

**CLEARWATER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
JULY 28, 2025**

1. Call to Order: 6:30 p.m. at City Hall

- Mayor Lawrence called the Clearwater City Council to order Monday, July 28, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Members present were Mayor Lawrence, Council Members Crandall, Schwinghammer, and Everett. Member Senn was absent. Also present was City Administrator Smythe.

2. Discuss Sheriff Contract

- Members continued previous discussions on the sheriff’s contract and proposal to increase hours to 12 hours per day. Member Everett and Administrator Smythe had met with contacts from the sheriff’s office to ask questions and obtain more information. The new reports in the materials are corrected versions of items shared previously. Smythe also provided budget data from area cities that have their own police departments, for comparison purposes.
- Members agreed that starting a city police department is not financially feasible.
- Member Everett stated she is still waiting for some additional details from the sheriff about calls excluding traffic data. Smythe says she will forward that information.
- Members are still unsure if the extra hours are needed and would like to continue discussions. The sheriff’s team was agreeable to phasing in the hours and revisiting if call volumes dropped in the future.
- Staff to include 10 hours in 2026 draft budget and see where that puts the city for total levy.

3. Discuss Capital Budget Plan

- Smythe gave an overview of the draft capital plan/projects list, explaining that most of this data is from the 2025 plan and is not yet updated. Staff wanted to get feedback from the new council members on what projects to include or exclude for the 2026 plan.
- Members did not have any major changes to the proposed projects list. Smythe noted that the planned replacement of the city council tablets will be added, along with anything related to the T.H. 24 Corridor Project.
- Members spent time discussing the proposed fire hall project. They would like to see this project move ahead. The suggestion was to include funding for architectural design and soil corrections while the work continues on a final design and bonding plan.

4. Adjournment

- **MOTION** to adjourn by Crandall, seconded by Schwinghammer, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**
- Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

ATTEST



Annita M. Smythe, City Administrator

APPROVED


Andrea Lawrence Wheeler, Mayor