

City of Odessa, Missouri
Board of Aldermen
Odessa Community Building | 601 W. Main Street
Regular Meeting ~ Monday, July 27, 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
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	Troy Woutzke, Electric
Karen Findora, City Clerk	Darrin Lamb, Streets/Water
Cathy Thompson, Finance Director	Kenny Snider, Wastewater
Josh Thompson, Police Chief	Jeff Deane, Lauber Municipal Law

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Hannah Sparr, The Odessan	Jeff LeBlanc
Bruce & Tina Peerson	

WELCOME OF VISITORS

Mayor Whatsitt welcomed visitors and those viewing on YouTube.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the consent agenda.

- July 13, 2026 – Regular Session
- Finance May & June Rpt.

Alderdwoman Polson moved to approve the July 13, 2026 meeting minutes as submitted along with the May and June Finance report, seconded by Alderdwoman Starr.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Whatsitt reminded everyone to get out and vote in the August 4th Primary Election. He went on to announce that the City of Odessa has several vacant Board and Commission seats open and that anyone interested should visit the city's website to fill out an application. Mayor Whatsitt stated that he recently saw a post on Facebook asking

what people loved about Odessa. He stated that he enjoys living in Odessa and loves the history that goes along with the City of Odessa.

ALDERMEN REPORTS

- Alderman Plachte stated that the Planning Commission met last week. The Commission recommended approval for the replat. He went on to thank the electric department for all their hard work repairing the electric lines in the stifling heat.
- Alderwoman Wrenn thanked city staff for the board's recent orientation. She stated that she learned a lot from each department.
- Alderwoman Polson – No Rpt.
- Alderman Palmer – No Rpt.
- Alderwoman Starr thanked the city for opening the Community Building to address the excessive heat, providing people with a place to go during the heat.
- Alderwoman Finch thanked the electric department for their hard work repairing the electric lines. She stated that she's happy to see how our local staff maintain the local utility and how quickly they arrived on scene and got straight to work on repairs, even during the heat. The Police Dept. quickly blocked off the street, and everything was handled quickly and effectively.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

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

Special Event Application ~ Puddle Jumper Days Street Closure

Jeff LeBlanc, Puddle Jumpers Committee, requested street closure for the annual Puddle Jumper Days event. Date: Monday, August 10, 2026 – Sunday, August 16, 2026. Attached to the agenda was a written explanation and map of the site.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Starr to approve the Puddle Jumper Days Street Closure and to include Railroad Park, seconded by Alderman Plachte.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No

Special Event Application ~ Broken Dollar Beer Garden

Tina Peerson, Owner of Broken Dollar requested a beer garden to be placed in front of her business during the annual Puddle Jumper Days event. Date: Thur., August 13 – 15, 2026, 9:00 AM – 12:00 AM (Setup & Tear Down, not serving times) Request: Broken Dollar Saloon Beer Garden to run in front of the Broken Dollar Saloon, Thur. August 13 through Sat. Aug. 15, 2026. The space will be equivalent of 3-4 orange fenced-in spots allocated by the Puddle Jumpers Committee.

Tina Peerson stated that they would install a 5 ½ ft. fence around the perimeter. There will be someone checking ideas and someone watching the perimeter of the area during the event.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Starr to approve the Broken Dollar Beer Garden for the annual Puddle Jumper Days event with the following date and times:

Thursday, August 13, 2026: 5:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Friday, August 14, 2026: 4:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 15, 2026: 4:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

Seconded by Alderwoman Wrenn.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No

Motion of Approval ~ IBTS Contract & Part-time Inspector

Motion for approval to terminate the existing agreement with IBTS and to hire a part-time Building Inspector to perform building inspections, plan review, and related code enforcement services.

Discussion: 90 days' notice is required before the contract can be terminated. Staff will need to use IBTS for a while even after a part-time Building Inspector is hired. There are significant savings in hiring a Building Inspector. This would be a 30-hour position. The IBTS contract is up May 1, 2027. Staff can give 90 days' notice at any time. Jeff Deane, Lauber Municipal Law, stated that, given what the City Administrator has relayed, the city probably has grounds for a for-cause termination, which would trigger a 30-day cure period. Each party would probably prefer an amicable separation. The position would need to be certified ICC or obtain this certification within the proper time frame.

Motion was made by Alderman Plachte to approve the termination of the IBTS contract and to hire a part-time Building Inspector, seconded by Alderman Palmer.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No

Bill No. 2026-27 Introduction and 1st Reading ~ Replat of Barnett Subdivision

Mayor Whitsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-27, of the proposed ordinance approving the Replat of Barnett Subdivision Lots 6 and 7 into Lots 6A and 7A of Barnett Subdivision located within the City of Odessa, Lafayette County, Missouri, first reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Plachte to adopt Bill No. 2026-27, upon its first reading, and proceed to the second reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Palmer, and carried with the following vote.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Bill No. 2026-27 Introduction and 2nd Reading ~ Replat of Barnett Subdivision

Mayor Whitsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-27, of the proposed ordinance approving the Replat of Barnett Subdivision Lots 6 and 7 into Lots 6A and 7A of Barnett Subdivision located within the City of Odessa, Lafayette County, Missouri, second reading.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Finch to adopt Bill No. 2026-27, of the proposed ordinance approving the Replat of Barnett Subdivision Lots 6 and 7 into Lots 6A and 7A of Barnett Subdivision located within the City of Odessa, Lafayette County, Missouri, second reading, and approve the bill as an ordinance. Motion seconded by Alderman Palmer, 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. 2026-27 became **Ordinance No. 3191**

Bill No. 2026-28 Introduction and 1st Reading ~ Revised Electric Rates

Mayor Whitsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-28, amending Chapter 48 of the City Code regarding Commercial Services and Rate Adjustments, first reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Plachte to adopt Bill No. 2026-28, 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.

Discussion: Alderwoman Finch stated that the proposal reflects the numerous conversations the board has had and that the consensus from the last meeting is good with how it's presented. Alderman Palmer stated that he agreed.

Bill No. 2026-28 Introduction and 2nd Reading ~ Revised Electric Rates

Mayor Whitsitt read the proposed Ordinance, Bill No. 2026-28, amending Chapter 48 of the City Code regarding Commercial Services and Rate Adjustments, second reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Palmer to adopt Bill No. 2026-28, amending Chapter 48 of the City Code regarding Commercial Services and Rate Adjustments, second reading, and approve the bill as an ordinance. Motion seconded by Alderwoman Starr, 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. 2026-28 became **Ordinance No. 3192**

Resolution No. 2026-24 ~ Revised Fee Schedule

Mayor Whitsitt read the proposed Resolution No. 2026-24 approving and adopting a revision to the City of Odessa Fee Schedule.

Motion was made by Alderman Finch approving and adopting a revision to the City of Odessa Fee Schedule, seconded by Alderman Starr.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Aldermen ~ Request for New Items

None.

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting:

Monday, August 10, 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.

Alderwoman Finch made a motion to adjourn to closed session at 6:59 p.m., **Pursuant to RSMO 610.021 (1) Legal actions, causes of action, litigation, or confidential attorney/client communication 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 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

Alderman Plachte made a motion to resume to open session at 8:00 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 Alderwoman Starr, seconded by Alderman Plachte, to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 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:

August 10, 2026

CITY OF ODESSA

Bruce Whitsitt, Mayor

ATTEST

Karen Findora
Karen Findora, City Clerk