

**MINUTES OF THE CLINTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 5, 2025**

Minutes of the special meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Clinton City Council, City of Clinton, Oklahoma, Custer County, held in the City Council Room, City Hall on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. A notice of this meeting with agenda was posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of Clinton City Hall on August 1, 2025, at 4:00 P.M.

AGENDA ITEM No. 1. CALL TO ORDER, OPENING

Mayor David Berrong called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. with the following present:

MAYOR: David Berrong

COUNCIL: Ernie Dowdell, Stormie Bowen, Arthur Lloyd, Ernesto Villanueva

COUNCIL ABSENT: None

MANAGER: Robert Johnston

CITY TREASURER: Debra Blanchard

CITY ATTORNEY: Ryan Meacham

CITY CLERK: Amy Jones

NEWS MEDIA: Mike Smith, Sean Stephens, Shiann Dawson

OTHERS: Gene McCullough, Keith Brisco, Jake Lane, Cris Hickerson, Erin Adams, Talitha Adler, Steve Gordon, Wade Anders, Kent and Beth Dewees and others.

Jake Lane, First Christian Church opened the meeting with prayer and Keith Brisco, Post Commander, American Legion Post No. 41 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes from July 15, 2025, Regular Meeting,
- B. Consider Claims
- C. Acknowledgement of the Receipt of the Financial Statement dated June 30, 2025

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Councilmember Villanueva that the Consent Agenda Items be approved.

Mayor David Berrong put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Bowen, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong

Nay: None

Mayor declared the motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEM 3. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION(S)
REGARDING:**

- A. Resolution 1006 – Converting the Interfund Loans to the Clinton Hospital Authority to Transfers to Avoid a Deficit Fund Balance from Occurring.

City Manager Johnston reported that due to the “no sale” of the Clinton Regional Hospital property by 7/31/25 as per the contract, this Resolution 1006 is needed to avoid a deficit fund balance from occurring.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Councilmember Villanueva to approve Resolution 1006 - Converting the Interfund Loans to the Clinton Hospital Authority to Transfers to Avoid a Deficit Fund Balance from Occurring.

Chairman put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Bowen, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong

Nay: None

Chairman declared the motion carried.

- B. Execution of Application(s) for Federal Assistance Form SF-424 for FAA Grant Funding Assistance for the Construction of New Hangars at Clinton Regional Airport.

City Manager Johnston presented the application(s) for Federal Assistance Forms SF-424 for FAA Grant Funding Assistance for the construction of new hangars at Clinton Regional Airport (AIP 3-40-0021-0022-2025, AIP 3-40-0021-023-2025, AIP 3-40-0021-024-2026)

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Councilmember Villanueva to approve execution of the application(s) for Federal Assistance Forms SF-424 for FAA Grant Funding Assistance for the construction of new hangars at Clinton Regional Airport.

Chairman put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Bowen, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong

Nay: None

Chairman declared the motion carried.

- C. Pay Application No. 10 in the Amount of \$289,079.21 by Walters Morgan for Work on the New Chemical Feed Building at the Clinton Lake Water Treatment Plant.

Public Works Director McCullough reported that the project continues to move forward towards imminent completion.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Councilmember Villanueva to approve Pay Application No. 10 in the amount of \$289,079.21 by Walters-Morgan for work on the New Chemical Feed Building at the Clinton Lake Water Treatment Plant.

Mayor David Berrong put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong
Nay: None

Mayor declared the motion carried.

- D. Request For Executive Session As Authorized By The *Oklahoma Open Meeting Act* Section 307(B)4 For Confidential Communications Between A Public Body And Its Attorney Concerning A Pending Investigation, Claim, Or Action If The Public Body With The Advice Of Its Attorney, Determines That Disclosure Will Seriously Impair The Ability Of The Public Body To Process The Claim Or Conduct A Pending Investigation, Litigation, Or Proceeding In The Public Interest.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Villanueva to Request For Executive Session As Authorized By The *Oklahoma Open Meeting Act* Section 307(B)4 For Confidential Communications Between A Public Body And Its Attorney Concerning A Pending Investigation, Claim, Or Action If The Public Body With The Advice Of Its Attorney, Determines That Disclosure Will Seriously Impair The Ability Of The Public Body To Process The Claim Or Conduct A Pending Investigation, Litigation, Or Proceeding In The Public Interest and invite in the City Manager Robert Johnston and City Attorney Ryan Meacham at 5:42 p.m.

Mayor David Berrong put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong
Nay: None

Mayor declared the motion carried.

