

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
OF THE TOWN OF CLARKSTON

May 16, 2023
7:00 P.M.

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

Attendance: Mayor N. Craig Hidalgo

Councilmembers: Mylind Fawcett, McCall Stephensen,
Shaun Kurek

Town Clerk: Kristi Hidalgo

Absent: Councilmember D. Smith

Public Attendance: Cache County Executive David Zook, Curtis Godfrey, Stephen Ravsten

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hidalgo called the Clarkston Town Council to order at 7:00 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 2, 2023. Councilmember M. Fawcett referenced page 6 of the minutes which states:

Mayor Hidalgo stated that he doesn't want to get into the green waste business. It's too expensive and the town can't afford it. The Council unanimously agreed.

Councilmember M. Fawcett recommended that the following clarification be added:

Mayor Hidalgo stated that he doesn't want to get into the green waste business. It's too expensive and the town can't afford it. The Council unanimously agreed with Mayor Hidalgo's proposal to provide green waste dumpsters for spring and fall cleanup only for 2023.

Councilmember M. Fawcett motioned for the Clarkston Town Council to approve and adopt the minutes of May 2, 2023 with the aforementioned amendment. Councilmember M. Stephensen seconded the motion. All in favor "Aye"

2. BUSINESS

Cache County Executive David Zook – Mr. Zook stated that he came out a little bit early and drove around the community and was so impressed with how beautiful it is here. Mr. Zook disclosed that he came out to visit Mayor Hidalgo this afternoon and they talked about a variety of things going on in the community including water projects, the town hall project, the cemetery expansion project and park improvements. Mr. Zook asserted that Clarkston is in really good hands with Mayor Hidalgo. He has been in a lot of

meetings with Mayor Hidalgo over the years from transportation to solid waste and no matter what it is, he is always leading and representing Clarkston well. He appreciates the partnership with the mayor and the opportunity to work together with him. Mr. Zook acknowledged that he was involved in city government before he got into county government and is familiar with some of the challenges small towns face. He thanked the Mayor and Council for serving and stated that being a public servant is often times a thankless job. Mr. Zook concluded that he is available to help whenever needed and gave the council his personal cell phone number 435-890-9239. The Council can call or text him anytime.

FY 2024 Proposed Budget Discussion - Mayor Hidalgo presented the Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Budget to the Council. See Attachment

The Council reviewed and discussed Mayor Hidalgo's FY 2024 Proposed Budget. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the budget remained close to the same as last year. There were only a few minor changes made to the FY 2024 Proposed Budget. Mayor Hidalgo highlighted the following:

Revenue

- Sales Tax continued to increase in FY 2023. Mayor Hidalgo forecast that Clarkston Town would receive approximately \$110,000 in FY 2024.
- Other Revenue was decreased by \$14,000 because Clarkston Town will not be receiving any American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in FY 2024.
- Subdivisions – Mayor Hidalgo projected that Clarkston Town would receive approximately \$16,000 in Subdivision Fees in FY 2024.
- Total anticipated revenue for FY 2024 is \$538,989

Expenditures

- Equipment – Supply/Maintenance was increased \$2,000 to cover the increase in annual fees for Caselle Software and Support, Alltech Computer Specialists, Town Web, and Meter Works.
- Sanitation Collection – Increased \$4,000 to include the cost of providing Spring and Fall Cleanup Dumpsters.
- Annual Contract/Services with the Cache County Law Enforcement increased approximately 1,500.
- Roads Department – Mayor Hidalgo informed the Council that Roads Supervisor David Hale is not interested in doing snow removal anymore and Mayor Hidalgo is not going to do it next year either. So more than likely the town will have to contract that out. Mayor Hidalgo stated that expenditures for Contract Services was increased from \$3,000 to \$20,150 to cover the cost of hiring the Cache County Road Department and other individuals to help with snow removal. Mayor Hidalgo declared that the town has two options: Contract with the County or a private company or significantly increase the Roads Supervisor wages in order to be competitive and entice persons to apply for the position. Mayor

Hidalgo asserted that he would prefer to look at contracting because the 1973 snow truck is not going to last forever and the town put \$10,000 into the grader this year and it still is not working the best. The town will need to decide if they are willing to put some capital out to buy new equipment or if it would be best to contact it out. Mayor Hidalgo believes that it may be in the best interest of the town to contract it out.

