

MARCH 20, 2025

The Clarksburg City Council met in REGULAR SESSION on Thursday,
March 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Clarksburg Municipal Building –
Council Chambers, 222 West Main Street, Clarksburg, West Virginia, with
Mayor Malfregeot presiding.

PRESENT:

Councilmember Ryan Deems
Councilmember Martin Howe
Councilmember Will Hyman
Councilmember Marc Jackson
Councilmember Wayne Worth
Vice Mayor Jerry Riffle
Mayor Jim Malfregeot

ALSO PRESENT:

Tiffany Fell, City Manager
Richard Marsh, City Attorney
Annette Wright, City Clerk

- 1) Roll Call
- 2) Prayer & Pledge – given by Mayor Malfregeot
- 3) Presentation – Extracurricular Youth Grant Award(s) – Little Eagles (Football and Cheer) were presented with checks in the amount of \$2,000 for their respective programs.
- 4) Recognition – Mayor Malfregeot presented Vice Mayor Riffle with a Certificate of Recognition for his commitment to the youth as the Coach for two (2) Clarksburg Jerry West Basketball teams. The Clarksburg Jerry West Basketball Teams 13U and 10U were recognized as the 2025 Champions with Mayor Malfregeot and Vice Mayor Riffle presenting the team members with a "Certificate of Recognition."
- 5) **Motion** by Councilmember Deems, **Seconded** by Councilmember Jackson for approval of the minutes of the regular session of Council held on March 6, 2025. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**
- 6) **Public Hearing** on Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 – Mayor Malfregeot declared the public hearing open with the following individual(s) appearing therefor:

Victor Folio – asked that the \$35,000 request from the Library for the position at the Waldomore be approved in the City's budget.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Malfregeot closed the public hearing.
- 7) Petitions, Communications, and Public Hearings:

Robert Matheny (Bearing Advisors) – appeared before Council concerning the prevention and protection program and noted the various benefits to the employees and the City with regard to the pre-taxed program.

Jodi Barberio, 1732 N. 20th Street – requested that the City work with the appropriate parties to ensure the reuse of the North View Elementary School, informed of cars parking on the tree lawn, noted the faded North View community sign and the need to repaint or replace the sign.

8) City Clerk's Information:

- a) Zoning form in connection with an Application to Operate a Private Club, Private Wine Restaurant or Tavern filed by Clarksburg City Parks dba Clarksburg Splash Zone, WV Route 98, Veterans Park – returned to applicant on March 12, 2025

9) Unfinished Business:

- a) **Consideration of Second and Final Reading and Public Hearing of an Ordinance of the City of Clarksburg to Amend Sections 745.06, 745.13, 745.16, 745.20 and 745.23 of the Business & Taxation Section of the Codified Ordinances**

City Clerk Wright announced that notices regarding the public hearing appeared in *The Exponent Telegram* on March 11, 2025 and March 18, 2025. With Mayor Malfregeot declaring the public hearing open and no one appearing therefor, the public hearing was closed.

Motion By: Councilmember Worth
Seconded By: Councilmember Deems

For approval of the above-captioned ordinance on second and final reading. Under discussion, Councilmember Howe confirmed that said ordinance provided authority for additional City representatives (employees) to enforce the ordinance. **Motion Carried 6-1.**

	FOR	AGAINST
Councilmember Deems	√	
Councilmember Howe		√
Councilmember Hyman	√	
Councilmember Jackson	√	
Councilmember Worth	√	
Vice Mayor Riffle	√	
Mayor Malfregeot	√	

- b) **Consideration of Second and Final Reading and Public Hearing of an Ordinance Amending Sections 1730.02 and 1730.07 of the Vacant Building Registration Program**

City Clerk Wright announced that notices regarding the public hearing appeared in *The Exponent Telegram* on March 11, 2025 and March 18, 2025. With Mayor Malfregeot declaring the public hearing open and no one appearing therefor, the public hearing was closed.

