



Agenda
City of Clarkesville
Regular Meeting
6:00 PM June 1, 2026

1. Call to Order
 - 1a. *Mayor Pro-Tem Angelia Kiker Will Call the Meeting to Order*
2. *Invocation and Pledge*
3. *Consent Agenda*
 - 3a. *Discuss and Consider Approval of the Following Minutes:*

April 27, 2026 Work Session and Executive Session
May 4, 2026 Council Meeting and Executive Session
May 12, 2026 Called Meeting and Executive Session
May 22, 2026 Called Meeting and Executive Session
4. *Committee Reports*
 - 4a. *Finance, Fire, MainStreet, Police, Economic Development, ESG*
5. *Unfinished Business*
6. *New Business*
 - 6a. *Discuss and Consider Approval of Resolution 2026-4; 2025 Budget Amendments*
7. *Public Comment*
8. *Consider Going Into Executive Session*
9. *Adjournment*

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COUNCIL WORK SESSION

April 27, 2026
Minutes
City of Clarkesville
Council Work Session

The Council Work Session was held on Monday, April 27, 2026, at 5:00 PM at City Hall. Those present were Council Member Blake Rainwater, Council Member Leigh Johnston, Council Member Brad Coppedge, Mayor Pro - Tempore Angelia Kiker, Mayor Franklin Brown, Council Member Don Nix.

Agenda Item #1: *Call to Order*

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item #2: *Unfinished Business*

Sub-Item #2a.: *Monthly Grants Update*

Sara Burke presented the monthly grants update.

Agenda Item #3: *New Business*

Sub-Item #3a.: *Update on Drought*

The State has declared a drought level 1. This requires local governments to campaign and encourage water conservation. Clarkesville has completed a push on social media and included a flyer with the April water bill.

Sub-Item #3b.: *Discuss GMEBS Employee Assistance Program*

GMEBS is offering an employee assistance program and Interim City Manager recommends enrolling this employer paid benefit. The assistance includes counseling, legal guidance, financial resources and more. Council agreed to move forward with enrollment.

Sub-Item #3c.: *Discuss Bicentennial Trailer*

Rosie would like to sell the bicentennial trailer and use the proceeds to possibly purchase a portable stage. Council would like more information on costs of stages and the potential sale price for the trailer.

Agenda Item #4: *Open Discussion*

Council discussed the interview schedule for City Manager position. Julie will schedule interviews during the week of May 18.

Brad Coppedge would like to re-evaluate the brush pickup service, stating it is a huge drain on the public works department, and many citizens take advantage of the service with large piles. Council discussed ways to make the service more efficient and manageable.

Council discussed holding a spring retreat

Angelia Kiker discussed signage at the gazebo area. After discussion, she volunteered to work with Caleb Gaines to manage this.

Agenda Item #5: *Public Comment*
There were no public comments.

Agenda Item #6: *Consider Going Into Executive Session*

Sub-Item #6a.: *Meeting to discuss or vote to authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of or lease property as provided in Georgia Code section 50-14-3(b)(1)(B).*

Council Member Leigh Johnston made a motion to enter executive session

Seconded: Council Member Blake Rainwater

Passed (5 - 0)

Agenda Item #7: *Adjournment*

Council Member Don Nix made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded: Council Member Blake Rainwater

Passed (5 - 0)

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Poole, City Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

May 4, 2026
Minutes
City of Clarkesville
Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting was held on Monday, May 4, 2026, at 6:00 PM at City Hall. Those present were Council Member Blake Rainwater, Council Member Leigh Johnston, Council Member Brad Coppedge, Mayor Pro - Tempore Angelia Kiker, Mayor Franklin Brown, Council Member Don Nix.

Agenda Item #1: *Call to Order*

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item #2: *Invocation and Pledge*

Sub-Item #2a.: *John Burke will lead the meeting in prayer.*

Mr. Burke was unable to attend the meeting. Mayor Brown led the meeting in prayer.

Agenda Item #3: *Consent Agenda*

Sub-Item #3a.: *Discuss and Vote to Approve the Following Meeting Minutes:*

April 7, 2026 Work Session

April 13, 2026 Council Meeting

April 13, 2026 Executive Session

Council Member Brad Coppedge made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Seconded: Council Member Don Nix

Passed (5 - 0)

Agenda Item #4: *Committee Reports*

Sub-Item #4a.: *Finance, Main Street, Fire, ESG, Planning and Zoning, Police, Economic Development*

Departments presented their monthly reports.

Agenda Item #5: *Unfinished Business*

There was no unfinished business.

Agenda Item #6: *New Business*

Sub-Item #6a.: *Discuss and Vote to Approve BP Clarkesville 442 Inc. to Sell Package Beer and Wine at 442 Washington Street*

Council Member Leigh Johnston made a motion to approve to approve the alcohol license for BP Clarkesville 442 Inc.