Mayor Hidalgo concluded that the Town of Clarkston has done very well with the budget this year and has been fiscally responsible. The town has also been able to put money into the Capital Projects Fund for the new Municipal Building and Community Center Project.

Resolution 23-07 “A Resolution Adopting the Clarkston Town FY 2024 Proposed Budget” - Mayor Hidalgo asked if there was any further discussion by the Council prior to passing the resolution. There was none. Mayor Hidalgo read the resolution and asked for a motion to adopt Resolution 23-07. Councilmember M. Stephensen motioned for the Council to approve and adopt Resolution 23-07. Councilmember S. Kurek seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Hidalgo	<u>X</u>	Aye	___	No	___	Abstain	___	Absent
Councilmember M. Fawcett	<u>X</u>	Aye	___	No	___	Abstain	___	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

Set Public Hearing Date for FY 2023 Amended Budget and FY 2024 Budget - It was decided that the Public Hearing for the FY 2023 Amended Budget and FY 2024 Budget, would be held June 6, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall. The regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting will be held immediately following the Public Hearing.

Amphitheater Use Requests - Roy 10th Ward – Mayor Hidalgo stated that Michael Schenk from Roy, UT had sent in a request to use the amphitheater on June 3, 2023 from 9:00 am to 10:30 am. There will be 25-30 people in attendance. They will be having a program on Martin Harris. Mr. Schenk also reserved the east pavilion at the park for the group to eat lunch.

Benson Utah Stake – Mayor Hidalgo said that June Glick from Clarkston 2nd Ward had sent in a request for the Benson Utah Stake to use the amphitheater on August 13, 2023 from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm. There will be 75-200 people in attendance. They will be having a program on Martin Harris and will bring their own sound system.

Mayor Hidalgo asked for a motion to approve both Amphitheater Use Requests. Councilmember M. Fawcett motioned for the Clarkston Town Council to approve both requests. Councilmember M. Stephensen seconded the motion. All in favor “Aye

3. DEPARTMENTS

Mayor Hidalgo – Fire Department – Mayor Hidalgo stated that the fire department had agreed to help with Town Clean-up this week. They will be washing 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. Mayor Hidalgo said that he had Clarkston Town Attorney Seth Tait review the agreement before signing and was glad that he did. Mr. Tait recommended, and they were able to negotiate a 5% rate increase every five years for Clarkston Town. It is anticipated that Verizon will start the project either late fall or early spring of 2024. Mayor Hidalgo stated that this is the first time in the history of Clarkston that the town will have a revenue source, besides taxes. Clarkston Town will have a revenue source for 25 years.

Roads Department – Mayor Hidalgo reported that he had ordered 30,000 pounds of rock chips for the FY 2024 road repairs. The road repairs will be done after Pony Express Days.

Councilmember M. Fawcett – Water Department – Mayor Hidalgo reported that Water Operator Bryan Goodsell is working on getting the new water meter installed up by the water tanks for the SCADA System. It should be done by the end of May.

Planning and Zoning - Councilmember M. Fawcett reported that at the last Planning and Zoning Meeting held May 10, 2023 the planning commission discussed procedures for the Proposed Minor Subdivision Ordinance. They also discussed what the definition of a Temporary Building is. Councilmember M. Fawcett stated that the term Temporary Building is in the current ordinance but there is no definition of what a Temporary Building is. Mayor Hidalgo agreed that a definition does need to be defined and added to the ordinance. Mayor Hidalgo stated that there are people putting up car ports and other structures that are not temporary and they are a lot bigger than 200 square feet. Councilmember M. Fawcett said that the current ordinance states that Temporary Buildings must have a Zoning Permit and can't be larger than 200 square feet. Mayor Hidalgo reiterated that the ordinance needs to be more concise and more direct on what is a Temporary Building.

