



**CLINTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY HALL
2267 North 1500 W Clinton UT 84015**

**MAYOR
L. Mitch Adams**

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Anna Stanton
Mike Petersen
Barbara Patterson
TJ Mitchell
Marie Dougherty**

Date of Meeting	August 10, 2021 Special Meeting	7:00 PM	Called to Order: 7:00 PM
Staff Present	City Manager Dennis Cluff, Community Development Director Valerie Claussen, Police Chief Shawn Stoker, Public Works Director David Williams, Treasurer Steve Hubbard, Firefighter Dave Powers, Tim Vega, Spencer Arave and Lisa Titensor recorded the minutes.		
Citizens Present	Dereck Bauer, Brandon Stanger, Floyd Petersen, Mrs. Petersen, Larry Steele, Bryce Wilcox, Lori Miller		
Pledge of Allegiance	Mayor Adams		
Invocation or Thought	Councilmember Mitchell		
Roll Call & Attendance	Mayor Adams, Councilmember Marie Dougherty, Councilmember TJ Mitchell, Councilmember Barbara Patterson, Councilmember Mike Petersen, Councilmember Anna Stanton		

A. 7:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING - TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING PERTAINING TO PROPOSED CITY PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-22

Petitioner	Mayor Mitch Adams; Dennis W. Cluff
Discussion	<p>Mayor Adams explained the City is in this Truth in Taxation process to increase taxes for the specific purpose of starting a paramedic program in Clinton City. He feels the Clinton residents will be better served with this program.</p> <p>The City is proposing to increase the City Property Tax rate by 0.000514, which will generate approximately \$700,000 in new property tax revenue starting this tax year for the sole purpose of funding the Clinton City Paramedic Service through the Fire Department. Davis County will cease their Paramedic coverage by December 2022, requiring the cities and fire districts to establish their own Paramedic services or make arrangements with neighboring jurisdictions for coverage.</p> <p>With their anticipated cessation of Paramedic coverage, the County will also remove their Paramedic tax levy starting this current tax year. This will amount to a .000119 levy rate reduction from the County which they have used to help pay for the countywide Paramedic service coverage. This will not reduce the City's needed new revenue, but it will slightly reduce each tax payer's overall tax bill.</p> <p>Without the City Paramedic tax rate increase the City's FY 21-22 tax rate would be 0.001422. The City Paramedic Service tax rate of 0.000514 raises the overall new City Tax Rate for FY 21-22 to 0.001936, a 36.15% increase. If the County's reduction of their Paramedic Rate is considered against the City's new Paramedic Rate, the true Paramedic Service Rate would be 0.000395 which corresponds to an overall 27.78% Paramedic Service Rate increase for the City.</p>

There is no way to estimate the value of having localized Paramedic Services, seconds saved in response time can sometimes mean the difference between life and death. City based Paramedic crews will enhance the medical response.

Mayor Adams stated he feels it is time to bring paramedics into Clinton to better serve the public.

Mr. Cluff added that the County will continue with paramedic service until December 2022. This will give Clinton time to get their program up and running. The Fire Department will begin the hiring process for paramedics right away. There is concern of a limited amount of candidates because all the cities in Davis County that contract with Davis County, except for South Davis – Metro and Layton City will be starting their own programs as well.

Currently, the county sheriff's deputies also serve as paramedics. They have done a great job, but with increasing population and traffic it is becoming more and more difficult to get to calls in a timely matter.

He explained that paramedics by law are allowed to perform more procedures than EMT's. Some emergencies require paramedics to respond.

Mayor Adams further explained the County's intent is to reduce their employees through attrition rather than laying individuals off.

Included in the tax increase are also some capital costs to modify the Fire Station to accommodate the new paramedics.

Mayor Adams opened the public hearing at 7:11 p.m.

Larry Steele stated he is on a tight budget. He is very concerned with inflation and increases in the costs for everything including taxes. His social security benefit is not enough to cover it all.

He asked what the salary will be for the paramedics.

Mr. Cluff responded between \$50,000 and \$70,000 depending on their experience.

Mayor Adams informed Mr. Steele that there are programs in place to help offset property taxes for those in need. He suggested that he contact the County to see what options might be available to him.

