

CLAY CENTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

The Clay Center City Council met in regular session on September 16, 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 and Elton Hess. Councilors Mike Schultze and Theresa Charbonneau attended via Zoom. Also present were City Attorney Dusty Mullin and City Clerk Amelia Blackwood.

Mayor Thatcher opened the 2026 Revenue Neutral Rate Public Hearing for the 2026 Budget year at 5:30 p.m. There were no public comments. A motion was made by Councilor D. Hess seconded by Councilor Kasper to approve Resolution No. 1675 to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Roll call vote: Yeas: E. Hess, Charbonneau, Kasper, Hoover, D. Hess, Schultze, Sweet and Blake. Nays: None. The Public Hearing closed at 5:32 p.m.

Mayor Thatcher opened the 2026 Budget Public Hearing at 5:32 p.m. There were no public comments. The Public Hearing closed at 5:33 p.m. A motion was made by Councilor D. Hess seconded by Councilor Kasper to adopt the 2026 Budget. Roll call vote: Yeas: E. Hess, Charbonneau, Kasper, Hoover, D. Hess, Schultze, Sweet. Nays: None. Councilor Blake abstained.

The minutes from the Public Utilities Commission meeting on September 2, 2025 and Public Utilities Commission Appropriations Nos. 2805 and 2806 were presented for review.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the meeting minutes of September 2, 2025 and Appropriation Ordinances Nos. 4095 and 4096. A motion was made by Councilor D. Hess seconded by Councilor Hoover 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.

Councilor Schultze reported that Police Chief Bill Robinson received quotes from Kansas Highway Patrol for two patrol cars that are equipped with Thunderstruck bumper, lights, sirens, and gun racks: 2022 Dodge Charger in the amount of \$32,150.00 and a 2023 Dodge Charger in the amount of \$33,925.00; totaling \$66,075.00. A motion was made by Councilor Schultze seconded by Councilor Sweet to approve the Police Car Quotes from Kansas Highway Patrol in the amount of \$66,075.00. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilor Kasper reported that there were four leaks found in the pool located in the lazy river. A quote from Energy Center Manhattan Pool was received in the amount of \$59,480.00 to repair the leaks. Councilor Kasper clarified that this quote does not include any additional leaks found during the repairs. The committee would like to recommend fixing any leaks found during this extensive repair process. Councilor Kasper noted that he will keep the Council informed throughout the repair process. A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor Blake to approve the Pool Repair Quote from Energy Center Manhattan Pool in the amount of \$59,480.00 to be paid from the Pool Sales Tax. Motion carried 8-0. A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor D. Hess to authorize the Mayor to approve any additional repairs up to \$10,000.00 to be paid from the Pool Sales Tax. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor D. Hess to approve the Special Event License for Vintage Gardens. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilor Kasper seconded by Councilor Schultze to direct the City Attorney to begin the condemnation process for 725 Bridge Street-garage. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilor Schultze seconded by Councilor D. Hess to direct the City Attorney to begin the condemnation process for 732 Clay Street. 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 extension was issued to Hoffman Family Properties for Subway at 605 W. Crawford.

Public Services: Councilor D. Hess report on the following: 1. There will be street and alley closures during the upcoming Plotique weekend: Homecoming Parade from Garfield School to Fire Station and Mothership Consignment Store alley. 2. Wastewater Treatment Plant irrigation ditch has been repaired for approximately \$5,200.00.

Property and Recreation: Councilor Kasper reported on the following: 1. No report.

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


JAMES R. THATCHER, Mayor

ATTEST:


AMELIA BLACKWOOD, City Clerk

