

City of Odessa, Missouri
Board of Aldermen
Odessa Community Building | 601 W. Main Street
Regular Meeting ~ Monday, June 22, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

[@OdessaMO](#)

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bruce Whatsitt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and led in the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Karen Findora, City Clerk, called the roll and confirmed a quorum.

Mayor Bruce Whatsitt	Present	Alderman Forest Palmer	Present
Alderwoman Karla Polson	Present	Alderwoman Mickey Starr	Present
Alderman Mike Plachte	Present	Alderwoman Amy Finch	Present
Alderwoman Rachel Wrenn	Present		

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Shawna Davis, City Administrator - Absent	Troy Woutzke, Electric
Karen Findora, City Clerk	Darrin Lamb, Streets/Water-Absent
Cathy Thompson, Finance Director - Absent	Kenny Snider, Wastewater-Absent
Josh Thompson, Police Chief	Joe Lauber, Lauber Municipal Court

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Hannah Sparr, The Odessan	Andrew Lockhart
Abby Walker	Logan Walker

WELCOME OF VISITORS

Mayor Whatsitt welcomed visitors and those viewing on YouTube.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the consent agenda.

- June 8, 2026 – Regular Session
- Pay App #2 – KAT Excavation Inc, 2nd Street Historic Downtown Improvement
- Pay App #2 – KAT Excavation Inc, Mason Street Historic Downtown Improvement

Alderwoman Finch moved to remove KAT Excavation Inc., from the consent agenda, seconded by Alderman Palmer.

Motion carried 5-Aye, 0-No, 1-Abstain.

Alderwoman Finch moved to approve the June 8, 2026, meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by Alderman Plachte.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Alderwoman Finch moved to approve the two (2) Pay Apps for KAT Excavation, Inc., seconded by Alderwoman Starr.

Motion carried 5-Aye, 0-No, 1-Abstain.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Whitsitt stated that he toured the city's wells and discussed secondary water sources.

ALDERMEN REPORTS

- Alderman Plachte stated that the Planning Commission for June 18th was canceled.
- Alderwoman Wrenn – No Rpt.
- Alderwoman Polson – No Rpt.
- Alderman Palmer stated that the Finance Committee was canceled due to staff absence.
- Alderwoman Starr thanked everyone who worked the Odessa Chamber of Commerce Rodeo. She stated that she enjoyed working alongside city workers and volunteers from the community.
- Alderwoman Finch wished all Fathers a happy late Father's Day. She stated that the city's Facebook page is getting a lot of attention and is very informative for the community.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Absent

Shawna Davis, City Administrator, provided a brief update on city events.
(visit the [city website](#) to hear update.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Staff Recognition ~ 2025 Bob Kinder's Police Employee of the Year

On behalf of City Administrator Shawna Davis, Chief Josh Thompson, and Mayor Bruce Whitsitt, Officer (SRO) Andrew Lockhart was presented with the 2025 Bob Kinder's Police Employee of the Year award. Officer Lockhart leads the "CIT" Crisis Intervention Program and serves as a Peer Support Member and leads the DARE program.



Officer Andrew Lockhart

Staff Introduction ~ Officer Abigail Walker

Chief Thompson introduced Officer Abigail Walker. Ms. Walker joins the city from the University of Missouri Police Department. Ms. Walker is a graduate of Northwest Missouri State University. She did graduate from the Central Missouri Police Academy in Warrensburg. She started off in public safety as a 911 dispatcher. Ms. Walker is a type-2 breath-instrument maintenance operator. She is certified in "ARIDE" Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement, as well as CIT-certified. Ms. Walker is a phenomenal asset to the City of Odessa.



Welcome, Officer Abigail Walker!

