

CLAY CENTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 21, 2025

The Clay Center City Council met in regular session on October 21, 2025 in the Council Chambers. Mayor Thatcher called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. City Council members in attendance were Phil Kasper, Karla Sweet, Glenn Hoover, Daton Hess, Keith Blake, Theresa Charbonneau and Elton Hess. Councilor Mike Schultze was absent. Also present were City Attorney Dusty Mullin and City Clerk Amelia Blackwood.

Mayor Thatcher reminded citizens to wear reflective safety gear when walking or jogging in the dark.

Clerk Blackwood reported that North Central Regional Planning Commission is offering a Demo to Dirt Program that can assist property owners directly in removing unsafe, or blighted residential properties.

The minutes from the Public Utilities Commission meeting on October 6, 2025 and Public Utilities Commission Appropriations Nos. 2810 and 2811 were presented for review. The September Financial Reports and 3rd Quarter Treasurer's Report were also included for review.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the meeting minutes of October 7, 2025 and Appropriation Ordinances Nos. 4100 and 4101. A motion was made by Councilor D.Hess seconded by Councilor Charbonneau to approve the Consent Agenda in its entirety. Roll call vote: Yeas: D.Hess, Hoover, Charbonneau, Blake, E.Hess, Kasper and Sweet. Nays: None.

Scott Graves, Clay Center Public Utilities Superintendent, along with Beth Warren, Kansas Municipal Utilities, presented a water rate study that displays a need for a water rate increase of 20% in 2026 and a 3% increase in years 2027 through 2030 due to the projected shortfalls. Clay Center Public Utilities Commission passed Resolution No. 09-15-2025 on September 15, 2025 to Recommend to the Governing Body of Said City the Adoption and Enactment of the Increased Rates for Water Usage from the City Water System. A motion was made by Councilor D.Hess seconded by Councilor Sweet to approve Ordinance No. 2483 Authorizing Increased Rates for the Water Service Rendered by the Public Utilities Commission of the City of Clay Center, Kansas, Amending Sections 15-232, 15-233, 15-234, 15-235, 15-236, Adding Section 15-236a to the Code of the City of Clay Center, Kansas. Roll call vote: Yeas: Sweet, Hoover, E.Hess, Kasper, Blake, Charbonneau and D.Hess. Nays: None.

A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor Sweet to approve Resolution No. 1676 Fixing a Time and Place for a Hearing to be Held Before the Governing Body of the City of Clay Center, Kansas, Wherein the Owner, His or Her Agent, Lienholders of Record, Occupants and Other Parties in Interest of Certain Property May Appear and Show Cause Why the Outbuilding Located at 725 Bridge Street, Clay Center, Kansas, and Legally Described Below, Should Not be Condemned and Ordered Repaired or Demolished as Being Unsafe or Dangerous. Roll call vote: Yeas: Sweet, E.Hess, Kasper, Charbonneau, D.Hess, Blake, and Hoover. Nays: None.

A motion was made by Councilor D.Hess seconded by Councilor Kasper to approve Resolution No. 1677 Fixing a Time and Place for a Hearing to be Held Before the Governing Body of the City of Clay Center, Kansas, Wherein the Owner, His or Her Agent, Lienholders of Record, Occupants and Other Parties in Interest of Certain Property May Appear and Show Cause Why the Structures Located at 732 Clay Street, Clay Center, Kansas, and Legally Described Below, Should Not be Condemned and Ordered Repaired or Demolished as Being Unsafe or Dangerous. Roll call vote: Yeas: Sweet, E.Hess, Kasper, Charbonneau, D.Hess, Blake, and Hoover. Nays: None.

Committee Reports as follows:

Administrative: Councilor Sweet reported on the following: 1. No report.

Public Safety: Councilor Sweet reported on the following: 1. A building permit was issued to Robert Agnew for a carport at 515 Prospect.

Public Services: Councilor D. Hess report on the following: 1. 2025 Fall Clean-Up just passed to the South end of town and the City thanks the County for offering an employee and truck to assist.

Property and Recreation: Councilor Kasper reported on the following: 1. Funds are very close to being able to act on Multi-Generational Life Center Change Order-Add Alternate #2 which consists of finishing the gym to complete the building. If funds come in this change order may be on the next agenda for action.

A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor Sweet to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0.



JAMES R. THATCHER, Mayor

ATTEST:



AMELIA BLACKWOOD, City Clerk

