

City of Odessa, Missouri
Board of Aldermen
Odessa Community Building | 601 W. Main Street
Regular Meeting ~ Monday, July 14, 2025 | 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

[@OdessaMO](#)

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bryan Barner called the meeting to order at 7:00 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
Alderman Karla Polson	Present	Alderman Donna Ehlert	Present
Alderman Mike Plachte	Present	Alderman Mickey Starr	Present
Alderman Collin Carrigan	Present		

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Shawna Davis, City Administrator	Karen Findora, City Clerk
Cathy Thompson, Finance Director	Darrin Lamb, Streets/Water
Josh Thompson, Police Chief - Absent	Kenny Snider, Wastewater
Troy Woutzke, Electric	Nick Purifoy, Lauber Municipal Law
Derek Zarda, Police Sergeant	

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Hannah Sparr, The Odessan	Robert Carey
Erika & Bradley Falls	Ruth Beamer
Danette Iman	Amy Burnett
Darren & Misty Ellison	Terrica Jones
Dennis Klusmeyer, MPUA	

WELCOME OF VISITORS

Mayor Barner welcomed visitors and those viewing on YouTube.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of minutes and consent agenda.

- June 23, 2025 – Regular Session

Alderman Ehlert, moved to approve the June 23, 2025, meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by Alderman Starr.

Motion carried 6-0

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Barner will attend the Missouri Main Street Conference on July 23rd. At the same time, Shawna Davis, the City Administrator, will be delivering the State of the City Address to the Odessa Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, on July 31st, Mayor Barner will visit the nursing home to update residents on what is happening in the City of Odessa. He also announced that he will be conducting a podcast about Police School Resource Officers (SROs) during the month of July. The most recent podcast featured Laura Sanders, President of the Puddle Jumpers Committee.

ALDERMEN REPORTS

- Alderman Plachte thanked the Police and Fire Dept. for watching over the residents during the Independence Day holiday.
- Alderman Carrigan thanked everyone for the Annual Fireworks display and all the effort that went into organizing and conducting it.
- Alderwoman Polson echoed Alderman Carrigan's comments.
- Alderwoman Ehlerth expressed gratitude to the Police Department for their traffic control during the fireworks display. She also mentioned that she would like to reconsider the three-day fireworks shooting next year.
- Alderwoman Starr stated that she received complaints about the fireworks. Alderwoman Starr also stated that the flow of traffic after the fireworks display went very well.
- Alderman Whitsitt reported that he received an inquiry regarding the sanitation of the park's restrooms and whether there are plans for future improvements or upgrades. He also received a question about the city's response to a recent gas leak, specifically, if there were any notifications made besides those posted on Facebook. City Administrator Shawna Davis confirmed that the city used the Daupler software to inform the public. Additionally, Alderman Whitsitt was contacted about the exclusion of lawn watering and mentioned that he discussed the ECA charge with a downtown business owner. Following their meeting, it was determined that the business owner would pay \$0.16 (16 cents) per kilowatt for electricity that month. He also received feedback about the recycling bin frequently being full.

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

Bob Carey, resident, spoke on the Resolution No. 2025-16 "Board of Aldermen Meeting Procedures."

PRESENTATIONS

Dennis Klusmeyer, Sr. Member Advisor, MPUA, stated that there are only 252 utility systems in the nation that receive the reliability award, and only 15 in the state of Missouri.

Mr. Klusmeyer stated that Odessa Power and Light is one of the best of the best in the country. The staff that Odessa has in place is making a difference.

Mr. Klusmeyer presented Troy Woutzke, Electric Superintendent and Darren Ellison, Foreman with the Certificate of Excellence and Reliability Award, and congratulated the department from APA and MPUA for a job well done.



OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Bill No. 2025-14 Introduction and 1st Reading ~ “Planning Commission Liaison”

Mayor Barner read the proposed Ordinance amending Sec. 2-429(a) of the Odessa City Code of Ordinances authorizing the Mayor to annually appoint a non-voting Board of Aldermen liaison to the Planning and Zoning Commission, first reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Carrigan, to adopt Bill No. 2025-14 upon its first reading and proceed to second reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Plachte, and carried with the following vote.

Motion carried 6-0.

Bill No. 2025-14 Introduction and 2nd Reading ~ “Planning Commission Liaison”

Mayor Barner read the proposed Ordinance amending Sec. 2-429(a) of the Odessa City Code of Ordinances authorizing the Mayor to annually appoint a non-voting Board of Aldermen liaison to the Planning and Zoning Commission, second reading.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Ehlert, to adopt Bill No. 2025-14 upon its second reading and approve the bill as an ordinance. Motion seconded by Alderman Carrigan, and carried with the following vote.

Roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Plachte	yes	Alderwoman Ehlert	yes
Alderman Carey	yes	Alderwoman Polson	yes
Alderwoman Starr	yes	Alderman Carrigan	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

Bill No. 2025-14 became **Ordinance No. 3154**

Bill No. 2025-15 Introduction and 1st Reading ~ “Amend Code of Ord. – Regular Meetings” ~ TIME 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Barner read the proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article II, Division 2, Section 2-59. – Regular Meetings in the City of Odessa Code of Ordinances, first reading.

Motion was made by Alderman Plachte, to adopt Bill No. 2025-15 upon its first reading and proceed to second reading. Motion seconded by Alderwoman Starr, and carried with the following vote.

Motion carried 6-0.

