

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING
AND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE TOWN OF CLARKSTON

June 6, 2023
6:30 P.M.

Public Hearing and Town Council Meeting held at the Clarkston Town Hall, 50 South Main, Clarkston, UT

Attendance: Mayor N. Craig Hidalgo
Councilmembers: McCall Stephensen, Shaun Kurek,
Dan Smith (came at 7:05 pm)

Town Clerk: Kristi Hidalgo

Absent: Councilmember Mylind Fawcett

Public Attendance: There was no public attendance at this meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hidalgo called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Hidalgo stated that the reason for this public hearing is to hear public comment on the Fiscal Year 2023 Amended Budget and the Fiscal Year 2024 Clarkston Town Budget.

Fiscal Year 2024 Budget – Mayor Hidalgo referenced the Tax Revenue section of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and noted that property taxes only account for about 13% of the budgeted revenue. Citizens need to understand that property tax is just a very small portion of the budget. Even though property taxes are high Clarkston Town only gets a small portion of those taxes. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the following changes were made from the Proposed Budget that the Council approved on May 16, 2023:

- Sales Tax Revenue increased from \$110,000 to \$120,000
- State Road Allotment Revenue increased from 50,000 to \$55,000
- RAPZ Tax Revenue increased from \$1,800 to \$2,229
- Roads Maintenance Expense increased from \$50,000 to \$58,929
- Capital Outlay – Equipment Unappropriated Fund Expense increased from \$20,000 to \$25,000

The FY 2024 Budget is as follows:

- General Fund Budget - \$553,418
- Cemetery Enterprise Fund - \$32,000
- Water Enterprise Revenue Fund - \$151,300
- Water Enterprise Expenditure Fund is \$140,300

Fiscal Year 2023 Amended Budget – Mayor Hidalgo stated that all the departments did extremely well managing their budgets this year. There wasn't any department that exceeded their budget, not even the

Roads Department. There were a lot of unforeseen snow equipment repairs and problems that had to be dealt with, yet they did not over run their budget. Mayor Hidalgo explained the following:

- A Capital Projects Fund has been established for the purpose of saving surplus monies to expand and remodel the Community Center into a new Clarkston Town Hall and whereas there are remaining Fiscal Year 2023 funds available in the Administration and Parks Department the Town Council authorized \$60,000 to be reassigned to the Administration Department Capital Projects Fund. The Administration Department Capital Projects Fund has accrued \$237,295.
- Whereas there are remaining Fiscal Year 2023 funds available in the Fire Department the Town Council authorized \$10,000 to be reassigned to the Fire Department Capital Projects Fund to be used for future purchases of fire trucks and equipment for the Fire Department. The Fire Department Capital Projects Fund has accrued \$46,000.

Mayor Hidalgo turned the time over to the Council for comments or questions. There was none so Mayor Hidalgo closed the public hearing at 6:45 p.m.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hidalgo called the Town Council Meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

Mayor Hidalgo led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered Reverence to begin the meeting.

Mayor Hidalgo addressed the minutes of the Clarkston Town Council Meeting held May 16, 2023. Councilmember M. Stephensen motioned for the Clarkston Town Council to approve and adopt the minutes of May 16, 2023. Councilmember S. Kurek seconded the motion. All in favor "Aye". Motion carried

2. NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 23-04 "An Ordinance Adopting the Clarkston Town FY 2023 Amended Budget" - Mayor Hidalgo asked if there was any discussion by the Council prior to passing the ordinance. There was no discussion, so Mayor Hidalgo read the ordinance and asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 23-04. Councilmember M. Stephensen motioned for the Council to approve and adopt Ordinance 22-04. Councilmember S. Kurek seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Hidalgo	<u>X</u> Aye	___ No	___ Abstain	___ Absent
Councilmember M. Fawcett	___ Aye	___ No	___ Abstain	<u>X</u> Absent
Councilmember M. Stephensen	<u>X</u> Aye	___ No	___ Abstain	___ Absent
Councilmember S. Kurek	<u>X</u> Aye	___ No	___ Abstain	___ Absent
Councilmember D. Smith	___ Aye	___ No	___ Abstain	<u>X</u> Absent

Ordinance 23-05 - "An Ordinance Adopting the Clarkston Town FY 2024 Budget" - Mayor Hidalgo asked if there was any discussion by the Council prior to passing the Ordinance. There was no discussion, so Mayor

Hidalgo read the ordinance and asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 23-05. Councilmember M. Stephensen motioned for the Council to approve and adopt Ordinance 22-05. Councilmember S. Kurek seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Hidalgo	<u>X</u> Aye	<u> </u> No	<u> </u> Abstain	<u> </u> Absent
Councilmember M. Fawcett	<u> </u> Aye	<u> </u> No	<u> </u> Abstain	<u>X</u> Absent
Councilmember M. Stephensen	<u>X</u> Aye	<u> </u> No	<u> </u> Abstain	<u> </u> Absent
Councilmember S. Kurek	<u>X</u> Aye	<u> </u> No	<u> </u> Abstain	<u> </u> Absent
Councilmember D. Smith	<u> </u> Aye	<u> </u> No	<u> </u> Abstain	<u>X</u> Absent

3. DEPARTMENTS

Mayor Hidalgo – Fire Department – Mayor Hidalgo publicly thanked the fire department for helping with Town Clean-up this week. They sprayed out the gutters around the entire town square, including the church.

