

City of Clearwater, Kansas
Sedgwick County
City Council Meeting - **MINUTES**
June 23, 2026
Clearwater City Hall – Council Chambers
129 E. Ross Avenue Clearwater, KS 67026

1. Call to Order/ Invocation and Flag Salute

Mayor Burt Ussery called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed the invocation and flag salute.

2. Roll Call

The City Clerk called the roll to confirm the presence of a quorum. The following members were present:

Mayor Burt Ussery, Councilmembers; Justin Shore, Samantha Warkins, Shirley Palmer-Witt and Dalton Chambers.

The following staff members were present:

City Administrator Zollinger, City Clerk Poe, Jared Dinwiddie, Cole Hollis, Kirk Ives, Amber Ives and City Attorney Scott Ufford..

Others present who spoke:

3. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Ussery asked if there were any modifications to the agenda, there were none. He noted that there would be an executive session this evening.

Motion: *Warkins* moved; *Shore* seconded to approve the agenda as submitted. Voted and passed unanimously.

4. Public Forum

None.

5. Consent Agenda

Mayor Ussery asked if there was any question on the consent agenda and if not asked for a motion to approve.

Previous Council Meeting Minutes

Claims and Warrants

Annexation – 8035 S. Butterfly Ct. Prairie Meadows Estates Additon

Resignation – Volunteer Fire

Motion: *Shore* moved; *Palmer-Witt* seconded to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Voted and passed unanimously.

6. Staff Reports:

- Administration Office – Courtney Zollinger – Palmer-Witt asked when Living Waters would be out to look at the ponds, Zollinger stated it may be next week due to weather. She then asked if the ponds had always been around 3'-4' deep, Hollis and Zollinger both confirmed that is correct. Chambers asked about the area on Yvonne and Park Glen Street was getting tall, staff will reach out to the code compliance.
- Fire Department – Jared Dinwiddie – None.
- Police Department – Kirk Ives – None.
- Public Works/Parks – Cole Hollis – Council inquired about the drainage ditch near City Park, Hollis stated there has just been a lot of rain.
- Senior Center – Amber Ives – None.

7. Recognition – Honorable Becky Hurtig

Mayor Ussery expressed his appreciation for Mrs. Hurting's retirement. The City of Clearwater extends its sincere gratitude to the Honorable Becky Hurtig for her 25 years of dedicated service to our community. Through her roles as Clearwater Municipal Prosecutor from 2001–2009 and Clearwater Municipal Judge from 2009–2026, Becky has served with professionalism, integrity, and a steadfast commitment to the citizens of Clearwater. Her years of service have made a lasting impact on our community, and we are deeply grateful for her dedication and contributions. Thank you,

Becky, for 25 years of outstanding service to the City of Clearwater.

8. Business

a. Special Assessments – Park Glen Estates 2nd

On June 27, 2023, the governing body approved improvements for Park Glen Estates 2nd addition (Resolutions 19-2023, 20-2023, 21-2023, and 22-2023). At the May 26, 2026, meeting, City Council approve the final costs certified the assessment roll and approved the date of the public hearing (June 23, 2026) The notice was mailed out to all owners in Park Glen Estates 2nd notifying them of the special assessment hearing. The City Clerk has not received any written objection to the special assessments. Each property owner will receive another notification informing them of their options to pay in whole or part to the City by July 22, 2023. If not paid the bonds will be issued for a collection period of 20 installments. Estimated special assessment from GO Bond 2026: Lots 1-15 Block A and Lots 1-21 Block B will be \$301.23 (Street, Water, Sanitary Sewer). As part of the Park Glen Estates 1st Addition there was a significant improvement to the sanitary sewer. In order to service the development a new line had to be buried deeper which the whole development would benefit from. The GO Bond 2024 assessed a sanitary sewer improvement to all of Park Glen Estates 1st and 2nd Addition. The existing specials from the 1st phase have balance of approximately \$3,700. This new GO Bond will assess an additional \$301 per month, bringing the monthly special payment to approximately \$325.

Motion: Shore moved; **Chambers** seconded to open a public hearing to allow for any verbal or written objections to the special assessments for Park Glen Estates 2nd at 6:07pm. Voted and passed unanimously.

There were no comments made or written objections received.

Motion: Shore moved; **Warkins** seconded to close the public hearing at 6:07 pm. Voted and passed unanimously.

Motion: Shore moved; **Warkins** seconded to adopt Ordinance 1130 levying special assessments on certain property to pay the costs of internal improvement in the City of Clearwater, KS, as heretofore authorized by Resolution 19-2023, 20-2023, 21-2023, and 22-2023; and providing for the collection of such special assessments. Voted and passed unanimously.

Motion: Shore moved; **Warkins** seconded to adopt Resolution 9-2026 authorizing the offering for sale of General Obligation bonds, Series 2026, of the City of Clearwater, KS. Voted and passed unanimously.

b. Discussion: Cemetery District Resolution

The Cemetery District will be considering a resolution to remove Ohio Township from the District. The Board worked with Senator Chase Blasi's office to draft a bill giving Ohio Township and option to be removed from the District. Mayor Ussery updated the Council on the pending Resolution for disorganization for the Clearwater Cemetery District. If approved by the Cemetery District, then the board will consist of the City of Clearwater and Ninnescah Township. He then noted that 75% of the income comes from Clearwater and Ninnescah Township and 25% from Ohio Township. There is only 1 cemetery in Ohio Township which is about 2% of the cost of the district, Ohio Township felt they should be removed for the amount of taxation and cost. Since there was no law, the Cemetery District had to go before legislation to get one created. There has been an expansion for the District where some improvements have been made. The hope is that the Resolution will be passed at the next meeting on July 9th if all parties are in attendance and the two remaining members can appoint or elect someone at large to serve until the end of the year. The position has been added as an election on this year's ballot, which will be a write-in since nobody got in before June so there will be encouragement for people to run for the upcoming seat. The one cemetery in Ohio Township that is titled to Clearwater and will continue to be maintained by the District. He then mentioned the property on 135th and 95th that the Cemetery owns, it will eventually be sold, and the proceeds must only be used for the care and maintenance of the cemetery.

8. Executive Session

Motion: Warkins moved; **Palmer-Witt** seconded to recess into executive session for consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship, to include Council, City Attorney, City Administrator at 6:17 p.m. The City Council will reconvene the open meeting in the City Council Chamber in 15 minutes at 6:32 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 6:32 with no action taken.

9. Governing Body

Palmer-Witt – Asked if there were a map available for what streets the City is supposed to maintain, Zollinger said there is not, but all streets within the City is the City responsibility. She then noted that the County will maintain the connecting roads since Clearwater is a City of the third class with less than 5,000 population. She noted that Diagonal will be maintained once last time from the County, but then the City will have full responsibility since it was annexed in a couple of years ago.

Shore – None.

Warkins – More volunteers are needed for the Festival and there are still many items needing to be completed.

Chambers – None.

Ussery – None.

10. Adjournment

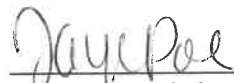
Motion: *Shore* moved; *Warkins* seconded to adjourn the meeting. Voted and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM.

CERTIFICATE

State of Kansas }
County of Sedgwick }
City of Clearwater }

I, Jaye Poe, City Clerk of the City of Clearwater, Sedgwick County, Kansas, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the approved minutes of the June 23rd, 2026, City Council meeting.

Given under my hand and official seal of the City of Clearwater, Kansas, this 14th day of July 2026.


Jaye Poe, City Clerk