Seconded: Mayor Pro - Tempore Angelia Kiker

Passed (5 - 0)

Sub-Item #6b.: *Discuss and Vote to Approve Oasis of Clarkesville LLC to Sell Liquor, Beer and*

Wine for Consumption on the Premises as a Bar or Tavern at 522 Monroe St.

Council Member Don Nix made a motion to approve the alcohol license for Oasis of Clarkesville LLC.

Seconded: Council Member Brad Coppedge

Passed (5 - 0)

Sub-Item #6c.: Announce and Recognize the Winners of the Georgia Cities' Week Coloring Contest

Mayor Brown and Yvonne Marinelli presented certificates and gift cards to William and Millie.

Agenda Item #7: Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item #8: Consider Going Into Executive Session

Meeting to Discuss or vote to authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of or lease property as provided in Georgia Code section 50-14-3(b)(1)(c).

Meeting to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employments, compensation, hiring disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee as provided in Georgia Code section 50-14-3(b)(2).

Council Member Leigh Johnston made a motion to enter executive session .

Seconded: Council Member Brad Coppedge

Passed (5 - 0)

Agenda Item #9: Adjournment

Council Member Brad Coppedge made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded: Mayor Pro - Tempore Angelia Kiker

Passed (5 - 0)

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Poole, City Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COUNCIL CALLED MEETING

May 12, 2026
Minutes
City of Clarkesville
Council Called Meeting

The Council Called Meeting was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 4:00 PM at . Those present were Council Member Blake Rainwater, Council Member Leigh Johnston, Council Member Brad Coppedge, Mayor Pro - Tempore Angelia Kiker, Mayor Franklin Brown, Council Member Don Nix.

Agenda Item #1: *Call to Order*

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item #2: *Consider Entering Executive Session*

Sub-Item #2a.: *Meeting to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee as provided in Georgia Code section 50-14-3(b)(2).*

Council Member Brad Coppedge made a motion to enter executive session

Seconded: Council Member Blake Rainwater

Passed (5 - 0)

Agenda Item #3: *Unfinished Business*

Sub-Item #3a.: *Discuss the Development of 555 Monroe Street and Vote on Path Forward*

Mayor Brown spoke, reassuring that there are no problems with or in our Fire department. He discussed that there are three major projects that will all move forward in tandem. These projects are major improvements for the wastewater plant, construction of a new fire station and the development of 555 Monroe Street. Leigh Johnston has volunteered to focus on the wastewater plant and the fire station; Blake Rainwater will focus on the wastewater plant and the Mayor will focus on the development of Monroe Street.

DDA Chairman, Joey Duncan, spoke and answered questions regarding DDA's role in the Monroe Street Development.

Master Planner, Lew Oliver, discussed what he believes is the process and next steps for the Monroe Street Development. He suggests holding a charrette and invite all involved parties, including the community.

Each council member spoke individually and generally discussed together, their vision for the future of Clarkesville.

Council did not vote on path forward.

During public comment, Dale Latty spoke generally about these projects and asked specifically if other locations have been considered for a new fire station. Mayor Brown replied that many other locations have been considered, however this is the best location to sustain the current ISO rating.

Agenda Item #4: *Adjournment*

Council Member Brad Coppedge made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded: Mayor Pro - Tempore Angelia Kiker

Passed (5 - 0)

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Poole, City Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COUNCIL CALLED MEETING

May 22, 2026
Minutes
City of Clarkesville
Council Called Meeting

The Council Called Meeting was held on Friday, May 22, 2026, at 9:00 AM at . Those present were Council Member Blake Rainwater, Council Member Leigh Johnston, Council Member Brad Coppedge, Mayor Franklin Brown, Council Member Don Nix. Mayor Pro - Tempore Angelia Kiker was absent.

Agenda Item #1: *Call to Order*

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item #2: *Consider Entering Executive Session*

Sub-Item #2a.: *Meeting to interview one or more applicants for the position of the executive head of an agency as provided in Georgia Code section 50-14-3(b)(2).*

Council Member Brad Coppedge made a motion to enter executive session at 9:00 am

Seconded: Council Member Blake Rainwater **Passed (4 - 0)**

Council Member Brad Coppedge made a motion to enter executive session at 12:40 pm

Seconded: Council Member Don Nix **Passed (4 - 0)**

Agenda Item #3: *Adjournment*

Council Member Leigh Johnston made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded: Council Member Don Nix **Passed (3 - 0)**