Councilmember Dougherty offered to work with Mr. Steele to contact the County and see what programs he might qualify for.

Floyd Petersen, the former fire chief of Clinton City, stated paramedics will be a good addition to the City. He feels it is in the best interest of the citizens for safety reasons and timely response to emergencies.

Brandon Stanger asked what other funding sources will be used for the infrastructure and why it is not included in the tax increase.

Mayor Adams responded some money has been set aside for capital projects in addition to a portion of the money from the tax increase.

Mr. Cluff added that there is a concern to have enough funds available to start seeking paramedics to fully staff our department. The City cannot be licensed for

	<p>paramedics until they are fully staffed.</p> <p>Mr. Stanger said he would rather see a higher tax increase now to ensure enough funds to fund the entire process including retirement for employees rather than have to go back and raise taxes in the future.</p> <p>Mr. Cluff clarified that those things have been taken into consideration. There are already some capital carry over funds. It will also take time to fully staff the paramedics, which will provide an opportunity to save some money upfront during the hiring process. A lot of planning and thought has gone into this.</p> <p>Mayor Adams asked for clarification on the current retirement program for firefighters and paramedics.</p> <p>Chief Olsen responded those participating in the tier 1 plan have a 20 year retirement and those in tier 2 (those hired after July 2011) have a 25 year retirement. House insurance helps offset costs for fire personnel retirement.</p> <p>The County and Davis County Cities have looked at every option they could think of to figure out how to create and fund this new program. It has been a two year plus process. Staff has evaluated the costs and determined it will be a bit cheaper for Clinton to fund our own paramedics rather than contract out for them. Davis County has had a unique situation with their paramedic/sheriff combo. It will be important for Clinton to get some experienced paramedics. Clinton will also send some current EMT employees to school to become paramedics which will provide a good skill mix. If a Davis County Sheriff who is currently an EMT would like to go to fire school, Clinton would consider that as well.</p> <p>Response time is extremely important. Several issues require consideration. The average time for Clinton to respond is a 4 to 5 minute average which is very good.</p> <p>Councilmember Stanton confirmed that a lot of thought has gone into determining how much of an increase in property tax is needed to fund the program. The City is confident that the amount of the proposed increase will cover the needed costs over time and as the program develops.</p> <p>Brandon Stanger stated he feels the money the City plans to use which was already set aside for infrastructure could be better used for personnel and training. It would be better to increase taxes just a bit more to cover all the cost for paramedics.</p> <p>Mr. Steele asked if the City has thought about training the policemen as paramedics.</p> <p>Mayor Adams responded they are very different career paths.</p> <p>Mr. Steele expressed appreciation for the police and fire departments and the services they provide.</p> <p>With no further public comment, Mayor Adams closed the public hearing at 7:43 p.m.</p>
<p>B. 7:05 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING - RESOLUTION 23-21, CERTIFICATION OF TAX RATE AND ADOPTION OF FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-22</p>	
<p>Petitioner</p>	<p>Dennis W. Cluff</p>
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>Mayor Adams opened the public hearing at 7:44 p.m. With no public comment, he closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m.</p>

CONCLUSION	Councilmember Mitchell moved to adopt Resolution 23-21, Certifying a Tax Rate of .001936 for Fiscal Year 2021-22, and Adopt the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22. Councilmember Patterson seconded the motion. Voting by roll call is as follows: Councilmember Dougherty aye; Councilmember Mitchell, aye; Councilmember Patterson, aye; Councilmember Petersen, aye; Councilmember Stanton, aye.
	Recreation Director Bruce Logan addressed the Council to report that he has submitted a letter to City Manager Cluff giving notice of his retirement as of September 16, 2021. Bruce went on to say that he has cherished his time at Clinton City. He loves working with all the staff including the amazing Recreation Department. He has had a good relationship with City Manager Cluff. He also appreciates the support of the City Council. He will miss working for Clinton City. Clinton City is an exceptional place.
ADJOURNMENT	Councilmember Patterson moved to adjourn. Councilmember Peterson seconded the motion. Councilmembers Dougherty, Mitchell, Patterson, Petersen and Stanton voted in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Lisa Titensor, Clinton City Recorder