



**CLARKSVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL SESSION  
APRIL 7, 2020**

**MINUTES**

**IN AN EFFORT TO FACILITATE THE RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19), THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA GOOGLE MEETS FROM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND LIVE STREAMED ON CITYOFCLARKSVILLE.COM.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A special session of the Clarksville City Council was called to order by Mayor Joe Pitts on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. This meeting was conducted via Google Meets from City Council Chambers, 106 Public Square, Clarksville, Tennessee.

A prayer was offered by First Lady Cynthia Pitts.

**ATTENDANCE**

Members responded verbally and attendance was recorded as follows:

**PARTICIPATING:** Richard Garrett (Ward 1), Vondell Richmond (Ward 2; joined at 5:15 p.m.), Ron Erb (Ward 3), Tim Chandler (Ward 4; joined at 5:15 p.m.), Valerie Guzman (Ward 5), Wanda Smith (Ward 6), Travis Holleman (Ward 7), David Allen, Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 8), Jeff Henley (Ward 9), Stacey Streetman (Ward 10), Gary Norris (Ward 11), Jeff Burkhart (Ward 12)

Mayor Joe Pitts, City Attorney Lance Baker, and City Clerk Sylvia Skinner, as well as SGT. Chuck Gill and representatives from the City Information Technology Department, were physically present in the Council Chambers. Several Department Heads were also connected to the meet.

**APPROVAL OF ELECTRONIC MEETING**

*“In order to comply with the technical aspects of the Governor’s Executive Order regarding holding open meetings in a forum other than in the open and in public, this governing body determines that meeting electronically is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens due to the COVID-19 outbreak.”*

Councillady Smith made a motion to approve conducting this meeting by electronic means. The motion was seconded by Councillady Streetman. A voice vote was taken; the motion passed without objection.

## PARKS & RECREATION BUDGET AMENDMENT

**ORDINANCE 71-2019-20** (Second Reading) Amending the 2019-20 Operating and Capital Budget (ORDINANCE 76-2019-20) for the Governmental Funds for Crow and Burt Cobb Recreation Centers (\$450,000 from previously issued debt funds) and for Cemetery Retaining Wall (\$180,000 from reallocation of existing funds)

Councilman Burkhart made a motion to adopt this ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Councillady Streetman. Councilman Burkhart, Chair of the Finance Committee, made a motion to amend this ordinance to add \$180,000 for repairs to the cemetery retaining wall which would be transferred from the Edmondson Ferry Road project. The motion was seconded by Councillady Streetman. A voice vote was taken; the amendment passed without objection. The following vote on the original motion as amended.

AYE: Allen, Burkhart, Erb, Garrett, Guzman, Henley, Holleman, Norris, Pitts, Smith, Streetman

NO RESPONSE: Chandler, Richmond

The motion to adopt this ordinance on second reading as amended passed.

## EXTENSION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 003

**RESOLUTION 52-2019-20** Approving extension of Mayoral Executive Order No. 003 pertaining to the Novel Coronavirus in order to limit the spread of the COVID-19 Disease

This resolution extended Mayoral Executive Order No. 003 from 12:01 a.m. April 8, 2020 through 12:01 a.m. April 14, 2020. Councillady Guzman made a motion to adopt this resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burkhart.

In response to Councillady Smith’s question, Mayor Pitts said golf courses currently operating were required to close all indoor activities and there was no mandate on outdoor golfing services other than social distancing.

Councilman Allen and Councillady Smith were concerned about enforcement of the Executive Orders. Mayor Pitts said the definition of “essential businesses and

services” was very broad and noted that Clarksville Police and Building Codes officials were both monitoring activities. He reminded the members and the public of the Police Hotline [931-427-3600] was open 24 hours each day for inquiries and reports of non-compliance.

*NOTE:* Councilman Chandler and Councilman Richmond joined the meet at 5:15 p.m.

Councilman Garrett asked if the local medical facilities had a contingency plan for responding to an overload of virus cases. Mayor Pitts said medical administrators had said they were equipped to handle the needs of the public. Councilwoman Guzman said the United Way was leading efforts to assist the homeless with virus testing and isolation if necessary.

Councilman Richmond asked if the City could conduct a virtual town hall meeting with small business owners. Mayor Pitts said he would reach out to the Chamber of Commerce and ask them to consider a mass email that would reach small business owners.

Following Councilman Chandler’s question, Mayor Pitts said City personnel would put forward extra effort to address business not in compliance with the Executive Order.

Being no further discussion, the following roll call vote was recorded:

AYE: Allen, Burkhardt, Chandler, Erb, Garrett, Guzman, Henley, Holleman, Norris, Pitts, Richmond, Smith, Streetman

The motion to adopt this resolution unanimously passed.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

*ADOPTED:* May 7, 2020