towers have also been ordered for the July 4th celebration.

Weed and nuisance abatement season has officially started as of June 1st. Abatements have been posted, and Staff would like to thank folks for addressing the situations and bringing their properties back into compliance.

McDowell reported that he has reached out to the River's Edge Homeowners Association to request some mowing and tree maintenance; Phase 3 will begin building out soon.

McDowell remarked that some of Bill Sattler's Canal Company comments made earlier in the meeting are correct. The City and the Canal Company will host a series of town hall meetings and



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the community will be invited to address the concerns expressed by Sattler and others through the years.

4. **Planning.** No comments.
5. **Library.** No comments.
6. **Office.** No comments.
7. **Court.** No comments.
8. **Council Comments.** Councilor Chambers commented that she and Mr. McDowell had recently attended the LCSO quarterly meeting. The Sheriff continues to struggle with personnel and is making sure all contract cities receive their hours. The group will hear from District Attorney Doug Marteeny at their next quarterly meeting.

LEGISLATIVE:

1. **Resolution 2024.09 | Water Rates Annual Adjustments.** *Councilor Humphreys made a motion to approve R 2024.09. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Councilor Winklepleck commented that a 3% increase is welcome compared to what it could be.*
2. **Resolution 2024.10 | Sewer Rates Annual Adjustments.** *Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve R 2024.10. Councilor Humphreys seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*
3. **Resolution 2024.11 | Adopting FY 2024-2025 Budget & Making Appropriations.** *Councilor Chambers made a motion to approve R 2024.11. Councilor Humphreys seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*
4. **Resolution 2024.12 | Year End Transfers FY 2023.2024.** *McDowell reported that this is end of the year bookkeeping. Several years back the auditor forced the City to move funds from the Cemetery Trust Fund to the General Fund. Brownsville Municipal Code 2.45.010 states that those funds are proprietary and are to be left with the Cemetery Trust Fund. Audited fund balance at the end of 2023 was \$85,322. This number as well as \$2,750 from lot sales from the current year will be reflected in the beginning cash balance in the upcoming 2024.2025 budget document. Staff is making a note of it here for clarity. Councilor Chambers moved to approve Resolution 2024.12 as presented. Councilor Humphreys seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*
5. **Ordinance 805 | Abandoned Vehicle Modification (Emergency).** *Mr. McDowell stated that this is the first reading for O 805. As stated earlier, state towing laws have changed, which is precipitating this ordinance update. This Ordinance would help LCSO streamline enforcement of towing laws across Linn County. If passed unanimously, this Ordinance can be passed tonight as an emergency and take effect immediately. Councilor Winklepleck moved to approve Ordinance 805 as presented. Councilor Humphreys seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Approve Delinquent Assessments.** *McDowell stated that annually Council attaches delinquent assessment to the tax rolls. These amounts will also be listed on the LB 50 form. Councilor Winklepleck moved to approve the delinquent assessments as presented. Councilor Chambers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*



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2. **Authorize 2024 General Election Advertisements.** McDowell reported that there will be 3 Council positions open for the fall 2024 election; he will put a notice in the local paper. *Councilor Solberg moved to authorize Mr. McDowell to go forth. Councilor Hansen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*
3. **Approve Canal Company Agreement.** McDowell reported that the situation with the Canal Company has been a long, ongoing process – nearly twenty years. The Canal Company nor the City are charging anyone for the service some folks have been receiving for many years; the City has been covering the cost. Replacement of the pumps for the Canal is extremely expensive. The pumps typically start May 15th and run through September. The State will often shut down the Canal pumps by August. The draft agreement is not a binding document. It is important to note that there will be some folks not happy about this effort. *Councilor Winklepleck moved to authorize Mr. McDowell to go forth, stating that this has been an ongoing issue since he has been on Council. It is understood that not everyone will be happy with the agreement, but the agreement should ease the City's financial burden. Councilor Chambers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **Central Linn School District | IGA.** McDowell reported that the City has worked in conjunction with the School District and the Rec Center for many, many years. This agreement memorializes this cooperation. Dr. Pelt indicated that the agreement will go before the School District Board in August.
2. **North Templeton Street | Possible Request.** McDowell indicated that a property owner on N. Templeton is interested in researching how to get the pavement extended on that street. There are a couple ways to accomplish this. The ball is in the private citizen's court; we may hear more at the July Council meeting.
3. **May Financials.** No comments.

CITIZEN QUESTIONS & COMMENTS. Don Lyon made a formal request for a bipartisan study group to meet and review videos concerning Councilor Solberg and others, stating it would be a reality check for both parties.

Patrick Starnes asked about a timeline for trying to figure out how to move forward. McDowell stating that it is unknown just yet, but Staff is extremely busy in July with vacations, budget work, and continuing projects. September may be a more realistic time frame if more review is needed by Council, but the City will try its best to have something as soon as possible.

William Hand informed Council that he had received an abatement notice, and is working on resolving the issues noted.

COUNCIL COMMENTS.

Councilor Chambers stated that it has been wonderful serving with the current Council. They have always shown themselves to be kind, gentlemanly, caring men. Chambers stated that she was very disturbed to witness several members of the public attack Councilor Solberg tonight. He is a decent man.

Councilor Solberg stated that he would like an investigation done against all these allegations. He encouraged everyone to watch the video because the comments tonight did not represent fairly what happened.



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Mr. McDowell stated that in reply to Don Lyon and Patrick Starnes comments earlier, this situation has been going on for a while. It is important to remember that the handbook is guidelines. McDowell stated that should an investigation be needed; it will be an internal matter. He will be contacting the City Attorney in the morning and looking for a path to move forward. McDowell also stated that it is evidently clear that everyone here loves Brownsville, and it is profoundly important for us to focus on how to collectively get better and move forward as a community. Situations like this need to be handled in an orderly way, and not convict people in a public arena. Council has experienced many one-sided articles in the news media through the years. Counseling for Councilor Solberg has been impactful and meaningful, his anguish is also palpable.

Councilor Winklepleck commented that the 3% water and sewer rate increases are necessary. Council does weigh these decisions very seriously. The increases are hitting our wallets too.

Councilor Humphreys commented that if his electric and gas bills only went up 3%, he would be happy!

ADJOURNMENT: Councilor Humphreys moved to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "SM", written over a horizontal line.

City Administrator S. Scott McDowell

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "A.C.", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Adam Craven