

CITY OF CLARKSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL DEPARTMENT MEETING
March 17, 2025

The Clarksville City Council met in regular session on March 17, 2025 in the City Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Jerald Heuer presiding and Council Members Ruth Saulsbury, Jessi Reints, Roger Doty and Taran Sherburne. Jennifer Kielman Absent. The following Department Heads and employees were in attendance: Molly Bohlen, City Clerk, Jared Brunner, Maintenance, Rebecca Brown, Reserve Officer and Barry Mackey, Police Chief. Members of the public present: Brandon & David Kramer, Teresa Poland, Chris & Toni Engel.

Motion Sherburne, Reints to approve agenda for March 17, 2025. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

Mayor Opens Public Hearing.

Motion Sherburne, Doty to open public hearing for special permit at 402 N. Main St. to allow the building to be split in 2 sections with a common wall dividing the property.

Comments from the public-written or verbal. Teresa Poland was present and states that the Food Pantry is wanting to purchase the south half of the building, but they want to separate the building at the common wall. Wedeking would then still own the north side. Discussion around the water and sewer service at this location as there is one shared line. Poland states that Wedeking is taking care of that and it is stated in the purchase agreement. Reints feels like it is a great idea.

Motion Doty, Sherburne to close the public hearing for the special permit at 402 N Main St. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

Motion Sherburne, Reints to approve the special permit for 402 N Main St. allowing the building to be split into 2 parts. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

Saulsbury provided update regarding the Battery Processing Plant being proposed in Minnesota off the Shell Rock River. She states that there was enough opposition to extend time to accept comments into April. There will be an additional scoping hearing as well and now the Minnesota Railroad and Minnesota DOT are involved.

Mayor Topics: Upcoming Street Project around town and provides update for the upcoming years. Church Street Project Discussion: Heuer states that Brunner, Bohlen and Heuer had a meeting with Lucas of Fehr-Graham regarding different options on this road. Water lines need to be replaced, however sewer was visualized using a camera last summer and it checked out in good condition. Brunner was able to explain quotes and differences. Heuer states this is a plan for the next couple of years.

Motion Reints, Doty to approve Consent Agenda of: February Monthly Expenditures and Reports and Minutes from 03/03/2025. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

Department Head Updates: Library: Absent and will present 2 months at the next department head meeting. Mackey provided monthly report for police department with calls totaling 115 calls for month of February.

Maintenance: Sherburne was able to present applications of people who applied for the seasonal maintenance position. Sherburne and Kielman had previously met and discussed, with Sherburne making their recommendation to council regarding 2 of the applicants.

Motion Sherburne, Doty to approve hiring 2 recommended applicants for the seasonal maintenance position. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne.. Nays: Reints. Absent: Kielman

Building Permits:

1. Joe Wedeking: 403 W Greene: adding 10x12 cement pad on south side of house to act as a deck. Discussion regarding where the property pins are and Brunner states that Wedeking will be having pins moved making the lot that the house is sitting on larger than the additional lot to the south. Doty felt that the pins and legality of the lots should be taken care of prior to approving.

Motion Sherburne, Reints to approve building permit pending the pins are moved. Ayes: Saulsbury, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: Doty. Absent: Kielman

2. Matt Kampman: 304 E Weare St.: wants to remove and replace front deck on the house leaving it the same size.

Motion Sherburne, Saulsbury to approve building permit as presented. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

3. Seth Kleinschmidt: 518 W Prospect St.: would like to put up black chain link fence where existing dead trees are and old fence was.

Motion Sherburne, Reints to approve building permit as presented. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

Update from David & Brandon Kramer regarding the 514 S Church St. house. Kramer states that the new door has been put in and the rest is going to be cleaned up in the spring when the weather is nice. Heuer questioned what the plan is for the plastic and Kramer states that it will be coming down also. Saulsbury feels upset about the process with the nuisance. She states that neighbors or public get upset by what they see but do not want to put anything in writing or come to the hearing regarding the problems. Brandon states that he has talked to neighbors and they have not complained about anything, just wanting to purchase the property. Reints states that she would also like to talk with neighbors for their opinions. Heuer reminds council to look at the nuisance and property ordinance section and become familiar as this will not be the last time that this comes up. Brandon states that he will continue to clean up the property.

Clerk discussed options regarding software and what would best fit the needs of the city. Reints asked questions regarding functionality of the software and how comfortable we are in making the switch.

Motion Saulsbury, Sherburne to approve changing software companies from Gworks to Banyon. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

Street Repair Quotes were presented from Blacktop Services and Heartland Asphalt for patchwork and road repair. Discussion regarding which streets are needing the most immediate work.

Wage discussion: Reints feels that employees deserve wage increase. Mackey brought up reserve officer when hired stipulated a raise after completing training.

Motion Saulsbury, Reints to approve 4% wage increase for employees for FY 2025-2026. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

Toni Engel was present to discuss using the old Clarksville Star office for crafting and quilting retreats. They would have an area for beds and bathroom facilities but that would be behind a partition. From the front door looking in it would appear the same as it is now. This would not be made into an apartment. Clerk states that the owner of the building was in on Friday March 14th asking if Toni had touched base with the city regarding the use of the building as well. Clerk will research if a special permit would need to be obtained by the owner of the building. Many council members had questions for the space and Engel explained what the retreats would entail.

Motion Sherburne, Reints to approve city wide clean up. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman. Clerk and Maintenance will discuss dates and present back to council. Maintenance states that he would like to have for one week when the part timers are still able to help prior to school starting.

Motion Sherburne, Reints to approve City Hall completing garage sale sign up and advertising for May 15-17. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

Rick Hardee Sewer Bill Discussion. Hardee had come to City Hall questioning if the city was going to help with covering the cost of sewer backup in his basement. Maintenance states that he was called out on a Sunday to check the main which was open and flowing. Hardee had also stated that he spoke to neighbors who had problems during the same time and the Doug's stated it was blocked at the Main. Clerk spoke with Doug's who stated they were unsure of where the blockage was at as they do not have a camera to see where it was. Clerk also spoke to neighbors that are around Hardee and no one reported any sewer trouble during this time. Saulsbury states that as a homeowner that the private line is their responsibility.

Motion Reints, Saulsbury to deny Rick Hardee's request for Sewer Bill reimbursement. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

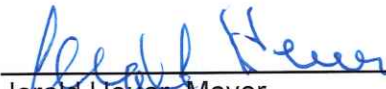
Discussion of IT security information from VC3 and Access Systems. More information will be gathered and presented to council at a later meeting.

Discussed new mileage rate set by IRS and questioned if the council would like to change the previous rate. Reints questioned what surrounding towns set their rate at. Clerk will inquire and report at the next meeting.

Motion Reints, Sherburne to approve mileage reimbursement for Mayor and Clerk to attend INRCOG meetings monthly. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman

Clerk discusses upcoming budget meetings.

Motion Doty, Sherburne to adjourn the regular City Council Meeting at 7:55 p.m. Ayes: Saulsbury, Doty, Sherburne and Reints. Nays: None. Absent: Kielman


Jerald Heuer, Mayor

Attest: 
Molly Bohlen, City Clerk