Verizon Tower Update – Mayor Hidalgo reported that he had signed the Verizon Tower Lease Agreement. They are now doing the required seismic and site studies and analyses. It is anticipated that Verizon will start the project either late fall or early spring of 2024.

Town Hall Update – Mayor Hidalgo reported that the USDA Loan Application had been turned in, but the federal government has added another requirement that we didn't know about. The town must get Loan Term Sheets from three banks or financial institutions and then explain why the USDA is the best loan source for the project. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the town had received term sheets from the Bank of Utah, Cache Valley Bank and Alta Bank. Mayor Hidalgo asked Matthew Regen, Clarkston Town Certified Public Accountant, to review the town's financial statements and the term sheets and prepare an Opinion Letter with his conclusions. Mayor Hidalgo stated that Mr. Regen did determine that the USDA Loan was the only loan option that Clarkston Town could afford. The interest rate for a USDA Loan (3.4%) is significantly lower than the banks. The Council discussed the term sheets and agreed with Mr. Regan's assessment. See Exhibit A Mayor Hidalgo asked for a motion to pursue a USDA Loan for the Municipal Building and Community Center Project because a USDA Loan is the only option Clarkston Town can afford. Councilmember S. Kurek stated that it would be fiscally irresponsible to go any other way. Councilmember M. Stephensen agreed and made the motion to pursue the USDA Loan. Councilmember S. Kurek seconded it. All in Favor "Aye" Motion carried

Water Department – Mayor Hidalgo stated that the new water meter had been installed up by the water tanks for the SCADA System. The SCADA System Upgrade Project is almost complete.

Roads Department – Mayor Hidalgo reported that all of the potholes had been repaired. The FY 2024 road repairs will begin after Pony Express Days - June 24, 2023.

Councilmember M. Stephensen – May Warrant List – Councilmember M. Stephensen presented the Warrant List for May 2023. Councilmember S. Kurek motioned for the Clarkston Town Council to approve the Warrant List as read. Councilmember M. Stephensen seconded the motion. All in favor "Aye." Motion carried.

Citizen Advisory Committee – Councilmember M. Stephensen reported that the Citizen Advisory Committee would be having a company come out and bid on the Pickleball Court Project. The following are the options the Citizen Advisory Committee are considering:

- 3 pickleball courts, 1 tennis court and 2 half sized basketball courts
- 3 pickleball courts, 1 full size basketball court

Pony Express Days – Councilmember M. Stephensen reported the following:

- Wristbands will cost \$3.00 this year.
- Pony Express Texas Roadhouse Dinner will cost \$8.00 in advance and \$10.00 the day of.
- Today was the last day to Pre-order Pony Express T-Shirts. There will be a limited number of T-shirts available for sale on Pony Express Day.
- Still looking for auction items for the auction. The auction proceeds will be used to fund park projects.
- Rough Stock band will be coming to perform.
- The bounce house company will be providing people to manage them this year. The Youth Council will not be responsible for managing them this year.
- Friday night there will be free ice cream in the park and a movie in the park.
- A new amplifier is needed for the sound system in the 76-er for the ball games. Councilmember S. Kurek stated that he had one that the town could use.
- Gun Raffle Tickets are \$20 for 5 or \$5.00 for 1.

Councilmember S. Kurek – Cemetery Department – Sprinkling System Project - Councilmember S. Kurek reported that the Cemetery Sprinkling System Project is underway. Cemetery Sexton Jeremy Hidalgo would like to centralize everything for the sprinkling system in the maintenance building and remove the white fence between the old and new sections of the cemetery.

Drinking Fountain – Councilmember S. Kurek stated that he had asked Jeff Noble, a masonry contractor, to remove the east drinking fountain in the cemetery. He will salvage the bricks from that drinking fountain and repair the other drinking fountain in the middle of the cemetery by the Martin Harris Grave site.

Cemetery Lot Sales – Councilmember S. Kurek reminded the Council that there are brokers taking people from other states around to different cemeteries in the valley and showing them where there are lots for sale. Councilmember S. Kurek believes that the Council needs to reconsider non-resident burial fees. Mayor Hidalgo declared that there is no way that Clarkston Town could have done the Cemetery Expansion Project if the town hadn't received American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money to do it with. Mayor Hidalgo proposed that a policy be put into place restricting residents to buying lots only for people living within their home. Mayor Hidalgo believes that residents buying lots for out-of-town relatives should be prohibited. Nonresidents should pay the nonresident rate not the resident rate. Mayor Hidalgo said that the reason for this policy change is that the cemetery needs to be self-funded and right now it is not. The General Fund subsidizes the Perpetual Care Fund. If the Council continues to allow that to happen the town will not be able to continue to expand the cemetery as needed because the funds will not be accrued. The Council unanimously agreed with the following policy:

1. Clarkston residents may purchase cemetery lots only for the number of people living within their own home.
2. It is prohibited for Clarkston residents to buy cemetery lots for nonresidents or out-of-town relatives. Nonresidents shall pay the Nonresident Grave Sale Rate.

This policy will be adopted by ordinance at the next Clarkston Town Council Meeting held July 11, 2023.

4. RELEVANT BUSINESS

Next Meeting – The next Town Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday July 11, 2023 at 7:00 pm. This meeting is being held on the second Tuesday of the month due to the 4th of July falling on the first Tuesday of the month.

5. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember M. Stephensen motioned that the Clarkston Town Council Meeting adjourn. Councilmember S. Kurek seconded the motion. All members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Kristi Hidalgo
Town Clerk