- E. Reconvene from Executive Session;

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Villanueva to reconvene from Executive Session at 6:34 p.m.

Mayor David Berrong put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong
Nay: None

Mayor declared the motion carried.

F. Any Action Any Action(s) Arising from the Executive Session.

Mayor Berrong gave a report of no action.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: NEW BUSINESS (If any, pursuant to Section 311.9 of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.):

None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: COUNCIL COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

City Manager stated that a ground-breaking ceremony for the new DPS/OHP building has been scheduled for Friday August 22, 2025, at 9:00 AM. He also reported that he had been advise by ODOT that the Exit 65 project bid was accepted by the Transportation Commission at yesterday's meeting. The low bid was higher than the engineers' original cost estimate; it was believed that rebidding would not likely result in lower bids. As a result, when the project is completed in the spring of 2028 the City of Clinton's cost participation will have increased.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (According to Audience participation Decorum Guidelines at Clinton City Council Public Meetings effective:2/14/2017)

None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilmember Dowdell seconded by Councilmember Villanueva to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong

Nay: None

Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:37 P.M.

Date Approved

David Berrong, Mayor

**MINUTES OF THE CLINTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 13, 2025**

Minutes of the special meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Clinton City Council, City of Clinton, Oklahoma, Custer County, held in the City Council Room, City Hall on Tuesday, August 13, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. A notice of this meeting with agenda was posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of Clinton City Hall on August 11, 2025, at 2:00 P.M.

AGENDA ITEM No. 1. CALL TO ORDER, OPENING

Mayor David Berrong called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. with the following present:

MAYOR: David Berrong

COUNCIL: Ernie Dowdell, Ernesto Villanueva

COUNCIL ABSENT: Arthur Lloyd, Stormie Bowen

MANAGER: Robert Johnston

CITY TREASURER: Debra Blanchard

CITY ATTORNEY: Ryan Meacham (Absent)

CITY CLERK: Amy Jones

NEWS MEDIA: Mike Smith, Sean Stephens, Shiann Dawson, Spencer Humprey – News Channel 4

OTHERS: Gene McCullough, Cris Hickerson, Norma Fisher, Len Lacefield, Chasity Richardson, Talitha Adler, Kelly Cornell, Ken Baker, Jason Hulin, Dan Tharp, Chris Jones, and others.

**AGENDA ITEM 2. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION(S)
REGARDING:**

A. Request from the Clinton Hospital Authority for Funding Assistance to Meet Payroll and Other Specifically Designated Expenses.

Clinton Hospital Authority Chairman Ken Baker reported that the hospital management & staff has been directed by the hospital board to look for at ways to reduce expenses and improve the revenue cycle management process to increase operating revenue. At this time there is a pressing need for \$200,000.00 in funding assistance to meet payroll and pay other specifically designated expenses. Baker also spoke briefly about other options moving forward, including the possibility of moving to Rural Emergency Hospital status and funding options through the USDA and other sources. The goal will be to maintain the hospital license and operations of the hospital. The hospital staff will also start preparing for the cost report that is required to be completed 5 months after the fiscal year.

Councilmember Dowdell stated that the goal is still to keep the doors open and the Hospital Authority has worked hard to keep the doors open and are capable and

knowledgeable in this area.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Councilmember Villanueva to approve the request from the Clinton Hospital Authority for funding assistance in the amount of \$200,000.00. to meet payroll and other specifically designated expenses.

Mayor put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Villanueva, Berrong

Nay: None

Mayor declared motion carried.

B. Available Funding Sources to Maintain the Hospital License and Operations

City Manager Johnston stated that since the expected replenishment of City and PWA reserves resulting from the sale of the hospital facility did not occur, City Treasurer Blanchard and himself have felt compelled to have multiples conversations to develop a financial game plan going forward. City and PWA reserve balances have been depleted as low as they need to be, so other financial solutions are in order. The financial game plan is not yet ready to be presented as conversations continue daily with the Clinton Hospital Authority and other knowledgeable parties. This team effort is based upon the common goal of maintaining the hospital license which was so difficult to regain and to continue the highest level of healthcare services upon which the community relies.

Information only.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: NEW BUSINESS (If any, pursuant to Section 311.9 of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.):

None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: COUNCIL COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (According to Audience participation Decorum Guidelines at Clinton City Council Public Meetings effective:2/14/2017)

None

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilmember Dowdell seconded by Councilmember Villanueva to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Villanueva, Berrong

Nay: None

Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 3:22 P.M.

Date Approved

David Berrong, Mayor