

City of Odessa, Missouri
Board of Aldermen
Odessa Community Building | 601 W. Main Street
Regular Meeting ~ Monday, November 24, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

[@OdessaMO](https://twitter.com/OdessaMO)

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Shawna Davis, City Administrator, called the roll and confirmed a quorum.

Mayor Bryan Barner	Present	Alderman Bruce Whitsitt	Present
Alderwoman Karla Polson	Present	Alderwoman Donna Ehlert	Present
Alderman Mike Plachte	Present	Alderwoman Mickey Starr	Present
Alderman Collin Carrigan	Present		

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Shawna Davis, City Administrator
Karen Findora, City Clerk
Cathy Thompson, Finance Director
Josh Thompson, Police Chief
Jeff Deane, Lauber Municipal Law

Troy Woutzke, Electric
Darrin Lamb, Streets/Water – Absent
Kenny Snider, Wastewater - Absent

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Hannah Sparr, The Odessan
State Rep. Terry Thompson

Forest Palmer

WELCOME OF VISITORS

Mayor Barner welcomed visitors and those viewing on YouTube.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of minutes and consent agenda.

- November 10, 2025 – Regular Session

Alderwoman Ehlert provided a brief update from the Finance Committee. She mentioned the need to purchase a scraper/trash screen for the wastewater department, costing approximately \$100,000. Cathy Thompson, Finance Director, explained that the city could release funds from the 2005 wastewater bond reserves to pay off the remaining debt owed (\$56,000) on the bond, this coupled with debt reserves from the 2004 bond (which was recently completed) would leave a \$10,000 gap, for the purchase of the scraper, which could be covered by system repair and maintenance funds. The board agreed to proceed with the release of debt reserve funds and to bring the purchase back to the board for purchase approval.

Alderwoman Ehlert, moved to approve the consent agenda and the November 10, 2025, meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by Alderman Whitsitt. Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Barner attended the Veteran's Day Brunch hosted by Odessa High School and thanked all those involved in organizing such an important event. He also attended the 15-Year Celebration for Lauber Municipal Law Firm, the ribbon cutting for Odessa Healthcare, and the Thanksgiving Chamber of Commerce Luncheon. The Downtown Christmas Lighting was another special community event, and Mayor Barner expressed his appreciation to everyone who helped make it possible.

Mayor Barner announced that December 9th is the first day to file for the 2026 General Municipal Election. Seats will be open for all three wards as well as the office of Mayor.

Mayor Barner also expressed his appreciation to outgoing Alderwoman Ehlert. She has dedicated significant time and energy to making Odessa a better place to live and work. Her contributions include involvement with the Rotary Club, Rocky Roots Trail, Garden Club, Downtown Merchants, and organizing the 5K during Puddle Jumpers. The City of Odessa wishes Alderwoman Ehlert the very best in her future endeavors.



ALDERMEN REPORTS

- Alderman Plachte provided a brief update on the recent Planning Commission meeting, stating that a Lot Split for 301 E Main was approved.
- Alderman Carrigan thanked everyone who is involved in all the holiday events in the city.
- Alderwoman Polson thanked everyone who had a part in the wayfinding signs. They look great and are a nice touch for our community.
- Alderwoman Ehlert stated that it's bittersweet to leave, but she mentioned that it's been a pleasure to work with every one of the board members. She also said that she will sincerely miss Shawna Davis, City Administrator.
- Alderwoman Starr thanked everyone for the Christmas Lights and all the work that goes into a successful event.

- Alderman Whitsitt wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Alderman Whitsitt stated that he recently met with Ty Wells and Terrica Jones regarding the Mobile Food Vendor ordinance. He mentioned that a letter he prepared will be included in the Monday, December 8th, agenda packet.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

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

PUBLIC HEARING

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation ~ Missouri State Representative Terry Thompson

State Representative Terry Thompson provided a brief update on the recent legislative issues.

Motion of Approval ~ Acting President of the Board of Aldermen

Mayor Barner requested a motion for the nomination of Acting President of the Board of Aldermen to fill Alderwoman Ehlert's term.

Alderman Carrigan nominated Alderman Whitsitt, seconded by Alderwoman Starr.
Alderman Whitsitt nominated Alderman Plachte.