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Poole, City Clerk

Fire Department Council Report June 2026

April Responses

Total- 86

Fires-4

MVA-2

EMS-54

Hazardous Condition-2

Service-10

False/Canceled 14



City of Clarkesville Main Street Program Monthly City Council Report: April 2026

Presented: June 1, 2026

New Businesses in April (New Ownership):

- BP Clarkesville 442 Inc (442 Washington St)- 3 employees
- Oasis of Clarkesville (522 Monroe St)- 3.5 employees
- Provision Design (1335 Washington St)- 2 employees

April Meetings:

- Main Street Board Meetings: 1
- Main Street Board Training Sessions: 1
- Mountain Laurel Committee Meetings: 3
- Events Committee Meetings: 2
- Economic Development Committee Meetings: 1
- DDA Meetings Attended: 1

April Events:

Main Street Events in April: 0

Main Street Partnered Events: 2

- SRWA Easter Egg Hunt- April 4
- Cruise in with a Purpose Car Show- April 10

Total Downtown Events: 35

Total Estimated Attendance for All Events: 890

Other Meetings & Professional Development/Training Opportunities in April:

- GA Main Street Third Thursday Zoom Meeting on Preservation Month- April 16
- GMA Spring Listening Session in Toccoa- April 17
- Downtown Revitalization Visit to Clayton w/ Main Street Board & DDA Board- April 22
- GA Main Street Launchpad Zoom Meeting for New Managers- April 27
- GA Main Street Check-in Meeting w/ Cassidi Kendrick- April 29

Other April Tasks:

- Recorded 4 *Experience Clarkesville* Radio Shows (April 6, 13, 20, & 27).
- Conducted planning efforts for the 64th Annual Mountain Laurel Festival (ML Committee).
- Conducted planning efforts for Red, White & Tunes (Main Street Events Committee).
- Partnered with the Soque River Watershed Association (SRWA) to promote and assist with their Greenway Trail Easter Egg Hunt- April 4.
- Assisted with Cruise-In with a Purpose Car Show preparations- April 10.
- Assisted with planning efforts for the June Kids Car Show (US Forest Service)
- Began development of downtown business and community surveys in partnership with Tracy Pato to gather community and downtown business feedback and support future planning efforts (Main Street- Economic Development Committee Project)- April 20.
- Worked with the Main Street Economic Development Committee throughout the month to update and improve the Façade & Sign Grant Application- April 23.
- Attended the Madison's on Main ribbon cutting and presented a City of Clarkesville Recognition Certificate celebrating their investment in downtown with Yvonne- April 24.
- Wrote an article promoting the Mountain Laurel Festival for Habersham Neighbors Magazine (May edition).
- Developed advertisements, promotional materials, and social media content for upcoming community events and downtown initiatives.
- Worked with Yvonne Marinelli to coordinate and promote Georgia Cities Week activities.
- Photographed police and public works staff for Georgia Cities Week recognition and outreach efforts.
- Created the Hidden Gems of Clarkesville scavenger hunt during Georgia Cities Week to encourage residents and visitors to explore downtown businesses- April 19-26.

- Worked with Kathleen Kollock and the Friends of the Mauldin House on development of a John Kollock exhibit room at the Mauldin House.
- Prepared agendas, meeting notices, reminders, and communications for board and committee members.
- Submitted the March Community Activity Report to Georgia Main Street to maintain accreditation status and ensure continued compliance with state program requirements.
- Responded to citizen, business, volunteer, and stakeholder inquiries throughout the month.
- Coordinated with city staff, volunteers, businesses, nonprofit partners, board members, elected officials, and community organizations to support Main Street initiatives and community events.
- Managed day-to-day administrative functions related to downtown development, event planning, marketing, community engagement, and Main Street program administration.
- Responded to 179 emails during the month of April in support of downtown development, event coordination, business assistance, and Main Street program administration.
- Answered or returned 162 phone calls during the month of April to assist residents, businesses, volunteers, vendors, board members, and community partners.

Departmental Activity Report for the Month of May

The following permits were issued for the month of May:

1 Permanent Sign

0 Temporary Sign

0 Plan Review

2 Building – 1 for a new single-family residence.

3 Plumbing

0 Electrical

1 Mechanical

1 Tree Removal

0 Demolition

1 Code Enforcement Action

16 Construction inspections

COs Issued: 0

Planning Activities: The Waffle House construction still underway. At this point, they might be open by June. There has also been early interest in residential construction in the new Village Crest subdivision.

IT: New firewalls at the PD, water plant and FD are in place and operating. Later on this year, the firewall at the wastewater plant will be replaced. These are all because of expiring subscriptions and hardware end of life. There has been talk about finding a solution such as lightning rods at the water plant due to the fact that security cams, a new firewall (had to be replaced) and other plant equipment keep getting damaged due to lightning.