Motion By: Councilmember Jackson
Seconded By: Vice Mayor Riffle

For approval of the above-captioned ordinance on second and final reading. Under discussion, Councilmember Howe commented that the intent of the original ordinance was not to generate revenue but to encourage property owners to do something with their structures. Further, Councilmember Howe inquired as to the enforcement of the ordinance and how properties are removed from the vacant property list. City Manager Fell confirmed that she would provide Council with the vacant property registration list. Councilmember Howe noted the \$20 charge per consecutive days and how the same could be a financial burden. Councilmember Worth inquired as to the reason for the increase with City Manager Fell informing that

this ordinance is modeled after other municipalities with Councilmember Howe opining that the fine would be a non-collectable debt. City Attorney Marsh informed that this ordinance creates a mechanism for the City Manager to put properties on the vacant property registration without the property owner's participation. City Manager Fell remarked that she would prefer to see property redeveloped rather than torn down and that the increased fee serves as an incentive to encourage property owners to do something with their properties. Concluding discussion, **Motion Carried 6-1.**

	FOR	AGAINST
Councilmember Deems	√	
Councilmember Howe		√
Councilmember Hyman	√	
Councilmember Jackson	√	
Councilmember Worth	√	
Vice Mayor Riffle	√	
Mayor Malfregeot	√	

c) **Consideration of Second and Final Reading and Public Hearing of an Ordinance Amending Section 1707.09 to Modify Requirements for Resurfacing of Excavation of City Streets**

City Clerk Wright announced that notices regarding the public hearing appeared in *The Exponent Telegram* on March 11, 2025 and March 18, 2025. With Mayor Malfregeot declaring the public hearing open and no one appearing therefor, the public hearing was closed.

Motion By: Councilmember Worth
Seconded By: Councilmember Jackson

For approval of the above-captioned ordinance on second and final reading. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**

10) New Business:

a) **Consideration of Approval of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in the amount of \$17,456,099 for the General Fund, \$91,300 for the Coal Severance Tax Fund, \$336,000 for the Police Fine Escrow Fund, \$1,719,179 for the Excess Property Tax Fund, \$1,615,000 for the Financial Stabilization Fund, \$6,520,000 for the Sales & Use Tax Fund and \$1,762,300 for the Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center**

Motion By: Vice Mayor Riffle
Seconded By: Councilmember Jackson

For approval of the above-referenced budget.

Motion By: Councilmember Howe
Seconded By: Councilmember Worth

To amend the General Fund to include the \$35,000 amount requested by the Library for the Waldomore position. **Motion to Amend Approved Unanimously.**

Motion By: Councilmember Howe
Seconded By: Councilmember Worth

To further amend the budget wherein separate line items are created for the use of the Sales & Use Tax Fund. **Motion to further amend Approved Unanimously.**

Motion By: Vice Mayor Riffle
Seconded By: Councilmember Jackson

For approval of the Budget for FY 2025-2026, as amended. **Motion Carried 6-1.**

	FOR	AGAINST
Councilmember Deems	√	
Councilmember Howe		√
Councilmember Hyman	√	
Councilmember Jackson	√	
Councilmember Worth	√	
Vice Mayor Riffle	√	
Mayor Malfregeot	√	

b) **Consideration of First Reading of an Ordinance to Approve Current Replacement Pages to the Codified Ordinances**

Motion By: Councilmember Howe
Seconded By: Councilmember Worth

For approval of the above-captioned ordinance on first reading. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**

c) **Consideration of a Resolution of the City of Clarksburg, West Virginia, to Enter into an Economic Development Agreement regarding the Waldo Complex**

Motion By: Councilmember Hyman
Seconded By: Vice Mayor Riffle

For adoption of the above-captioned resolution. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**

d) **Consideration of appointment to the CENTRA WV Transit Authority**

Motion By: Councilmember Worth
Seconded By: Councilmember Howe

To appoint Hattie Wright to the CENTRA Board of Directors. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**

11) Council Comments:

Council expressed their excitement with the Waldo Complex project, commended the youth that were recognized this evening, noted the master plan regarding the Waldomore and the City's ownership of the building. Mayor Malfregeot reminded all that if they see something to say something and announced the Spring Clean-Up that will take place March 24 – April 11.

There being no further business to come before Council, **Motion** by Councilmember Hyman, **Seconded** by Councilmember Worth and **Approved Unanimously** for adjournment.

Annette Wright
Annette Wright, City Clerk

James L. Malfregeot
James L. Malfregeot, Mayor

APPROVED: April 3, 2025