

**CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025
5:00P.M.**

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, Attorney Richardson and Deputy/Clerk Treasurer Fenelon

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Lawrence advised that Council would be entering into Executive Session regarding negotiations at 5:05pm. The session is expected to last 30 minutes, and no decision will be made as a result of the meeting. At 5:35pm, a 30-minute extension was requested. At 6:05pm, a 30-minute extension was requested. At 6:35pm, a 15-minute extension was requested. At 6:50pm, a 15-minute extension was requested. At 7:05pm Council returned to regular session.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Budget Discussion for Fire and EMS Chief White provided the options for the EMS Budget for 2026; the “status quo” option, no EMS option or keeping EMS and funding through the general fund. Deputy/Clerk Treasurer Fenelon asked if there were any questions or clarification needed. Councilmember Albers asked since we no longer have the EMS Levy to fund the department, we have no other option but to go to the general fund. Deputy/Clerk Treasurer Fenelon explained that there are EMS expenses that cannot go away and therefore they must be moved to the general fund no matter what option is chosen. Chief White provided additional information on the expenses that must be moved to the general fund and how it affects each option. Councilmember Pierce asked, “what do you want right now, what are we doing?” Attorney Richardson responded that a motion needs to be made on how to proceed with the budget knowing that EMS Levy has failed for 2026. Attorney Richardson summarized the options as; option A as eliminating EMS and consolidating the costs and option “B” as keeping EMS and funding it entirely through the general fund. Attorney Richardson also provided clarity on the budget process and possible budget amendments depending on failed or successful negotiations. MOTION BY PIERCE/REAVES to recommend proceeding with option “B”, funding EMS. Evans, Reaves and Pierce voted yea. McDougall, Vinton and Albers voted nay. Mayor Lawrence cast the tiebreaking vote, nay. Motion failed. MOTION BY MCDOUGALL/VINTON to recommend proceeding with option “A”, eliminating EMS. McDougall, Evans, Vinton and Albers voted yea. Reaves and Pierce voted nay. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

Rachel Frost, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor