

City of Odessa, Missouri
Board of Aldermen
Odessa Community Building | 601 W. Main Street
Regular Meeting ~ Monday, July 13, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

[@OdessaMO](#)

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Shawna Davis, City Administrator
Karen Findora, City Clerk
Cathy Thompson, Finance Director
Josh Thompson, Police Chief

Troy Woutzke, Electric
Darrin Lamb, Streets/Water-Absent
Kenny Snider, Wastewater
Jeff Deane, Lauber Municipal Court

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Hannah Sparr, The Odessan
Bruce Peerson

Tina Peerson

WELCOME OF VISITORS

Mayor Whitsitt welcomed visitors and those viewing on YouTube.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the consent agenda.

- June 22, 2026 – Regular Session
- Pay App #2 – KAT Excavation Inc., Street Maintenance Bldg.
- Pay App #3 Revised – KAT Excavation Inc., 2nd Street Downtown Street Improvement
- Pay App #3 Revised – KAT Excavation Inc., Mason Street Downtown Street Improvement

Alderdwoman Finch moved to approve the June 22, 2026 meeting minutes as submitted along with the three (3) pay apps., seconded by Alderdwoman Polson.

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

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Whitsitt attended a Mayors Zoom meeting with several mayors throughout the state to discuss the effects of the upcoming Amendment Five (5) vote. He suggested that people take the time to review the amendment and educate themselves before voting.

He stated that he attended the ribbon cutting for the Taste of Punjab – Cuisine of India Restaurant. He stated that he is excited about the new businesses opening and the opportunities that business owners are pursuing to expand their businesses in Odessa. He stated that there may be some issues and problems but this shows confidence in Odessa, that we're going to get it right. Changes will be made to solve the problems so that our community can move forward.

Mayor Whitsitt stated that he thoroughly enjoyed the 250th celebration and rode in the 250th Semiquincentennial parade. He went on to say that Odessa had a great fireworks display.

Mayor Whitsitt stated that he recently served on jury duty and that, if given the opportunity, everyone should do so.

ALDERMEN REPORTS

- Alderman Plachte thanked the Odessa Police and Fire Dept. for keeping the residents safe during the 4th of July holiday.
- Alderwoman Wrenn attended the 250th Semiquincentennial celebration at the 1912 field and watched Mayor Whitsitt in the parade. She shared good news, noting that her son recently got married. Congratulations!!
- Alderwoman Polson, kudos to everyone who put on the 250th Semiquincentennial.
- Alderman Palmer stated that it's nice to see the Veteran banners up. He also said he was part of a funeral procession and he loved that the people of Odessa still take the time to pull over to show their respect, which really impacted him.
- Alderwoman Starr thanked the city and those who hung the banners. She stated that it turned out to be a great day.
- Alderwoman Finch stated that she, too, enjoyed the festivities at the 250th Semiquincentennial celebration. She said she loved seeing the community come together to celebrate. Alderwoman Finch rode in the "DAR" (Daughters of the American Revolution) float. She stated she hopes to see more activities and events like that in the future.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Absent

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tina Peerson, owner of Broken Dollar Saloon, 702 W Main Street, Odessa, Mo., requested to speak regarding a Special Event Permit she submitted to City Hall on Thursday, July 9th. Ms. Peerson requested a "beer tent" in front of Broken Dollar Saloon for the annual Puddle Jumper Days event. She stated that since the VFW is not having its beer garden, she would like to have a beer tent. She stated that it would be 30-40 ft. long and 10-12 ft. wide, with 8 ft. tables, with 8 chairs at each table. Ms. Peerson stated

that it would be open from 11 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., reopen at 4:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. She also informed the board that there will be a doorman who will check IDs, and no one under the age of 21 will be allowed in that area. This item will be presented to the board at the July 27th board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation ~ Blue Shield

