

CLEARFIELD CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
6:00 PM WORK SESSION
April 1, 2025

City Building
55 South State Street
Clearfield City, Utah

PRESIDING: Mayor Mark Shepherd

PRESENT: Councilmember Karece Thompson, Councilmember Nike Peterson, Councilmember Tim Roper, Councilmember Megan Ratchford, Mayor Mark Shepherd, Councilmember Dakota Wurth

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager JJ Allen, Assistant City Manager & Economic Development Director Spencer Brimley, Community Services Director Eric Howes, Police Chief Kelly Bennett, Community Relations Director Shaundra Rushton, Public Works Director Adam Favero, City Recorder Nancy Dean, Deputy City Recorder Chersty Titensor, Community Development Director Stacy Millgate, Assistant City Attorney Amy Jones

Mayor Shepherd called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION FOR COUNCIL INITIATIVES: MURAL(S) IN THE CITY

Shaundra Rushton, Communications Manager, said \$20k was budgeted for the art project which could fund two 10x30ft murals or multiple smaller ones. She said it took two weeks to complete a 10x30ft mural. She asked how many murals the Council wanted. Mayor Shepherd thought would be difficult to find a location any bigger than that size. Councilmember Ratchford was interested in quality over quantity. Councilmember Peterson liked all the locations and thought there were some great, high-visibility locations, but they were newer – she thought there was an opportunity to address blight. She wanted to prioritize areas where it could fulfill a dual purpose of a sense of place and beautification, rather than leaning toward newer buildings – except for Clearfield Junction. She thought the older ones with visible decline stood out as better candidates. JJ Allen, City Manager, offered a contradictory opinion and wondered if the older buildings would sooner or later be gone and redeveloped and questioned whether the Council would want to invest the monies in those properties.

Mayor Shepherd pointed out the photo-opportunity element of murals in other cities. Councilmember Wurth preferred the south wall of the NAPA Auto Part building due to it being on the parade route, adjacent to State Street and a big enough unobstructed canvas. Councilmember Peterson spoke of examples of smaller murals, and solid-colored walls. Councilmember Wurth spoke of what he saw in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He thought there was an opportunity to highlight some trafficked areas such as Clearfield Junction or the County Health Department, mentioning the County already did murals through their tourism department and recommended asking if they could help with any Health Department mural.

Mayor Shepherd asked if Staff had approached any property owners. Spencer Brimley, Assistant City Manager & Economic Development Director, said they had approached some locations

generally asking if they would be open to the idea. He said Clearfield Junction was willing to consider it, but those down the corridor, they had reached out to but had not followed up. Councilmember Ratchford said the Napa location was a corporate location which could make it complicated, but it had been done on another store in Utah. Mayor Shepherd wanted to see the majority of murals in the corridor area.

There was a discussion of different locations, sizes, and mural ideas. The Council decided on the following location preferences:

- NAPA Center Street side
- Kismet Kids Daycare
- City Centre
- Chariot Auto south wall

The Council approved two 10x30ft murals. Staff would contact the owners to determine their interest. Councilmember Wurth said he had confirmed that the County was still doing its matching grant program for murals up to \$10k.

Ms. Rushton presented her recommended must-have elements for the murals:

- Potentially incorporate brand colors
- Military jet theming could build off recent efforts
- Visuals appeal to both residents and those driving through

Councilmember Thompson arrived at 6:32 p.m.

Council-requested elements:

- Councilmember Ratchford wanted a mural that told the story military-wise of 1940s forward and railroad history.
- Mayor Shepherd wanted to tie in military city (Air Force) and the motto “Where Dreams Take Flight”, but also tie into the City’s diverse population, and fireworks theme.
- Councilmember Ratchford thought the art should be more realistic than cartoonish.
- Councilmember Peterson thought incorporating the logo with the mountain elements.
- Councilmember Wurth wanted imagery that inspired rejuvenation, hope, and was inspirational.
- Councilmember Thompson thought the mural needed to tell a story.

Councilmember Wurth thought they needed to err on the side of caution in being too prescriptive in the ask of the artist. Ms. Rushton summarized Council’s preferences: two murals that tied into the same theme but not identical, military city branding which could include themes that demonstrated how dreams took flight in Clearfield, nostalgia, people of military city, manufacturing, military, parks, and possibly industries that came out of Clearfield.

Councilmember Wurth suggested telling the artist the City’s story and see how the artist interpreted it. They said it was important that the art resonated with those that lived here. Councilmember Wurth discouraged any kind of portraiture, but thought symbolism of people or a place that fostered dreams was more appropriate.

Ms. Rushton introduced the muralist she had worked with who had painted six out of the nine planes. Council approved Brook Facer as the muralist. Staff would share Council's vision with the muralist.

DISCUSSION ON A REQUEST FOR DONATION TO WASATCH ELEMENTARY

Mayor Shepherd said there had been a request for donation from Wasatch Elementary. They had asked for \$2,000 as a match to buy a book for each student. Mayor Shepherd was torn because of the precedence it set. He pointed out the City already gave money to the Learning Center at Wasatch through CDBG funds. He thought if they submitted an application as part of CDBG funds it would be a different matter. Council was afraid it would set a precedence to other schools and was not in favor of the donation. Mr. Allen said he would reach out to the principal of Wasatch Elementary and suggest he reach out to Kiwanis.

Councilmember Thompson moved to adjourn at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Peterson.

RESULT: Passed [5 TO 0]

YES: Councilmember Thompson, Councilmember Roper, Councilmember Peterson, Councilmember Ratchford, Councilmember Wurth

NO: None

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED
This 13th day of May 2025**

/s/ Mark R. Shepherd, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Nancy R. Dean, City Recorder

I hereby certify that the forgoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Clearfield City Council meeting held Tuesday, April 01, 2025.

/s/ Nancy R. Dean, City Recorder