Bill No. 2025-15 Introduction and 2nd Reading ~ “Amend Code of Ord. – Regular Meetings” ~ TIME 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Barner read the proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article II, Division 2, Section 2-59. – Regular Meetings in the City of Odessa Code of Ordinances, second reading.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Ehlert, to adopt Bill No. 2025-15 upon its second reading and approve the bill as an ordinance. Motion seconded by Alderman Plachte, and carried with the following vote.

Roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Plachte	yes	Alderwoman Ehlert	yes
Alderman Carey	yes	Alderwoman Polson	yes
Alderwoman Starr	yes	Alderman Carrigan	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

Bill No. 2025-15 became **Ordinance No. 3155**

Resolution No. 2025-16 ~ “Board of Aldermen Meeting Procedures”

Mayor Barner read the proposed Resolution No. 2025-16 adopting meeting procedures for the Board of Aldermen meetings.

Karen Findora, City Clerk, developed meeting procedures for the Board of Aldermen to ensure structure, transparency, and fairness in local government operations. Ms. Findora amended the previous draft based on feedback. Ms. Findora revised the text accordingly.

Nick Purifoy from Lauber Law stated that he serves as the litigation lawyer for the Lauber Law firm and is currently handling three cases across Missouri. He emphasized the importance of being mindful about what board members post on social media. As elected

officials, it's important to clarify whether communications are made in a personal or official capacity.

He suggested that many city officials, whether elected or appointed, should create a separate social media account specifically for their role as elected officials. This would allow them to engage with the public on city-related and political issues while maintaining clear boundaries.

Purifoy also highlighted the First Amendment implications associated with social media use. Elected officials cannot block users or delete comments that they disagree with, as doing so may violate someone's First Amendment rights. If officials act in their official capacity and blur the lines between personal and official communication, they could be personally liable for violations, which may have financial repercussions for them.

Mr. Purifoy emphasized that if board members decide to use their personal accounts to discuss or seek input on city matters, they should clearly indicate that they are sharing their personal opinions and not representing the board in an official capacity. He suggested using the abbreviation "IMO," which stands for "In My Opinion," to highlight this distinction.

Alderman Whitsitt expressed a desire for the staff to revise the document by including a section that allows the Board of Aldermen to add items to the agenda. He mentioned that if an Alderman wishes to add an item, it would require the agreement of two (2) Aldermen. They must notify Shawna at least five (5) days before the agenda is finalized to ensure the item is included.

The staff will consult with the City Attorney to ensure that the proposed changes comply with the legal requirements of the Sunshine Law, and they will add the appropriate section to the Rules and Procedures.

Motion was made by Alderman Carrigan, to postpone Resolution No. 2025-16 to the Monday, July 28, 2025 Board of Aldermen meeting, seconded by Alderman Plachte. Motion carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2025-17 ~ "Cummins Sales and Service"

Mayor Barner read the proposed Resolution No. 2025-17 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Cummins Sales and Service for a (3) three-year preventative maintenance contract covering inspections, service, and load testing of City-owned generators.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Ehlert, to approve Resolution No. 2025-17 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Cummins Sales and Service for a (3) three-year preventative maintenance contract covering inspections, service, and load testing of City-owned generators, seconded by Alderman Carrigan. Motion carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2025-18 ~ “SAM, LLC Professional Svc. Agreement”

Mayor Barner read the proposed Resolution No. 2025-18 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with SAM, LLC for professional GIS services for utility mapping and web-based GIS implementation.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Starr, to approve Resolution No. 2025-18 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with SAM, LLC for professional GIS services for utility mapping and web-based GIS implementation, seconded Alderwoman Ehlert.
Motion carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2025-19 ~ “Navigate Building Solutions”

Mayor Barner read the proposed Resolution No. 2025-19 authorizing the Mayor to execute task order number four (4) under the master agreement with Navigate Building Solutions for construction engineering bidding service related to the Historic Main Street Revitalization Project.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Ehlert, to approve Resolution No. 2025-19 authorizing the Mayor to execute task order number four (4) under the master agreement with Navigate Building Solutions for construction engineering bidding service related to the Historic Main Street Revitalization Project, seconded Alderman Plachte.
Motion carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2025-20 ~ “OWN, LLC”

Mayor Barner read the proposed Resolution No. 2025-20 approving supplemental contracts with OWN, LLC for rebidding services related to the Downtown Infrastructure Project, for 2nd and Mason Street.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Ehlert, to approve Resolution No. 2025-20 approving supplemental contracts with OWN, LLC for rebidding services related to the Downtown Infrastructure Project, for 2nd and Mason Street, seconded by Alderwoman Starr.
Motion carried 6-0.

Resolution No. 2025-21 ~ “MDNR Grant”

Mayor Barner read the proposed Resolution No. 2025-21 authorizing the Mayor to authorize the filing of an application for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Clean Water Engineering Report Grant on behalf of the City of Odessa and to execute the related documents.

Motion was made by Alderman Carrigan, to approve Resolution No. 2025-21 authorizing the Mayor to authorize the filing of an application for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Clean Water Engineering Report Grant on behalf of the City of Odessa and to execute the related documents, seconded by Alderwoman Starr.
Motion carried 6-0.

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting:

Monday, July 28, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. MPUA/Elec. Workshop, Odessa Trails Library
Monday, July 28, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Regular Session.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board of Aldermen, a motion was made by Alderwoman Ehler, seconded by Alderman Carrigan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Approved:

July 28, 2025

CITY OF ODESSA

Bryan D. Barner
Bryan D. Barner, Mayor

ATTEST

Karen Findora
Karen Findora, City Clerk