Councilmember M. Stephensen – Citizen Advisory Committee – Councilmember M. Stephensen reported that according to an online survey that was done, the majority of people would like a pickle ball court and also upgrade some of the playground equipment. The Citizen Advisory Committee will move forward on getting bids for the pickle ball court and do some research on playground equipment. The next Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting will be held June 2, 2023. At this meeting they will plan an auction in conjunction with Pony Express Days to raise funds for the pickle ball court.

Youth Council – Parades - Councilmember M. Stephensen stated that the youth council participated in the Smithfield Health Days Parade and had a very good time. They will not be participating in the Richmond Black and White Days Parade because they have planned a service project for that day. They will be cleaning headstones at the cemetery on May 20, 2023 at 9:00 am.

Youth Games - The Youth Council is planning some youth games and activities for Pony Express Days to engage the 12–18-year-old youth.

Pony Express Day – Councilmember M. Stephensen reported that she would have the Schedule of Events done by Friday May 19th. Pony Express t-shirts will be sold this year.

Councilmember S. Kurek – Cemetery Department – Cemetery Expansion Project – Councilmember S. Kurek stated that the new section of the cemetery is ready for the sprinkler system to be installed. Canyon Landscape will begin the project after Memorial Day. Councilmember S. Kurek said the Cemetery Sexton Jeremy Hidalgo would like to have some water spigots added to the new sprinkler system, which was not on the original bid. Councilmember S. Kurek asked the Council for approval to do so. Mayor Hidalgo explained that the reason for the water spigots is to assist in watering a specific area of the cemetery to settle dirt on a new grave or water new sod on a grave. If there aren't spigots close, then hundreds of feet of hose have to be strung out. The Council approved adding water spigots to the new sprinkling system.

Drinking Fountains – Councilmember S. Kurek reported that the drinking fountain on the east side of the cemetery is in disrepair and asked the Council to consider whether that drinking fountain should be repaired, replaced or removed. There is another drinking fountain in the middle of the cemetery by the Martin Harris Monument. The Council discussed and determined to remove the drinking fountain and put in a water spigot. Councilmember S. Kurek will let Cemetery Sexton Jeremy Hidalgo know about the Council's decision.

Memorial Day Flags – Councilmember S. Kurek stated that he would be placing flags on veteran's graves Thursday May 25, 2023 around 7:00 pm. In addition to the individual flags being placed on veteran's graves, the cemetery fence line will be lined with flags again this year. Curtis Godfrey has agreed to help with this effort.

Cemetery Lot Sales – Mayor Hidalgo reported that he is concerned with the amount of phone calls he is receiving from nonresidents wanting to buy lots in the cemetery. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the Clarkston Cemetery is one of the largest cemeteries in the valley. Mayor Hidalgo recommended that the Council consider limiting the number of lots sold to nonresidents and restrict residents to buying lots only for people living in 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 declared that the Council is going to have to address this issue before any lots are sold in the new section of the cemetery. Mayor Hidalgo stated that Clarkston tax dollars are being used to expand the cemetery and he doesn't feel it is right to allow nonresidents to buy up a majority of the lots. Mayor Hidalgo suggested that 20% of the lots be allowed to be sold to nonresidents and the remaining 80% be retained for Clarkston residents.

Mayor Hidalgo reiterated that the Council needs to discern how to make lot sales as fair as possible but remember that Clarkston citizens are paying for the cemetery expansion. Mayor Hidalgo concluded that by July 2023 the Council needs to have a plan in place for selling cemetery lots.

