City of Odessa, Missouri
Board of Aldermen
Odessa Community Building | 601 W. Main Street
Regular Meeting ~ Monday, October 12, 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
Alderwoman Karla Polson	Present	Alderwoman Mickey Starr	Present
Alderman Mike Plachte	Present	Alderwoman Amy Finch	Present
Alderwoman Rachel Wrenn	Absent		

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Shawna Camp, City Administrator
Karen Findora, City Clerk
Cathy Thompson, Finance Director
Josh Thompson, Police Chief
Troy Woutzke, Electric
Darrin Lamb, Streets/Water
Kenny Snider, Wastewater
Jeff Deane, Lauber Municipal Law

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Hannah Sparr, The Odessan
Ravi K. Bhaskar, OPTERRA
Kandis Bass
Jennifer Geen, OPTERRA
Wayne Bass

WELCOME OF VISITORS

Mayor Whitsitt welcomed visitors and those viewing on YouTube.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the consent agenda.

- September 28, 2026 – Regular Session

Municipal Court Sept. Rpt.
Community Development Sept. Rpt.
Pay Application #5 - Street Maintenance Building
Pay Application #6 – 2nd Street Sidewalks
Pay Application #6 – Mason Street Sidewalks
Change Order #2 – Waterline & Wastewater Collection System Improvement Project (ARPA)

DRAFT

Alderwoman Finch moved to approve the September 28, 2026 meeting minutes as submitted along with the Consent Agenda, seconded by Alderwoman Starr.
Motion carried 4-Aye, 0-No, 1-Abstain.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Whitsitt stated that the Marching Band Invitational was a success even throughout the sidewalk construction. Kat Construction is well on their way to completing the sidewalk project.

ALDERMEN REPORTS

- Alderman Plachte – No Rpt.
- Alderwoman Wrenn – Absent
- Alderwoman Polson – No Rpt.
- Alderman Palmer invited the public to the Ward 3 meeting that will be held on Wednesday, October 14th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Odessa Community Bldg.
- Alderwoman Starr – No Rpt.
- Alderwoman Finch - No Rpt.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Shawna Camp, City Administrator, provided a brief update on city events.
(visit the city website to hear update.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Wayne Bass, 305 E Dryden Street, Ward 1
Mr. Bass stated that he owns a home at 210 S Connor. He stated that he would like to demolish the home. He stated that he was informed that city code prohibits demolishing the home if a garage is on the property. Mr. Bass stated that the home is structurally unsound.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation ~ OPTERRA Energy Services

Jennifer Geen and Ravi K. Bhaskar of OPTERRA Energy Services presented on OPTERRA Energy Services. OPTERRA explores opportunities to improve municipal facilities and utility operations, identify priority projects, plan for future needs, and explore funding options while maintaining financial flexibility.

Resolution No. 2026-34 ~ OPTERRA No-Cost Assessment

Mayor Whitsitt read the proposed Resolution No. 2026-34 authorizing the Mayor to approve a No-Cost Assessment and Project Development Services with OPTERRA Energy Services and the City of Odessa, Missouri.

Motion was made by Alderman Platche to approve Resolution No. 2026-34, authorizing the Mayor to approve a No-Cost Assessment and Project Development Services with

OPTERRA Energy Services and the City of Odessa, Missouri, seconded by Alderman Palmer.

Motion carried 5-Aye, 0-No.

Finance Committee Appointment

Mayor Whitsitt recommends the appointment of Alderwoman Mickey Starr, Ward 1, (one) to fill the vacancy on the Finance Committee created by the resignation of Alderwoman Karla Polson. The appointment shall be effective immediately upon approval and shall expire at the end of the current Finance Committee appointment term.

Mayor Whitsitt thanked Alderwoman Polson for her services on the Finance Committee.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Finch to approve the appointment of Alderwoman Starr, Ward 1 (one), to fill the vacancy on the Finance Committee created by the resignation of Alderwoman Polson, seconded by Alderman Plachte.

Motion carried 5-Aye, 0-No.

Discussion ~ Compensation Study

Shawna Camp, City Administrator, and Cathy Thompson, Finance Director, presented the compensation study report and a proposal to adopt the Paypoint base salary schedule using the 50th percentile as the City's compensation target. The Board engaged in extensive discussion regarding the proposal and directed staff to review employee turnover by department for further consideration.

Discussion ~ Board Meeting Policy Review – Meeting Procedures

Mayor Whitsitt requested discussion regarding the section outlining the process for Board members to submit items for inclusion on the agenda and whether the process should be revised. A majority of the Board expressed satisfaction with the current process. It was noted that if a Board member wished to remove an item from the agenda or postpone consideration, the matter would be handled through the normal meeting procedures, including a vote by the Board as appropriate.

Aldermen ~ Request for New Items

None

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting:

Monday, October 26, 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 (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 8:04 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 Starr.
Motion carried 5-Aye, 0-No.

Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried 5-Aye, 0-No.

Motion to Resume to Open Session

Alderwoman Starr made a motion to resume to open session at 8:26 p.m., seconded by Alderman Plachte.
Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried 5-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 8:28 p.m.
Motion carried 5- 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:
October 26, 2026

CITY OF ODESSA

Bruce Whitsitt, Mayor

ATTEST

Karen Findora, City Clerk