



City of Clarksville

City Council - Special Session

February 11, 2026 at 4:30 PM

City Council Chambers

106 Public Square

Clarksville, Tennessee

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Special Session of the Clarksville City Council was called to order by Mayor Joe Pitts on Wednesday, February 11, at 4:30 PM in the City Council Chambers, 106 Public Square, Clarksville, Tennessee. A prayer was offered by Pastor Yvette Teal, Great Commission Church; the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Jerry Haywood.

2. Prayer: Pastor Carrie Kendrick, Great Commission Church

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman Joe Shakeenab

4. Attendance

PRESENT: BROWN, CHANDLER, HAYWOOD, HOLLEMAN, LOVATO, MARQUIS, PETERS, PITTS, SHAKEENAB, SMITH, STREETMAN, ZACHARIAS

ABSENT: NONE

5. City Council Vacancies

A. Review of [Procedure](#): City Attorney

B. Vote and Appointment of Ward 2 City Council Member Applicants:

1. [Eric Claunch](#)
2. [AC Lopez](#)
3. [Jeff Loyd](#)
4. [Deanna Shepard](#)
5. [Ross St Louis](#)

6. [David Watson-Upchurch](#)
7. [Jeremy Wright](#)

The Clerk read the names of the candidates and then proceeded with the roll call vote:

[Voting Rounds 1-9](#)

Councilman Chandler made a motion to go to recess to allow the City Attorney to confer with his staff on next steps; Councilman Marquis seconded the motion. With no objections, the council went into recess at 5:07 pm and returned at 5:36 pm. The City Attorney stated that the Council would continue voting rounds without runoff votes until a candidate receives a 7 vote majority. The voting continued as follows:

[Voting Rounds 10-22](#)

Councilman Shakeenab asked to allow the two candidates to come up and each speak. Without objection, Mr. Claunch and Mr. Lopez were each allowed to speak for 3 minutes each. The Council then resumed voting:

[Voting Rounds 23-32](#)

Councilman Chandler made a motion to postpone; Councilman Smith seconded the motion. The Mayor then called for a recess at 6:05 pm to allow time for the City Attorney and City Clerk to determine what can take place and a date certain. The Council went back into session at 6:27 pm. Mr. Bittner stated that the meeting would need to be recessed until Thursday, February 19th and suggested that Councilman Chandler amend his motion from a postponement to a recess.

The following vote was recorded on the amendment to the motion to postpone:

AYE: BROWN, CHANDLER, LOVATO, MARQUIS, PETERS,
PITTS, SHAKEENAB, SMITH, STREETMAN, ZACHARIAS

NAY: HAYWOOD, HOLLEMAN

The motion to amend the motion to postpone passed.

The following vote was then recorded on the motion to recess to February 19 at 4:30 pm to resume voting on the remaining Ward 2 candidates:

AYE: BROWN, CHANDLER, MARQUIS, PETERS, PITTS,
SHAKEENAB, SMITH, STREETMAN, ZACHARIAS

NAY: HAYWOOD, HOLLEMNA, LOVATO

The motion to recess passed.

i. Oath of Office

Because the vote was recessed to February 19, there was no Oath of Office.

6. Public Comment

(allows 3 persons; 5 minutes each)

There was no public comment.

7. Recess: The meeting was recessed to February 19, 2026 at 4:30 pm.

The meeting was recessed to February 19, 2026 at 4:30 pm.

8. Special Session Resumed on February 19, 2026 at 4:30 pm. All councilmembers were present.

9. Unfinished Business

A. City Council Vacancy

- Review of [Procedure](#): City Attorney
- Vote and Appointment of Ward 2 City Councilman
- Oath of Office

City Attorney, Eric Bittner, reviewed the procedure with the Council. The following votes were then taken: [Round 33](#). Eric Claunch was selected as the Ward 2 replacement and was sworn in by Mayor Pitts.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 pm