Leland Liese, Captain/Assistant Chief of Police, presented the 2027 Missouri Blue Shield Program. The police department's records management software is at the end of its life. The department has been vetting other records management software to replace the old software. This software will handle multiple records management tasks. The City of Odessa will work with Concordia, Lexington, and Higginsville; all were designated Mo Blue Shield cities, and will combine grant funds received to obtain the software. Each city will receive \$29,000, and a couple of weeks ago 911 voted to pay for their portion of the CAD software, which is considered the brains of the system. Currently, the Odessa Police Dept. has documents in several file locations, and this will provide the opportunity to keep everything housed in one software system. There are funds in the CIP to help pay for the software, but those funds can be used for the hardware, such as printers for cars, connections, etc. It won't use up all the funds from the CIP to purchase the hardware.

Mayor Whatsitt asked if the Fire Dept would benefit from the software. Captain Liese stated that they would greatly benefit. He stated that after the combined grants are depleted, each entity would be responsible for its own subscription fees. It's based on per-officer pricing, which is already budgeted for.

Motion of Approval ~ MOU for 2026-2027 School Resource Officer

Chief Thompson requested approval for the 2026- 2027 four (four) School Resource Officers ("SRO") Memoranda of Understanding ("MOUs") with the Odessa, Missouri, R-VII School.

Motion was made by Alderman Plachte to approve the MOU for 2026-2027 School Resource Officers with the Odessa, Missouri, R-VII School District, seconded by Alderman Palmer.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No

Motion of Approval ~ RFP 06-26 Mechanically Cleaned Bar Screen

Mayor Whatsitt asked for a motion of approval for the RFP 06-26, accepting Letts, Van Kirk & Associates and Duperon Corporation as the lowest and best bid for a mechanically cleaned bar screen to be paid for by Wastewater Fund Reserves.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Finch to approve RFP 06-26, accepting Letts, Van Kirk & Associates and Duperon Corporation as the lowest and best bid for a mechanically cleaned bar screen to be paid for by Wastewater Fund Reserves, seconded by Alderman Plachte.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No

Bill No. 2026-26 Introduction and 1st Reading ~ Amend Code of Ordinances

Mayor Whatsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-26, of the proposed ordinance amending Ch. 2, Div. 2, Sec. 2-63(b)(4) and Article III, Div. 3 Sec. 2-190(g), and providing a cross-reference to the Board of Aldermen Rules and Meeting Procedures adopted by Resolution No. 2025-16, to clarify 48 hours' notice of tentative agenda exclusion of weekends and holidays, first reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Plachte to adopt Bill No. 2026-26, upon its first reading, and proceed to the second reading. Motion seconded by Alderwoman Finch, and carried with the following vote.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Bill No. 2026-26 Introduction and 2nd Reading ~ Amend Code of Ordinances

Mayor Whatsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-26, amending Ch. 2, Div. 2, Sec. 2-63(b)(4) and Article III, Div. 3 Sec. 2-190(g), and providing a cross-reference to the Board of Aldermen Rules and Meeting Procedures adopted by Resolution No. 2025-16, to clarify 48 hours' notice of tentative agenda exclusion of weekends and holidays, second reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Palmer to adopt Bill No. 2026-26, of proposed ordinance amending Ch. 2, Div. 2, Sec. 2-63(b)(4) and Article III, Div. 3 Sec. 2-190(g), and providing a cross-reference to the Board of Aldermen Rules and Meeting Procedures adopted by Resolution No. 2025-16, to clarify 48 hours' notice of tentative agenda exclusion of weekends and holidays, upon its second reading, and approve the bill as an ordinance. Motion seconded by Alderwoman Polson, 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. 2026-26 became **Ordinance No. 3190**

Resolution No. 2026-22 ~ CPKC 9th St. Waterline Upsize

Mayor Whatsitt read the proposed Resolution No. 2026-22 authorizing the Mayor to execute a pipeline crossing contract with the Kansas City Southern Railway Company D/B/A/ CPKC, for the 9th Street waterline upsize project.

