

TOWN OF CLERMONT
9049 Crawfordsville Road
Clermont, IN 46234
317-291-0394

August 6, 2026

Special Town Council Meeting – Budget Working Meeting

Public Hearing – August 2026 Rainy Day Budget Additional Appropriation

I. Call to Order at 7:05 P.M.

The following council members, who constituted at least 50% of the members of the council, were present in person: Councilor Lambard, Councilor Lemaire, and Councilor Topf. Councilor Sauro joined at 8:07 PM.

Absent Council Member(s): Councilor Beam

Others present: Clerk-Treasurer, Larry Beiter; Part-time Clerk, Grace Brenzek

Public in Attendance: Peggy Lambard, Mia _____.

The first part of the meeting was a working session to review the 2027 Budget. The Public was welcome to attend but there was no public comment period prior to the budget working session. Comments were solicited during the Public Hearing.

II. 2027 Budget Discussions

The Clerk-Treasurer provided some initial background on the budget and walked the Council through the budget worksheets that had been provided during the June Council Meeting. Each fund was discussed in some level of detail. Many of the line items and their basis was discussed. Below is captured any discussions requiring additional actions as well as proposed changes to the amounts in the previously provided budget worksheet.

1101- General Fund – The Council discussed in detail the basis for officer salaries and plans for salary increases. The budget currently includes a 4% increase, this is a maximum available for budgeting purposes. The Council will discuss a final salary increase amount for the Salary Ordinance at the end of the year. Councilor Lemaire provided some background on succession planning for the department. Captain Whittemore is currently considered a good candidate to be the next Chief. Chief Dulworth would like to continue to support the department in some capacity after retirement. It was recommended that the Councilors have further conversations with both Chief Dulworth and Captain Whittemore on these topics. This would help support the transition for the new Chief and provide additional resources for activities such as ordinance enforcement. The Council will need to discuss the details of this further, it was recommended that a job description or scope of services be created to define the role. It was recommended that the role be a part-time position as the cost of benefits for the Town is substantial. The Salary Ordinance will need to be updated with any new roles and the related salaries. The current part-time officer position is \$25 per hour. The Chief's current salary is closer to \$35 per hour. The timing for this transition could be next year. The Council discussed the career interests and plans of the remaining officers. Officer Dierdorf has been with the Town for many years and is also nearing retirement age.

It was recommended that the 331 - Electric budget be increased an additional \$3,000 to \$23,000 to compensate for expected rate increases.

Funds will be allocated from the Public Safety Fund 2240 to support part-time officer salaries.

2201 / 2203 – MVH / MVH-R – Councilor Lambard provided an overview of his current work with USI and plans for upcoming road work. The amounts currently identified are acceptable. The speed table work is currently on hold.

2202 – LRS - Based on the schedule for Full PAMP (Pavement Asset Management Plan) execution, the 363 - Engineering fees will be increased to \$22,000. Assuming no major increase for landscaping, the current estimates area expected to be sufficient. The cost of changing Town banners and flags continues to rise. Some

work to minimize banner change-outs and maximize flag durability would help our bottom line. A review with Councilor Sauro near the end of the meeting confirmed that the current All-Terrain proposal does not have a significant increase.

2228 – LECE – Councilor Lemaire recommended to increase the 321 - Police Training budget to \$5000 to support new officer training

2240 – Public Safety – Line 113 - Salaries of Marshalls and Deputies will be added to capture potential part-time officer support as discussed previously. The amount will be calculated by Clerk based on available funds and previous discussion. Line 422 – Police Equipment will be increased to \$25000 to support the proposed purchase of new Body Cameras and Tasers. The contract is for 5 years for a total of approximately \$120000. It offers some savings by replacing both Cameras and Tasers, which are both being phased out. The Camera contract includes all aspects of data storage and support service related to camera videos. Chief Dulworth provided a copy of a quote which was distributed to the Councilors after the meeting. The Council and Clerks discussed at length possible ways to reduce the expenditure. It was recommended that the Council communicate further with Chief Dulworth to confirm an approach that is the most cost effective, while still ensuring that the police have up-to-date, reliable equipment that does not place them at any disadvantage. After 2027, car lease payments are expected to reduce to one vehicle per year.

2350 – Tree Board – No changes recommended.

2391 – The Council discussed the 2026 budget and how/when it would be spent on building renovations. We will revise for 2027 to ensure the maximum amount is budgeted, assuming that the full 2026 budget is spent.

2236 – Rainy Day - Minimal funds will be available in this fund if the new property is purchased. The funds for 405 - Miller Park refresh and 413 - New Property Renovations may not be able to be supported. These will be kept in the budget if possible but reduced as necessary to ensure that the budget can be funded.

2501 – National Night Out – Lines 240 – Promotional Supplies and 371 – Promotional Services and Charges will each be reduced to \$1500 based on 2026 actual expenditure.

The Clerk will update the budget based on the requests captured at this meeting. The Council briefly discussed several miscellaneous concerns, including potential ordinance violations and street-side trees that need trimming. Councilors Lambard and Lemaire will follow-up appropriately.

III. PUBLIC HEARING - August 2026 Rainy Day Budget Additional Appropriation

The public hearing for the August 2026 Rainy Day Budget Additional Appropriation began at 8:05.

Councilor Sauro joined the meeting at 8:07 PM.

The Clerk-Treasurer provided background on the additional appropriation which will allocate an additional \$220,000 of Rainy Day funds for the New Property Acquisition. Use of these funds, along with the previously budgeted funds will leave a minimal amount, ~\$15,000 in the account. The Council discussed briefly the details of the appropriation.

Notice of the proposed additional appropriation was posted on Gateway as well as at Town Hall. The public was invited to provide comment on the proposed appropriation. No comments from the public were received prior to the meeting. No comments were received from the public during the hearing.

The Public Hearing was ended at 8:09 PM.

Councilor Lemaire motioned to approve the August 2026 Rainy Day Budget Additional Appropriation. Councilor Lambard seconded the motion. Councilor Lambard votes, Aye, Councilor Lemaire votes, Aye, Councilor Sauro votes, Aye, and Councilor Topf votes, Aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

This Resolution was approved as 20260806-R01

The Councilors discussed several aspects of the budget that were of relevance to Councilor Sauro. Councilor Sauro provided some details on the proposal for 2027 Mowing, weeding, landscaping. A copy of the proposal will be provided to the Council for review at the August 13th meeting.

The Councilors briefly discussed the next steps in the property acquisition and the upcoming meeting schedule.

Councilor Sauro motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 P.M. Councilor Lambard seconded the motion. Councilor Lambard votes, Aye, Councilor Lemaire votes, Aye, Councilor Sauro votes, Aye, and Councilor Topf votes, Aye. Motion was unanimously approved.

The next Regular Council meeting is scheduled for August 13th at 7:00 PM at Town Hall.

Approve: Town Council

Attest: Clerk-Treasurer