Bill No. 2026-23 Introduction and 1st Reading ~ Appointment of Municipal Judge

Mayor Whatsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-23, of the proposed ordinance reappointing Carl E. Scarborough as Municipal Judge of the Odessa Municipal Division of the 15th Circuit Court of Lafayette County, first reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Plachte to adopt Bill No. 2026-23, upon its first reading, and proceed to the second reading. Motion seconded by Alderwoman Starr, and carried with the following vote.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Bill No. 2026-23 Introduction and 2nd Reading ~ Appointment of Municipal Judge

Mayor Whatsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-23, reappointing Carl E. Scarborough as Municipal Judge of the Odessa Municipal Division of the 15th Circuit Court of Lafayette County, second reading.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Finch to adopt Bill No. 2026-23, of proposed ordinance reappointing Carl E. Scarborough as Municipal Judge of the Odessa Municipal Division of the 15th Circuit Court of Lafayette County, upon its second reading, and approve the bill as an ordinance. Motion seconded by Alderwoman Wrenn, and carried with the following vote.

Roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Plachte	yes	Alderwoman Wrenn	yes
Alderman Palmer	yes	Alderwoman Polson	yes
Alderwoman Starr	yes	Alderwoman Finch	yes

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Bill No. 2026-23 became **Ordinance No. 3187**

Bill No. 2026-25 Introduction and 1st Reading ~ Amend Code of Ordinances

Mayor Whatsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-25, of the proposed ordinance amending Ch. 2, Div. 3, City Administrator, Sec. 2-190. Duties and Powers, (G) Board of Aldermen Agenda of the Odessa Code of Ordinances, first reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Plachte to adopt Bill No. 2026-25, upon its first reading, and proceed to the second reading. Motion seconded by Alderwoman Wrenn, and carried with the following vote.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Discussion: Alderwoman Wrenn stated that she would prefer 48 hours instead of 24 hours. Joe Lauber, Lauber Municipal Law, LLC, stated that the interpretation of the proposed ordinance is that it would be 24 hours, which would be Sunday afternoon prior to a Monday meeting. The language in the Mo Sunshine Law says, “24 hours exclusive of weekends and holidays when City Hall facilities are closed.” The board can mimic that language or set a time frame of its choosing.

Bill No. 2026-25 Introduction and 2nd Reading ~ Amend Code of Ordinances

Mayor Whitsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-25, of the proposed ordinance amending Ch. 2, Div. 3, City Administrator, Sec. 2-190. Duties and Powers, (G) Board of Aldermen Agenda of the Odessa Code of Ordinances, second reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Palmer to adopt Bill No. 2026-25 as amended, of proposed ordinance amending Ch. 2, Div. 3, City Administrator, Sec. 2-190. Duties and Powers, (G) Board of Aldermen Agenda of the Odessa Code of Ordinances, upon its second reading, and approve the bill as an ordinance. Motion died for lack of second.

Mr. Lauber stated that the board can approve this ordinance, and then staff can bring the board another ordinance that would change all the other sections in the Odessa Code of Ordinances. Mr. Lauber would recommend cross-referencing those notice requirements with the one being fixed this evening, so this is the only ordinance the board has to change in the future. The Rules of Meeting Procedures can also be changed under the proposed new ordinance. Mr. Lauber stated that there is a rule of equal dignities, which allows a resolution to be changed in an ordinance. You can amend a resolution with an ordinance, but you can't amend an ordinance with a resolution.

Motion was made by Alderman Palmer to amend the ordinance to allow for 48 hours exclusive of weekends and holidays when City Hall facilities are closed, seconded by Alderwoman Wrenn.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Motion was made by Alderman Palmer to adopt Bill No. 2026-25 as amended, of proposed ordinance amending Ch. 2, Div. 3, City Administrator, Sec. 2-190. Duties and Powers, (G) Board of Aldermen Agenda of the Odessa Code of Ordinances, upon its first reading, seconded by Alderwoman Wrenn, and carried with the following vote.