All in favor of Alderman Whitsitt 3-Aye, 3-No

All in favor of Alderman Plachte 3-Aye, 3-No

Tie Vote ~ Nominate Alderman Whitsitt as Acting President

3-Aye, 3-No, 1-Mayor (tie vote)

Motion of Approval ~ Finance Committee

Mayor Barner requested a motion for the nomination of the Finance Committee member to fill Alderwoman Ehlert's term.

Motion was made by Alderman Carrigan to nominate Alderman Plachte to the Finance Committee, seconded by Alderwoman Starr.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Motion of Approval ~ 1912 Bldg. Amendment for Police Station Lease

Mayor Barner requested a motion of approval to amend the police station lease with the 1912 Development Group, LLC, effective November 1, 2025.

Discussion: Josh Thompson, Police Chief, stated that there was an amendment to his board action report. He noted that the lease agreement does not begin until the lessee obtains a building permit. It does not start on November 1, 2025. Once the builder obtains a building permit, that begins year one of the three-year zero (0) dollar lease.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Ehlert to approve the 1912 Bldg—amendment for Police Station Lease, seconded by Alderman Carrigan.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Resolution No. 2025-34 ~ Electric Cost of Service and Rate Study

Mayor Barner read the proposed Resolution No. 2025-34 authorizing the expenditure of funds for the 2026 Electric Cost of Service and Rate Study between the City of Odessa Missouri, and Allgeier, Martin & Associates.

Discussion: Alderman Whitsitt asked if the rate study would include recommendations for lowering the rates. Shawna Davis, the City Administrator, explained that the city asked them to review our class structure. She added that, as a result of reviewing the cost of services study, they will look at the overall picture to determine if the city is overcharging significantly. The main goal of conducting the rate study is to better understand the class structures; they will connect these structures with the cost of services for each category. If the cost of services aligns with what our class is currently paying, then there's no need to lower the rate. The system analysis they will conduct will identify our weaker points within the system, how the city can improve it to be more efficient, and thus reduce the city's wholesale costs. Alderman Whitsitt expressed his disappointment with the time it takes to complete this process.

Motion was made by Alderman Plachte, to approve Resolution No. 2025-34 authorizing the expenditure of funds for the 2026 Electric Cost of Service and Rate Study, seconded by Alderman Carrigan.

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

Resolution No. 2025-32 ~ The Hill Developer's Agreement

Mayor Barner read the proposed Resolution No. 2025-32, authorizing the Mayor to sign a Developer's Agreement between the City of Odessa, Missouri, and Developers, Steve and Lisa Bailey, regarding "The Hill" development project.

Discussion: Nothing in the agreement has changed since the November 10th agenda. Shawna Davis, City Administrator, stated that the city has made significant efforts to negotiate with the Baileys. Alderman Carrigan questioned the road repair.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Ehlert to approve Resolution No. 2025-32 The Hill Developer's Agreement, seconded by Alderman Whitsitt.
Motion carried 4-Aye, 1-No, 1-Abstain.

Discussion ~ Strategic Plan ~ Police

Josh Thompson, Chief of Police, reviewed the Police in the newly adopted Strategic Plan. He discussed the measures of success and the action items.

- Action items the staff developed:
- Public Safety Sales tax took 4 years for State of Mo approval
- Standalone Animal Control Facility
- Police Data Records, records room, update software that is 20 years old.
- Police retention rates, Police Facility, Public Support and Option.

Aldermen ~ Request for New Items

Alderman Whitsitt requested that the Mobile Food Vendor summary be revisited on December 8th.

Mayor, "All in favor of placing the Mobile Food Vendor summary on the December 8th agenda."

Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting:

Monday, November 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Regular Session.

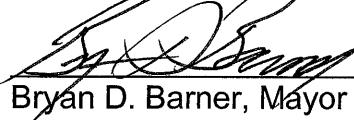
Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board of Aldermen, a motion was made by Alderwoman Ehlert, seconded by Alderman Carrigan, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Motion carried 6-Aye, 0-No.

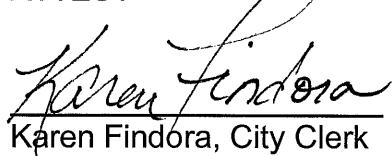
Approved:

December 8, 2025

CITY OF ODESSA


Bryan D. Barner, Mayor

ATTEST


Karen Findora, City Clerk