TOWN OF CLARKTON
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2026 @6:00PM
MINUTES

INDIVIDUALS PRESENT:

Commissioner Linda Croom
Commissioner Troy Mitchell
Commissioner James Smith
Adreiona Smith, Assistant Town Clerk
Daniel Alonzo, Public Works Director
Allen Johnson, Johnson & Johnson Law
Gretta Jackson
Lionel Jones
Deshanna Purdie
Linda Rivenbark

CALL TO ORDER:
The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Jerome Myers.

INVOCATION:
Mayor Jerome Myers delivered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
Commissioner Linda Croom led the Town Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA:
Commissioner Troy Mitchell made a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

A. Approval of Minutes
    1. Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes – June 2, 2026
    2. Public Hearing Minutes – June 22, 2026
    3. Continued Town Board Meeting – June 22, 2026

Commissioner Linda Croom seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no discussion.

ACTION FROM PUBLIC HEARING

Rezoning Application for 42 Edgewood Street from R-85 to R-6
Commissioner Troy Mitchell stated that eleven houses are being built in the Fairfax Acres area at this time, and it is not in the Town's best interest to rezone a singular lot when all other homes are being built within the confines of the current zoning. Commissioner Linda Croom motioned to deny the application to rezone 42 Edgewood Street from R-85 to R-6. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Troy Mitchell. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Recommendations for Bladen Housing Authority
Commissioner Troy Mitchell stated he still has not found anyone willing to fill any of the existing vacancies. Mayor Jerome Myers stated that he attended the last meeting on June 23, 2026, and was told he was not eligible to serve on this committee. Mayor Myers added that he spoke with Mr. Atkinson from Bluefield and he will fill the vacancy for ETJ representation but hasn't found anyone to fill the other vacancies.

Use of Depot by Clarkton Youth

Attorney Allen Johnson stated his position on allowing community youth to have linedancing classes in the Depot remains hesitant as it opens the Town up to unnecessary liability. Commissioner Linda Croom stated that the old Rescue Squad building could be used once it is cleaned out. Commissioner James Smith stated they are welcome to use the Clarkton Rural Volunteer Fire Department as well. Commissioner Linda Croom motioned to deny the use of the Depot by the community youth. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Troy Mitchell. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review of Strategic Planning: A Workshop for Small Towns – August 25 & August 26

Mayor Jerome Myers stated that the fee for this workshop is $500.00 and covers up to five people, with at least two required to be representatives from the Town's government. The fee for any attendees over the five covered by the initial fee would be an additional $125.00 per person. Mayor Jerome Myers stated they need to set a deadline for deciding who will go to this workshop, if anyone would like to go. Commissioner Troy Mitchell stated he would let Mayor Jerome Myers know by the end of the month if he is able to go.

Quote for Replacement of Engine – 2018 RAM 2500

Public Works Director Daniel Alonzo stated he attempted to get additional quotes from other body shops but hasn't heard back from any as of this time. Commissioner Linda Croom motioned for Public Works Director Daniel Alonzo to get a quote from the body shop in Whiteville, and if their quote is higher than the one from Campbell's Auto & Fabrication, to take the truck to Campbell's for the work. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Troy Mitchell. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Public Works Director Daniel Alonzo advised he did not have anything additional to discuss.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Mayor Jerome Myers asked Gretta Jackson, Librarian at the Clarkton Public Library, to present the proclamations acknowledging the 165th anniversary of Clarkton from Congressman David Rouzer, Senator Brent Jackson, and Governor Josh Stein. Mrs. Jackson read each proclamation and presented them to the members of the Board.

Commissioner Troy Mitchell stated that Public Works Director Daniel Alonzo has presented him with a list of issues with other motorized vehicles owned by the Town. Commissioner Linda Croom advised that Public Works Director Daniel Alonzo slowly work through the list of concerns as allowed for with the 2026-2027 budget. Commissioner James Smith stated that the Town can post any old equipment or vehicles that they would like to sell on the government auction website in order to generate funds for the repairs if needed.

Commissioner Troy Mitchell asked if the Town abandons septic tanks when the Town's sewer lines replace a customer's septic tank. Public Works Director Daniel Alonzo stated he is pretty sure they do, but he will check with Alton Boswell, ORC, about this.

Commissioner James Smith stated they need barrel extensions for a few fire hydrants in Town. Public Works Director Daniel Alonzo stated he would need to contact Hickman Utilities for this task.

Commissioner Linda Croom advised that the fire hydrant across from her house is seized up. Public Works director Daniel Alonzo stated he could take a look at this as there was another instance when a fire hydrant was seized up on Booker T. Washington School Road and he was able to open it up.

Public Works Director Daniel Alonzo advised that there were two stop signs that need to be replaced in Town.

Commissioner Linda Croom motioned to enter an executive session at 6:28 p.m. to discuss attorney/client privilege. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Troy Mitchell. The motion passed unanimously.

***********Executive Session*********

Commissioner Linda Croom motioned to exit the executive session at 6:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Troy Mitchell. The motion passed unanimously. No action was taken during the executive session.

Commissioner Linda Croom made a motion to reconsider minutes from June 22, 2026, and edit them to reflect that Hartsville Hardison Jr. would be paid for the work done by himself and Albert Moore in the Depot, building the storage room for tables and chairs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Troy Mitchell. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:
Commissioner James Smith made a motion to approve the bills for June 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Linda Croom, and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:
Commissioner Linda Croom made a motion at 6:57 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner James Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____ **Date:** 7/14/26
Adreiona Smith, Assistant Town Clerk/Tax Collector