

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 28, 2025

ROLL CALL: Skate Pierce, Pat Holman, Russ Evans, Robin Albers, David Vinton, Sheila McDougall and Sarah Reaves.

STAFF: Chief Daniel, Chief White, PWD Dimmick, Attorney Richardson and Deputy/Clerk Treasurer Charlene Fenelon

AGENDA CHANGES: Mayor Lawrence advised that an engagement letter for legal services with Etter, McMahon, Lamberson, Van Wert & Oreskovich, PC was being added to the agenda under New Business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the July 14, 2025 Regular Meeting were approved as distributed.

PRESENTATION: Visit Lewis Clark Valley. Mayor Lawrence introduced Michelle Peters, President/CEO of Visit Lewis Clark Valley, who provided an biannual update on the economic impact of tourism. Peters advised that lodging tax is up 52% from the previous year. She believes this is in large part due to the cruise ships. Clarkston is focusing on the pre-cruiser excursions. Mayor asked if we are still #2 in the state. Peters believes we are still in the running.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Lawrence advised that Council would be entering into Executive Session regarding negotiations at 5:42 pm. The session is expected to last 30 minutes, and no decision will be made as a result of the meeting. At 6:12 pm Council returned to regular session.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. **From the Public:** Timothy Butler, 1215 Port Way
Angi Bromley, 1215 Port Way

B. **From the Mayor:** None.

C. **From Staff or Employees:** None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/Admin: Total expenditures for the July 28, 2025 period of \$421,824.13 and the June end of month of \$475.60. MOTION BY EVANS/HOLMAN to approve the paying of the bills. Motion Carried.

Public Safety: Mayor Lawrence advised that the minutes were included in the packet.

Public Works: Mayor Lawrence advised that they did not meet.

Outside Organizations: Mayor Lawrence advised that any minutes were included in the packet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA: MOTION BY ALBERS/VINTON to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion Carried.

A. **Community Service Worksite Agreement – WA State Dept. of Corrections (Public Safety)**

B. **Electronic Signature Agreement Form – Dept. of Ecology Quality Program (Finance/Admin)**

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Resolution 2025-12, 2026 EMS Levy (Public Safety)** Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Fenelon read the Resolution by title. MOTION BY ALBERS/PIERCE to pass the Resolution. Motion Carried.
- B. Ordinance 1732, Amending Business License App. Requirements – 1st Reading (Finance/Admin)** Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Fenelon read the Ordinance by title. Vote will be at the next meeting.
- C. Ordinance 1733, Adopting Business Licensing Threshold Changes – 1st Reading (Finance/Admin)** Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Fenelon read the Ordinance by title. Vote will be at the next meeting.
- D. Agreement for legal services with Etter, McMahon, Lamberson, Van Wert & Oreskovich, PC.** MOTION BY ALBERS/REAVES to approve the contract. Motion Carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Pierce addressed the issues brought in public comment. He stated that he understands how it works and that we are trying to address the situation while following all pertinent laws. He said we have been trying to do so for a couple of years. Pierce said we have the police and code enforcement working on it. Pierce commented that the State of Washington allows individuals to homestead a vehicle. Mayor Lawrence commented that we are being sued by some homeless and have been dealing with the lawsuit for approximately a year and a half now. Attorney Richardson commented that PW Director Dimmick and he are working on finding a solution, but they can't say when or what will happen. Councilmember Albers said she is sorry for what they (T. Butler and A. Bromley) are going through.

PRESS QUESTIONS:

Lewiston Tribune: What is the condemnation agreement for? Attorney Richardson answered that it is regarding the roundabout that had recently been put in at the Taco Time intersection. The City has been unable to settle with the owners and has had to begin the process of condemnation. The agreement is to hire attorneys who specialize in this area of law in order to make sure we are doing things correctly.

Lewiston Tribune: We notice that the EMS levy is increasing by more than a dollar this year; why is that? Attorney Richardson answered that it is because of the state of negotiations between the City and the fire department. We are in mediation now and may be headed into arbitration. The levy has to be set for an amount that will cover the demands of the fire department, should arbitration give the fire department all of the contract demands they have made.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Rachel Frost, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures 7/28/25	Ck #80746-80786	\$190,380.73
Payroll 7/18/25	Ck #80724-80736	\$231,443.40
Total Fund Expenditures June End of Month		\$475.60