



**CLARKSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION
JUNE 15, 2020**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

A special session of the Clarksville City Council was called to order by Mayor Joe Pitts on Monday, June 15, 2020, at 4:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers, 106 Public Square, Clarksville, Tennessee.

In an effort to facilitate the continued response to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), this meeting was conducted in person, via Google Meets, and live streamed on cityofclarksville.com

A prayer was offered by Councillady Wanda Smith. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councillady Valerie Guzman.

ATTENDANCE

IN PERSON: Richard Garrett (Ward 1), Vondell Richmond (Ward 2), Ron Erb (Ward 3), Valerie Guzman (Ward 5), David Allen, Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 8), Jeff Henley (Ward 9), Stacey Streetman (Ward 10), Gary Norris (Ward 11), Jeff Burkhart (Ward 12)

VIA GOOGLE MEETS: Tim Chandler (Ward 4), Wanda Smith (Ward 6), Travis Holleman (Ward 7)

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 Guzman made a motion to authorize the electronic meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burkhart. A voice vote was taken; the motion passed without objection.

FY21 BUDGET WORK SESSION

Chief Financial Officer Laurie Matta said due to the uncertainty of the economic shutdown during the COVID-19 Pandemic, all departments were asked to reduce their FY20 operating budgets by 5% in March. All related entities were notified their funding would continue, but there would be no increases and no capital, and large non-profit agencies were contacted and offered assistance with SBA loans so they could retain their employees. Ms. Matta said the goal of this administration was to maintain all employees and continue to provide services. She noted the status quo budget being presented on June 18 would not provide services and maintain employees for a full fiscal year, but a revised budget would be presented for consideration at a later date depending on revenue. With regard to debt service, she announced the recent refinancing saved the City \$3.7 million, and noted the City's bond rating of AA2.

Ms. Matta said proprietary/enterprise funds, Clarksville Department of Electricity, Gas & Water Department, and Parking Commission, must be self-supporting. Clarksville Transit System allows subsidies such as Federal Government grants and City funding.

Ms. Matta encouraged citizens to participate and be counted in the current census which will affect the City's portion of state-shared revenues which had been drastically reduced by the State of Tennessee. Highlighting the proposed FY21 status quo budget, Ms. Matta said the property tax rate would remain at \$1.0296. Department budgets were reduced an additional 5% below FY20 appropriations. This budget contained no general wage increase and stated the enterprise funds had appropriated employee pay raises, but were asked not to implement them until the general government employees were awarded the same. She said an amendment would be presented for two new Human Resources employees who would be paid for by the Gas & Water Department. This budget contained no new capital projects. Ms. Matta said an amendment would be proposed to accept a grant for Community Development and also for a correction to the CDE budget ordinance. She noted CDE Lightband's Broadband Division was currently showing a \$3.6 million net positive position.

In response to Councilman Garrett's question regarding the negative position of the Parking Commission, Ms. Matta said approximately half of the parking equipment is at least partially non-functional, most of the equipment had reached its end-of-life, the recent lack of downtown patrons, and the credit card kiosks would soon lack software support.

In summary, Ms. Matta said the proposed FY21 status quo budget of \$96,699 was 6.4% less than the FY20 budget. In response to Councilman Garrett's question, Ms. Matta said a date had not been determined to amend the status quo budget to fully fund operations.

First reading for the following ordinances was scheduled for June 18, 2020.

ORDINANCE 83-2019-20 Amending the FY20 Budget and approving the FY21 Operating Budget for the Central Business Improvement District

ORDINANCE 84-2019-20 Amending the Operating and Capital Budget for FY20 and adopting the Operating and Capital Budget for FY21 for CDE Lightband

ORDINANCE 85-2019-20 Amending the Operating and Capital Budget for FY20 and adopting the Operating and Capital Budget for FY21 for Clarksville Transit System

ORDINANCE 86-2019-20 Amending the Operating and Capital Budgets for FY20 and adopting the Operating and Capital Budget for FY21 for Clarksville Gas & Water Department

ORDINANCE 87-2019-20 Amending the FY20 Budget and Approving the FY21 Annual Action Plan and Budget and authorizing application for Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership Funds

ORDINANCE 88-2019-20 Amending the FY20 Operating Budget and adopting the FY21 Operating Budget for the Internal Service Fund

ORDINANCE 89-2019-20 Amending the FY20 Budget and establishing the Operating Budget for FY21 for the Clarksville Parking Commission

ORDINANCE 90-2019-20 Amending the City of Clarksville Operating and Capital Budget for FY20 and adopting the Operating and Capital Budget for FY21 for City of Clarksville Governmental Funds and adopting the Tax Rate for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2020

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

ADOPTED: July 2, 2020