



City Council Minutes May 26, 2026

Mayor:	Robert Duncan, Presiding
Council President:	Mike Caughey, Present
Councilors Present:	Kimberly Downey, Randy Klemm, Cindy Knox, and Dana Henry
Councilors Absent:	Charlotte Thomas (Excused)
Staff Present:	City Administrator Michele Eldridge, Finance Director/Deputy City Recorder Cathy Nelson and City Recorder/Municipal Court Administrator Lori Ross
Meeting Location:	Harrisburg Municipal Center Located at 354 Smith St

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Robert Duncan.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL by Mayor, Robert Duncan at the hour of 6:34pm.

CONCERNED CITIZEN(S) IN THE AUDIENCE: All in attendance were there for items on the agenda.

THE MATTER OF MEETING WITH A MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE FROM LCSO IF ONE IS AVAILABLE: Sergeant Frambes with LCSO reviewed the April 2026 reports. Some of the highlights include:

- Issues locally with electronic bikes. LCSO has been speaking with students and educating them about the requirements for using an E-bike, including the minimum age requirement of 16 years old.
- Several scams involving the elderly.
- Henry inquired about nuisance towing for traffic stops. Sergeant Frambes informed Council the ORS states that if the driver has no license or insurance, the vehicle can be towed. He added that LCSO will work with the defendant typically to have someone pick up the vehicle, but if they are unable to, the vehicle is towed.

- Knox voiced her appreciation for LCSO for being proactive and educating students.
- Eldridge added her appreciation for Deputy Smith and his work on patrolling Eagle Park.

THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE A PUBLIC EVENT PERMIT FOR THE 74TH YEAR OF THE HARRISBURG OLD FASHIONED 4TH OF JULY:

Eldridge reviewed the application. Highlights included:

- The Firecracker 5K Event will be held on Sunday, June 28th.
- The Pet Parade will be held on Friday, July 3rd.
- On Friday, July 3rd, live music will be playing at the Gazebo and on the 4th of July, two bands will be playing this year.
- The only condition of approval is the requirement for the City to receive a copy of the OSMB (Oregon State Marine Board) permit for the Boat Parade.
 - Knox **motioned to authorize the City Administrator to approve the Public Event Permit for the 74th year of the Harrisburg Old-Fashioned 4th of July Celebration and was seconded by Caughey. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5-0.** (Yes: Knox, Caughey, Downey, Klemm and Henry. No: None.)

THE MATTER OF APPROVING A PARADE PERMIT FOR THE HARRISBURG COMMUNITY OLD-FASHIONED 4TH OF JULY PARADE:

Eldridge reviewed the conditions of approval and noted the Harrisburg Community 4th of July Association (HC4JA) is required to obtain a permit from ODOT and work with the railroads as well.

- Downey **motioned to approve the Parade Permit for the Harrisburg 2026 Old-Fashioned 4th of July Parade and was seconded by Henry. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5-0.** (Yes: Downey, Henry, Caughey, Klemm and Knox. No: None.)

THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION IN RELATION TO THE SMALL MUNICIPALITY ADVOCACY COALITION (SMAC):

Eldridge referred to page 89 of the agenda noting the next SMAC meeting will take place at the Municipal Center on June 3rd at 7pm and pointed out future dates as well. She informed Council that SMAC is in the process of speaking with some professionals who can assist with lobbyist, marketing and administrative tasks. Eldridge and Scott McDowell, the City Administrator of Brownsville, will be conducting the interviews.

- Eldridge then informed Council that some of the other cities, including Brownsville, have budgeted \$30,000 for SMAC this next fiscal year, due to the uncertainty of the cost of hiring a firm to assist with SMAC and the cost for suggested programs. Eldridge informed Council that \$8,000 was proposed and recommended to City Council, however, that amount can change since the budget hasn't been adopted yet. Eldridge has been assured by Nelson, that the General Fund can afford an increase of \$22,000. Eldridge noted that in previous years, only half of the budgeted amount for SMAC has been spent and assured Council they have control over how these funds are spent.
- Henry asked for clarification on what Brownsville and the other cities will be contributing to hiring a firm and other expenses. Eldridge responded, stating that each members cost is a percentage based on population. Eldridge added that we would make sure our funds are used for the purposes we want to use them for.
- Knox confirmed that if the City did budget for \$30,000, those funds would not be spent without coming back to Council for a further discussion. Eldridge stated that would be noted in the IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) with SMAC.
- Henry is okay with having that amount budgeted but also wants to be thoughtful about how those funds are spent.

- Klemm asked what the advantages was for changing the budget amount now from \$8,000 to \$30,000. Eldridge replied that it would give us more options available to be proactive. Klemm is opposed to changing it to \$30,000 due to not knowing what the expense would be. Klemm suggested if the need did arise, to involve the citizens.
- Nelson stated that Council could approve that amount now and have it reflected in the budget, or it could be approved by Resolution, then transferred when needed.
- Downey is okay with it either way.
- Caughey doesn't feel that it's an issue to have it budgeted now, as we don't have to spend it, unless Council chooses to.
- Mayor Duncan inquired if our budgeted amount reflects how committed we are to SMAC.
- Klemm commented that Lobbyist are great, but in order to get the legislatures attention, it's up to the individual constituents and Councils involvement in joining the fight.
- *The consensus was to hold off until more information was available.*

OTHER ITEMS:

- Eldridge informed Council of a family medical emergency over the Labor Day holiday weekend and thanked Mayor Duncan and Scholz for taking her place at the Grand Re-Opening of Eagle Park.
- Eldridge reminded Council of the Veterans Memorial, scheduled for June 13th at 2pm at the Museum.
- Downey thanked Eldridge for making the monument at Riverfront Park happen.
- Caughey gave Knox a special thank you for her involvement in the community with parks and also for helping with fixing up the north entrance into town.

With no further business, the City Council Meeting adjourned at the hour 7:24pm.

Mayor

City Recorder