



Council Meeting Synopsis

Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on December 17th, 2024.

- ★ All members of Council were present except Mayor Craven, who was excused. Council President Lynda Chambers presided.
- ★ Central Linn Community Foundation Request | Chenoweth Robertson | Council has partnered with the Foundation for a number of years to deliver resources to the community. Council unanimously approved a motion to continue support of the Foundation.
- ★ Oaths | Council-Elect | City Administrator McDowell swore in Lynda Chambers, Felipe Eversull and Mike Winklepleck as members of Council effective January 1st, 2025.
- ★ Bi-annual Cyber Security | The City is required to review cyber security with Council twice a year for insurance purposes. McDowell provided some information on the vast amount that is spent on cyber security. He predicted that in the next five years or so the landscape will be vastly different with the advancements of quantum computing and artificial intelligence.
- ★ Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Report | Sergeant Frambes reviewed the stats for November highlighting several items including a multi-jurisdictional effort to thwart criminals who have hit local pharmacies in Linn and Benton Counties. Brownsville Pharmacy was recently burglarized by this organized criminal group. Councilor Hansen asked about porch pirates. Frambes said that package thefts stolen from porches are down this year but stay vigilant. Frambes reported that fraud is on the rise and explained two situations where people were tricked out of large sums of money that was unrecoverable. The LCSO does not ask for donations or funds. If something is not adding up, it is probably a fraud.
- ★ Public Works Report | Superintendent Karl Frink reported the crew is busy picking up leaves. Frink recently replaced a pump at the North Wastewater Treatment Plant. He is also troubleshooting some issues with his office computer.
- ★ City Administrator Report | Administrator Scott McDowell reported that he and Councilor-Elect Felipe Eversull will be going through orientation before Christmas. The light was installed in the Rec Center parking lot by Pacific Power. The first use of the Rec Center for a major event was a success earlier this month. The City would like to thank Kaci Logan for doing a great job with the Christmas bazaar at the Rec Center and Public Works for their assistance.
- ★ Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman | Coleman reported on the basic requirements of the flood program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). She shared a picture of the floodplain and the floodway and explained the process for developments that happen in this sensitive area. Basically, moving any dirt for any purpose requires a permit. Property owners are required to provide an Elevation Certificate for any livable structures in the floodplain. These certificates are often completed by a surveyor.
- ★ Citizen Comments | No one commented.
- ★ Resolution 2024.18: Certify 2024 Election Results | Council unanimously passed a resolution recognizing Linn County Clerk's Office certification of the November 5th, 2024 election results.
- ★ Resolution 2024.19: Humphreys Public Service Recognition | Council unanimously passed a resolution recognizing Councilor Michael Humphreys public service and thanking him for his accomplishments while on Council.





City of Brownsville
PO Box 188 | 255 N Main Street
Brownsville, OR 97327

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- ★ Resolution 2024.20: Employee Handbook Modifications | Council unanimously passed a resolution modifying leave accruals and amended overtime calculations for on-call service.
- ★ Appoint Planning Commission Member | Council appointed Jared Swezey to the Planning Commission starting immediately. The City appreciates the robust interest in this position.
- ★ January Council Meeting | Date Change | Council unanimously passed a motion to move the January 2025 Council meeting from Tuesday, the 28th, to Thursday, the 30th, so Council members could attend Capital Day on the 28th event, organized by the League of Oregon Cities.
- ★ Goals Setting Process Review | Council Directives | McDowell reviewed the extensive process Council uses to select goals and priorities. Every two years Council members set directives for Staff to execute. The City experiences internal & external forces that make accomplishing all directives challenging, primarily due to changes in State law or new policies adopted by the State and Federal governments.
- ★ Councilor Comments | Councilor Hansen verified the Canal Company dates planned for Town Hall were January 23rd and 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room. Hansen said that he received many compliments from people attending the Christmas Bazaar about how beautiful the Rec Center Renovation project turned out. Chambers relayed that Mayor Craven wishes everyone a Merry Christmas with thanks to Council, the Boards & Committees and Staff for all the efforts made to run Brownsville. Councilor Chambers said that 2024 has been a very hard year for many who lost loved ones and other things that have transpired. She encouraged everyone to turn their worries over to the Lord. She told Councilor Humphreys that he was awesome and thanked him for serving Brownsville so well.

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@brownsvilleor.org.

For more information, please visit <https://ci.brownsville.or.us>.



Upcoming Events

- **Canal Company Town Hall Meetings** | January 23rd & January 29th | 7:00 p.m. | Community Room | Both meetings will be identical, relaying information about future plans for the Canal Company's management.
- **Council Meeting** | January 30th, 2025 (Thursday) | Council Chambers | 7:00 p.m.

Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Joyful New Year from your City Staff!