

CLAY CENTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2026

The Clay Center City Council met in regular session on March 3, 2026 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, Mike Schultze, Daton Hess, Keith Blake, Theresa Charbonneau and Elton Hess. Also present were City Attorney Dusty Mullin and City Clerk Amelia Blackwood.

Mayor Thatcher reminded citizens: 1. Dog Tags are required by the City Code and the Dog Tag numbers have significantly declined. 2. Demolition Permits are required prior to demolition projects by the City Code.

Clerk Blackwood reported: 1. Farmer's Market will be held on the South and West sides of the Courthouse Square from April 25th through October 24th, there will be no market on Piotique weekend, this has been approved by the County as well. 2. 732 Clay St Bid Notice will be on the next council meeting agenda for approval.

The minutes from the Public Utilities Commission meeting on February 17, 2026 and Public Utilities Commission Appropriations Nos. 2830 and 2831 were presented for review.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the meeting minutes of February 17, 2026 and Appropriation Ordinances Nos. 4118 and 4119. A motion was made by Councilor D.Hess seconded by Councilor Kasper to approve the Consent Agenda in its entirety. Roll call vote: Yeas: D.Hess, Hoover, Charbonneau, Blake, E. Hess, Kasper, Schultze and Sweet. Nays: None.

A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor Schultze to approve Ordinance No. 2486 Authorizing and Directing the Removal of Certain Unsafe and Dangerous Structures Located at 732 Clay St. Roll call vote: Yeas: Schultze, Sweet, Hoover, E.Hess, Kasper, Blake, Charbonneau, D.Hess. Nays: None.

A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor Hoover to approve Resolution No. 1684 Stating the Outbuilding Located at 725 Bridge St has been removed by the Property Owner. Roll call vote: Yeas: Sweet, E.Hess, Kasper, Charbonneau, D.Hess, Blake, Schultze, Hoover. Nays: None.

Councilor Kasper reported that the Parks Department solicited bids for a 2026 Grasshopper 325D with 61 inch cutting deck and tweel wheels. Two bids were received: 1. Bruna Implement in the amount of \$12,500. 2. Hometown Outdoor Power in the amount of \$12,720. The Property and Recreation Committee had a meeting with Parks and Recreation Supervisor, Patrick Hayes, and are recommending accepting the bid from Bruna Implement. A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor D.Hess to approve the Parks Department Mower Bid from Bruna Implement in the amount of \$12,500. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilor Kasper reported that the Parks Department solicited bids for a compact tractor and received five bids: 1. Anderson Equipment for a LS MT242H in the amount of \$25,104.00 2. Prairieland Partners for a John Deere 2038R in the amount of \$28569.62 3. Bruna Implement for a Case IH Farmall 35A in the amount of \$30,873.75 4. Bruna Implement for a Case IH Farmall 35C in the amount of \$36,895.37. 5. Kubota for a L4802HST in the amount of \$37,546.31. The Property and Recreation Committee had a meeting with Parks and Recreation Supervisor, Patrick Hayes, and are recommending accepting the bid from Anderson Equipment for the LS MT242H in the amount of \$25,104. A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor Blake to approve the Parks Department Tractor Bid from Anderson Equipment for the LS MT242H in the amount of \$25,104. Motion carried 8-0.

Mayor Thatcher reported that Kansas Gas Service has a standard contract for new services that apply to the Multi-Generational Life Center. This contract provides that the Life Center facility will use a minimum amount of gas to offset any expense to connect the service. A motion was made by Councilor Schultze

seconded by Councilor Sweet to approve the Kansas Gas Service Contract for the Multi-Generational Life Center. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor D.Hess to approve the Fireworks Donation Request from Vernon McGee in the amount of \$1,500 paid from the Special Parks and Recreation Fund as budgeted and check made payable to Clay County. Motion carried 8-0.

Clay Center Public Utilities Commission Superintendent, Scott Glaves, presented information regarding a Kansas Power Pool (KPP) Energy Generation Repair Fund Application Form. There is a generator at the Power Plant that is needing repaired. The total cost of the repairs is \$455,257; KPP has a new program to assist with projects such as this providing a grant and loan combination. The grant amount will be \$169,450 and the loan amount will be \$169,450; making Clay Center Public Utilities portion at \$116,357. This funding assistance option was approved by CCPUC, signed and submitted; however KPP made changes to the application allowing two different payment options: 1. KPP reduce capacity payments to member 2. KPP invoices member under the Purchase Power Agreement. CCPUC would like to choose the second option to be invoiced by KPP for the loan; this requires Council Approval and Mayor's signature due to the Power Purchase Agreement. A motion was made by Councilor D.Hess seconded by Councilor Schultze to authorize the Mayor to sign the KPP Energy Generation Repair Fund Application Form as presented by CCPUC. Motion carried 8-0.

Committee Reports as follows:

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

Public Safety: Councilor Schultze reported on the following: 1. A building permit was issued to Bradley and Jandee Pyle for a garage/storage building at 1324 12th St. 2. A building permit was issued to Neil and Debra Dierking for a garage/storage building at 625 Washington St.

Public Services: Councilor D. Hess report on the following: 1. Public Services Committee will meet on Friday at 9:00am to discuss Wastewater Department items. 2. Vogts-Parga is continuing to work on 2026 Street Projects.

Property and Recreation: Councilor Kasper reported on the following: 1. Cemetery Mower Bids will be presented at the next meeting. 2. Cemetery is also exploring a tractor purchase.

A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor Schultze to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 8-0.


JAMES R. THATCHER, Mayor

ATTEST:


AMELIA BLACKWOOD, City Clerk

