

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
October 27, 2025

ROLL CALL: Skate Pierce, Russ Evans, Robin Albers, David Vinton, Shelia McDougall and Sarah Reaves. Pat Holman absence was excused on MOTION BY ALBERS/MCDOUGALL. Motion Carried.

STAFF: Clerk Frost, Chief Daniel, Chief White, PWD Dimmick and Attorney Richardson.

AGENDA CHANGES: Mayor Lawrence advised the addition of WSDOT Supplement Agreement 11 for Bridge Street/Diagonal Street/2nd Street Intersection to Item E under New Business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the October 13, 2025, Regular Meeting were approved as distributed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Lawrence advised that Council would be entering into Executive Session regarding negotiations at 5:34pm. The session is expected to last 15 minutes, and no decision will be made as a result of the meeting. At 5:49pm, a 10-minute extension was requested. At 5:59pm, a 10-minute extension was requested. At 6:09pm Council returned to regular session.

PUBLIC HEARING: 2026 Property Tax and Revenue. Mayor Lawrence opened the Public Hearing at 6:12pm. Clerk Frost presented Council with the updated revenue projections and property tax revenues for the 2026 Budget. No questions from council members were received. No public comments were received. Mayor Lawrence closed the Public hearing at 6:21pm and returned to regular session.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. **From the Public:** None.
- B. **From the Mayor:** None.
- C. **From Staff or Employees:** None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/Admin: Total expenditures for the October 27, 2025 period of \$540,667.08. MOTION BY EVANS/VINTON 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 the minutes were included in the packet.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA: MOTION BY REAVES/MCDOUGALL to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion Carried.

- A. **Memorandum of Participation – FIIRE Program (Public Safety)**
- B. **Agreement for City Hall Janitorial Services, 2026 – Becki Hough (Finance/Admin)**
- C. **Agreement for Police Department Janitorial Services, 2026 – Lori Leavitt (Finance/Admin)**
- D. **Appointment to Civil Service Commission, Warren Frudd (Mayoral)**

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Ordinance 1735, Amending Building Permit Fees – 1st Reading (Public Works) Clerk Frost read the Ordinance by title. Vote will be at the next meeting.

B. Ordinance 1736, Avista Franchise – 1st Reading (Public Works) Clerk Frost read the Ordinance by title. Vote will be at the next meeting.

C. Resolution 2025-14, 2026 Property Tax Levy (Finance/Admin) Clerk Frost read the Resolution by Title. MOTION BY PIERCE/VINTON to adopt the Resolution. Motion Carried.

D. Discussion on Increasing Gambling Tax (Finance/Admin) Clerk Frost gave an overview of the current gambling tax rates and the history of the gambling tax for the city. She informed Council that RCW allows for card room tax rates to go as high as 20%. Councilmember Albers asked why the rate decreased from 6% to 4% in February of 2017. Councilmember Evans answered he thought the owner of Lancer Lanes asked if the city could lower it. Mayor Lawrence commented they were having a hard time financially. Councilmember Albers responded, “now we want to increase it?” Mayor Lawrence commented that she believes they are doing pretty well. Councilmember Pierce asked if their revenues increased by over 4% in the last 2 years in any noticeable way. Clerk Frost provided historical revenues the city has received from card room gambling taxes. Councilmember Evans asked what the card room rate is in City of Pullman. Clerk Frost responded it decreased from 10% to 7% in 2014. Mayor Lawrence reminded council that there are other revenue generating activities at Lancer Lanes and she felt it was prudent to bring it forth to the council. Councilmember Evans suggested 8%. Councilmember Pierce commented that it is doubling the rate and is a huge demand for an industry that is running on razor thin margins. He also commented on the State raising taxes on small businesses and everything has gone up. Councilmember Reaves clarified that this tax rate is just from gambling tax. Clerk Frost confirmed it was for specifically social card games. Councilmember Albers asked if council could get more information on the gambling taxes. Councilmember Vinton asked what the current rate is. Clerk Frost responded 4% for social card games. Councilmember Evans added that they are also taking in more revenue. Councilmember Pierce replied, “not much,” and asked what the most it had increased. Clerk Frost provided the historical revenues for year-to-year comparison. Councilmember Pierce commented on the effect of doubling the rate and the city taking any growth they have had as excessive. Councilmember Evans agreed 8% could be a little high. Mayor Lawrence reminded council that there are cities that don’t allow any gambling in their city limits. Councilmember Pierce commented the increase to the business for \$40,000 doesn’t do much for the city. Clerk Frost noted that any gambling tax revenue is to be spent on public safety per RCW. Councilmember Pierce asked Police Chief Daniel how much police effort does Lancer Lanes cost the police department. Chief Daniel replied, “not much.” Councilmember Vinton commented that 4% is fair to him. Lastly, Councilmember Albers asked for the historical information provided during the discussion and the RCWs to gain a better understanding before moving forward.

E. WSDOT Supplement Agreement 11 – Keller Associates (Finance/Admin) PWD Dimmick gave a brief description of the WSDOT Supplement Agreement. MOTION BY PIERCE/EVANS to approve the Supplement Agreement. Motion Carried. Councilmember Albers asked if any of this increase would be covered by WSDOT. PWD Dimmick confirmed it would be covered, and the city would be responsible for our match portion.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilmember Pierce apologized for his tone and response during the discussion on increasing gambling taxes.

PRESS QUESTIONS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 6:38pm.

Rachel Frost, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures 10/27/25	Ck #81199-81246	\$329,426.51
Payroll 10/20/25	Ck #81180-81198	\$211,240.57