Motion was made by Alderman Palmer to adopt Bill No. 2026-25 as amended, of proposed ordinance amending Ch. 2, Div. 3, City Administrator, Sec. 2-190. Duties and Powers, (G) Board of Aldermen Agenda of the Odessa Code of Ordinances, upon its second reading, and approve the bill as an ordinance, seconded by Alderwoman Wrenn, and carried with the following vote.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Plachte	yes	Alderwoman Wrenn	yes
Alderman Palmer	yes	Alderwoman Polson	yes
Alderwoman Starr	yes	Alderwoman Finch	yes

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Bill No. 2026-25 became **Ordinance No. 3189**

Discussion ~ Electric Rate Proposals

Alderwoman Starr moved to continue the Electric Rate Proposals until the City Administrator and Finance Director can be present to answer questions, seconded by Alderwoman Finch.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Aldermen ~ Request for New Items

Alderwoman Starr stated that she would like to see the recent salary study. She stated that the 90 days have expired and the board hasn't seen the study. Mayor Whitsitt stated that the City Administrator and Finance Director have had several meetings with the consultants to explore alternatives and assess what we can and can't do. He stated that they may not be in a position to present to the board just yet. Alderman Palmer requested an update.

Alderwoman Starr moved to discuss the recent salary study, seconded by Alderwoman Wrenn.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Alderwoman Polson stated that she would like to discuss downtown parking and what that will look like once the sidewalk project is completed.

Alderwoman Polson moved to discuss downtown parking, seconded by Alderwoman Finch.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Alderwoman Finch requested that staff bring back the ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Div. 3, Sec. 2-190, G, Board of Aldermen Agenda, seconded by Alderman Palmer.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting:

Monday, July 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. Regular Session

Adjourn to Closed Session ~ Pursuant to RSMO 610.021 (1) & Pursuant to RSMO 610.021 (12) Sealed bids and related documents, until bids are open; and sealed proposals and related documents or any documents related to a negotiated contract until a contract is executed, or all proposals are rejected.

Alderwoman Finch made a motion to adjourn to closed session at 6:40 p.m., Pursuant to RSMO 610-021 (1) Legal actions and Pursuant to RSMO 610.021 (12) Sealed bids and related documents, until bids are open; and sealed proposals and related documents or any documents related to a negotiated contract until a contract is executed, or all proposals are rejected, seconded by Alderman Plachte.

Roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Plachte	yes	Alderwoman Wrenn	yes
Alderman Palmer	yes	Alderwoman Polson	yes
Alderwoman Starr	yes	Alderwoman Finch	yes

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Motion to Resume to Open Session

Alderwoman Finch made a motion to resume the open session at 7:26 p.m., seconded by Alderwoman Starr.

Roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Plachte	yes	Alderwoman Wrenn	yes
Alderman Palmer	yes	Alderwoman Polson	yes
Alderwoman Starr	yes	Alderwoman Finch	yes

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Action Items for Closed Session

Bill No. 2026-24 Introduction and 1st Reading ~ Repeal Ord. 3174 ECA Credits

Mayor Whitsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-24, of the proposed ordinance repealing Ordinance No 3174 and establishing revised procedures for energy cost adjustment (ECA) credits, first reading.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Finch to adopt Bill No. 2026-24, upon its first reading, and proceed to the second reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Plachte, and carried with the following vote.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Bill No. 2026-24 Introduction and 2nd Reading ~ Repeal Ord. 3174 ECA Credits

Mayor Whitsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-24, of the proposed ordinance repealing Ordinance No 3174 and establishing revised procedures for energy cost adjustment (ECA) credits, second reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Palmer to adopt Bill No. 2026-24, of proposed ordinance of the proposed ordinance repealing Ordinance No 3174 and establishing revised procedures for energy cost adjustment (ECA) credits, upon its second reading, and approve the bill as an ordinance. Motion seconded by Alderwoman Finch, and carried with the following vote.

Roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Plachte	yes	Alderwoman Wrenn	yes
Alderman Palmer	yes	Alderwoman Polson	yes
Alderwoman Starr	yes	Alderwoman Finch	yes

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Bill No. 2026-24 became **Ordinance No. 3188**

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board of Aldermen, a motion was made by Alderman Palmer, seconded by Alderwoman Polson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Motion carried 6- Aye, 0-No.

*The foregoing minutes are a summary of the proceedings of the meeting. For a complete verbatim record, including audio/video recording, please refer to the official meeting recording available on the City's website.
<https://www.cityofodessamo.com/>*

Approved:

July 13, 2026

CITY OF ODESSA

Bruce Whitsitt, Mayor

ATTEST

Karen Findora
Karen Findora, City Clerk