



City of Clarksville
Restoring Clarksville Initiative 2025 Task Force

March 25, 2025 at 4:00 PM
City Hall 4th Floor Conference Room
1 Public Square
Clarksville, Tennessee

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Councilperson Deanna McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

2. Attendance

Deanna McLaughlin - Committee Chairman, City Councilman Ward 2
Laurie Matta - City Chief Financial Officer
Lauren Winters, City Grants Writer
Adam Stover - President Mayor's Youth Council
Jimmy Settle - City Public Information Officer
Michael Palmore - Director, Building Maintenance & Parking
Sonny Emmert - Clarksville Street Department
Michelle Austin - Director, Clarksville Neighborhood & Community Services
Mark Riggins - Director, Clarksville Gas & Water
Justin Crosby - Director, Building & Codes Department
James Halford - Chief of Staff
Scott Thornton - Captain, Clarksville Police Department
Bob Kendrick - Building & Codes Department
Neil Stauffer, Deputy City Attorney
Jason Gregory - Building & Codes Department
Mike Reed - Clarksville Fire Rescue
Valerie Ogle - Building & Codes Department
Stephanie Jenkins - Deputy City Clerk
Jennifer Letourneau - Director, Parks & Recreation
Kyleigh Koyama - APSU Emerging Leaders
Joe Pitts - City of Clarksville Mayor
Silas Matchem - Clarksville Montgomery County Regional Planning Commission

3. Approval of Minutes

Councilperson Deana McLaughlin entertained a motion. Lauren Winters made a motion to adopt the February 25, 2025 meeting minutes as written; seconded by Justin Crosby. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Introduction of New Members

a. Councilperson Deanna McLaughlin update:

- i. Parking ordinance discussion with Palmore, Lt. Gill.
- ii. Discussion with Justin Crosby and Neil Stauffer to review the property maintenance code.
- iii. Met with Eric Bittner, Jeff Tyndall, and David Smith to discuss the sidewalk ordinance.
- iv. Speaking with the Historical Society on April 12th.

5. Updates by Department

a. Building and Codes - Justin Crosby

- Working on Legislative rewrites to cleanup existing processes.
- Code Enforcement was able to work with the property owner on Ft. Campbell Blvd. to demolish the dilapidated building.
- The department is currently working on 18-20 additional properties in the demolition process.

b. Chief of Staff - Chief Halford

- No new updates on SeeClickFix. We'll continue monitoring the overlay on GIS information. Seeing improvements on the response rate and anticipate a soft relaunch to reintroduce it in the future.

c. City Forester - Mike Palmore

- A landscaper in town is willing to do volunteer work in the community; will be meeting with him next week to discuss opportunities.

d. Communications - Jimmy Settle

- The podcast was released after our second meeting to springboard the demolitions on Ft. Campbell Blvd. at the old tattoo shop. Chief Burdine added this will lead to a safer community for everyone. We are receiving recognition for this initiative
- Working on taking baby steps reporting on the Initiative. Anticipate releasing stories at the 6 month mark and at the end of the fiscal year; might do a detailed look back on RCI in the first 6 months.
- Met with Adam; he provided creative ideas: Adam - Include the Public Health and Public Communications group pods to help create a web page, short clips, and create clubs within the schools. The possible clubs would be linked back to RCI. We could create a group similar to RCI but with students and volunteers. This would assist with advertising RCI and could add miscellaneous school events and allow us the opportunity to

reach parents as well. Additionally, this could allow RCI to get involved with youth and students can bring information back to their families.

- Using Channel 3 for news updates.

e. Finance - Laurie Matta & Lauren Winters

- Will be setting up a Special Revenue Fund to collect the \$50 fees and roll them back into demolition costs.
- Started Brag application. The GNRC (Greater National Regional Council) was already doing this for our community.
- Should have a list of brownfield properties by the end of July.
- Met with Jimmy Settle and NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program) lead for Middle TN; working on a campaign for our community. All property owners are eligible to purchase flood insurance through NFIP because the City already participates in it. Clarksville is currently a 10 rating; every point down is a 5% reduced rate for the citizens.

f. Clarksville Fire Rescue - Captain Reed

- Available to promote initiative in any way needed.

g. Mayor Pitts

- Thrilled to see progress within the Initiative and greatly appreciate the input from everyone involved.

h. Neighborhood and Community Services - Michelle Austin

- CNCS has funding in community block grant to address blight and neighborhood improvement (\$260k).
- Always looking for abandoned parcels we can purchase, clean up and put affordable housing on. CDBG funds have a few stipulations to it but feel Lowes can help fill in the gaps.

i. Police Department - Captain Thornton

- Met with Justin Crosby, Bob Kendrick, and Jason Gregory to discuss electronic ticketing. Lana Booker discussed setting up something similar to what the Police Department uses but less expensive.

j. Regional Planning Commission - Silas Matchem

- Focused on advancing our Comprehensive Plan in terms of planning and zoning rewrite.
- Working to better understand how beneficial a land bank would be in our community.
- We've held several meetings and adopted the name "Queen City Community Development Corporation." Working on bylaws and moving to pay a for profit status to work within that area to increase footprint.

k. Street - Sonny Emmert

- Making progress on our street light grant; currently 60% completed. Working with an outside contractor to ensure the work is scheduled and completed on 101st Airborne Division Parkway before Memorial Day.
- GIS map is up and running with a few edits needed regarding notifications.

I. Tennessee Department of Transportation - N/A

- Deanna - Will make a call to Nashville to see who might be able to attend in the future.

6. Committee Member Comments

- a. Kylee Koyama** - Discussed Polly Talk; would like you (Deanna) and Mayor Pitts to attend to speak on RCI. Should have received an invitation.

7. Next Meeting - Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 4:00 PM.

8. Public Comment

- a. Jennifer Rudolph

9. Adjournment

Justin Crosby made a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Lauren Winters. The meeting was adjourned without objection at 4:49 PM.