Parks Department – Councilmember S. Kurek publicly thanked the Clarkston 1st and 2nd Ward Young Men and Young Women for volunteering to clean-up the park. They cleaned up pinecones, leaves, and garbage to help get the town ready for summer.

Sports and Recreation – Councilmember S. Kurek reported that Tee Ball games would be starting in June. The games will be played on Wednesdays and Fridays. Councilmember M. Stephensen asked that no Tee Ball games be scheduled for Friday June 23rd due to Pony Express events that will be using the ball diamond that night.

Emergency Preparedness – Councilmember S. Kurek said that he would be setting up another meeting with Cache County Emergency Manager Will Lusk to develop an Emergency and Disaster Plan for Clarkston Town.

4. RELEVANT BUSINESS

Next Meeting – The next Town Council Meeting will be a Public Hearing and a Town Council Meeting and will be held on Tuesday June 6, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Public Comment –

Curtis Godfrey – Non-Resident Lot Sales - Curtis Godfrey referenced the Council's cemetery discussion regarding non-resident lot sales and stated that he has lunch regularly with a Town Councilmember from Wellsville City and a couple cemetery sextons. One is from Clifton, Idaho and the other is from Beaver Dam. Mr. Godfrey said that the Town Councilmember from Wellsville said that he saw two vans come to the Wellsville Cemetery. They were people from California that flew into Salt Lake City, loaded into vans and transported by companies to local cemeteries and shown where burial plots are available. Mr. Godfrey stated that if companies are promoting and bringing people into this area to purchase a cheap beautiful place to be buried, he is in favor of the town controlling non-resident lot sales so that this doesn't happen to Clarkston. Mr. Godfrey believes that the non-resident lot rate should be significantly more than the resident lot rate and encouraged the Council to do something to protect the cemetery from this trend.

Recreational Vehicle at 55 East 300 South - Mr. Godfrey stated that he and Stephen Ravsten came to the Town Council for the same reason. They are concerned about a camp trailer that has been moved into their neighborhood and feel that it might become a permanent residence and it doesn't seem right. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the Council is aware of the situation and will be sending a Notice of Violation Letter to the property owner. The letter states regulations that are being violated and they will be given ten days to remove the trailer from the property or fines will be assessed. Mayor Hidalgo stated that Clarkston does have an issue with this and it is happening everywhere in Cache Valley. People are coming here from out of state to relatives that live here in small

communities and move their trailers onto their property with the intent to live there. Clarkston is zoned as single-family lots, so this is illegal in Clarkston and the Council needs to know when this happens. Mayor Hidalgo thanked Mr. Godfrey and Mr. Ravsten for being willing to voice their concerns.

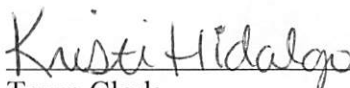
Stephen Ravsten – Recreational Vehicle at 55 East 300 South – Stephen Ravsten wondered what the process is for code enforcement in Clarkston. Councilmember M. Fawcett replied that there is no code enforcement agency in Clarkston. The Town Council is the code enforcement agency and the Council needs citizens to be willing to let the Council know of code violations so they can be resolved. Too often the Town Council isn't aware of code violations that are taking place.

2023 Citizen of the Year - Mayor Hidalgo asked for a recommendation to go into an executive session to discuss the 2023 Citizen of the Year. Councilmember S. Kurek made the motion to go into an Executive Session. Councilmember M. Stephensen seconded the motion. All in favor "Aye". Motion carried. At 8:14 p.m. the Mayor and Council entered an Executive Session.

Mayor Hidalgo and the Council returned from Executive Session at 8:17 p.m. Mayor Hidalgo asked for a motion to return to the regular Town Council Meeting. Councilmember M. Stephensen made a motion to return to the regular Town Council Meeting. Councilmember M. Fawcett seconded the motion. All in favor "Aye" Motion carried.

5. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember M. Fawcett 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 8:20 p.m.



Town Clerk