Shawna Davis, City Administrator, stated that CPKC told the city the old right-of-way agreement would not work because the city wants to upsize the line. The old agreement was for a specific line size, and the city wants to upsize that line. The city had to start over, which brought a \$10 million insurance threshold. KAT informed the city that this was a significantly large change order, which made it very difficult for them to obtain. Lindsey

Kolisch of Lauber Municipal Law revised the insurance language in the agreement so CPKC would be comfortable signing. The city will have to have the insurance for the length of the agreement. Ms. Davis stated that there will still be a change order from KAT, but not for \$10 million. The agreement requires a pollution policy. Staff is waiting to hear back from CPKC on whether that is the city's responsibility or the contractors. If it applies to the city, that would be an additional policy the city would have to obtain.

Once everything is completed on that side of things, the city will need to coordinate with the contractor and subcontractor, Triple-C. The problem is that Triple-C has already planned their season for the year, and the city is not on their list. The city will need to schedule time with them to make the connection under the railroad and to make the individual service line connections to the new water line. The city will also need to coordinate with the railroad for flaggers and inspectors. Those will be railroad employees. We anticipate this to be a 2–3-day workload. Final testing and disinfection will be conducted, followed by finish grading and seeding. Ms. Davis stated that the change order will be heard at the July 27th board meeting.

Motion was made by Alderman Palmer to approve Resolution No. 2026-22 authorizing the Mayor to execute a pipeline crossing contract with the Kansas City Southern Railway Company D/B/A/ CPKC, for the 9th Street waterline upsize project, seconded by Alderwoman Starr.

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

Resolution No. 2026-23 ~ Revised Professional Svc. Agreement Allstate Consultants, LLC

Mayor Whitsitt read the proposed Resolution No. 2026-23 repealing Resolution No. 2026-20 and approving a revised professional service agreement with Allstate Consultants, LLC for the wastewater facility planning study.

Motion was made by Alderman Plachte, to approve Resolution No. 2026-23 repealing Resolution No. 2026-20 and approving a revised professional service agreement with Allstate Consultants, LLC for the wastewater facility planning study, seconded by Alderman Palmer.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No

Discussion ~ Electric Rate Proposals

Shawna Davis, City Administrator, and David Brown, Allgeier Martin, discussed the electric rate proposals. There are two proposals, the Block Rate and the Flat Rate. Block Rate is based on usage and falls into different kinds of rate points, where the Flat Rate is just a flat rate. They both have the PPA structure. The board's consensus was to go with the Block Rate. Ms. Davis stated that an ordinance will be presented to the board at the July 27th agenda meeting. (*more information can be found by visiting the city website*)

Discussion ~ Police Liaison

Shawna Davis, City Administrator, stated that the city would like to propose a police liaison to the board. It would be one member of the Board of Aldermen who could work closely with the chief of police to better understand their operations, policies, and initiatives, and the direction they are going.

Discussion ~ Downtown Parking

Shawna Davis, City Administrator, discussed the size and angle of the Downtown parking. There was also a discussion on where there is other available parking for the larger vehicles, and how enforcement may need to take place if people park on the sidewalk area.

Aldermen ~ Request for New Items

None.

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting:

Monday, July 27, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. Regular Session

Adjourn to Closed Session

Pursuant to RSMO 610.021 (1) Legal actions, causes of action, litigation, or confidential attorney/client communication. Pursuant to RSMO 610.021 (3) Personnel & **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.**

Alderman Plachte made a motion to adjourn to closed session at 7:53 p.m., **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 Alderwoman Polson.

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.

Motion to Resume to Open Session

Alderwoman Starr made a motion to resume to open session at 8:01 p.m., seconded by Alderwoman Finch.

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.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board of Aldermen, a motion was made by Alderman Plachte, seconded by Alderman Palmer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 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 27, 2026

CITY OF ODESSA

Bruce Whitsitt
Bruce Whitsitt, Mayor

ATTEST

Karen Findora
Karen Findora, City Clerk