

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**WEST PLAINS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Thursday, November 16, 2023  
5:30 p.m. Regular Session

The West Plains City Council met in regular session on November 16, 2023, in the council chambers at City Hall, 1910 Holiday Lane, with the following members present: Mayor Mike Topliff, Mayor Pro-Tem Jessica Nease, Councilman John Niesen, Councilman Johnny Murrell and Councilman Greg Collins. City Administrator Sam Anselm, City Attorney Charles Cantrell and City Clerk Allison Skinner were also present.

**I. Preliminaries**

Mayor Topliff called the meeting to order and gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of minutes for the October 16, 2023, regular meeting
- b. Bid – Generator for City Hall renovations
- c. Bid – HVAC for City Hall renovations
- d. Bid – Server Room HVAC
- e. Bid – Lanton Road transmission line
- f. Surplus equipment
- g. Civic Center Board new member recommendation:
  - a. Judy Tuma to replace the unexpired term of Aaron Wheeler, term to expire September 2026
- h. Tourism board grant application recommendations:
  - a. Tourism board grant recommendations:
    - i. Wayward Son Bulls, Broncs & Bands, \$12,000
    - ii. Heart of the Ozarks Half Marathon, \$4,375
    - iii. OzCon, \$7,500
    - iv. Cystic Fibrosis Concert, \$5,000
    - v. Lincoln School Black History Month, \$2,000
    - vi. Zizzer Summer Shootout, \$10,000
  - b. Eclipse related events:
    - i. West Plains Downtown Revitalization, \$250
    - ii. Preferred Family Health, \$250
    - iii. Foster Adopt Connect, \$125
    - iv. Yellow House Community Arts Center, \$250
    - v. West Plains Senior Center, \$250
    - vi. Ozark Artery, Inc., \$250
    - vii. OzSBI, \$250

Councilwoman Jessica Nease made a motion to approve, but with the removal of two items from the Consent Agenda to Council Action to be discussed and voted on later in the meeting, section b. Eclipse related events v and vi. Councilman Murrell seconded, and the motion passed. Council members voted unanimously to approve all other consent agenda items.

**III. Recognition of Guests**

- a. West Plains firefighter Wayne Cormier and Missouri Fire Marshal Tim Bean – Fire

Academy updates and a brief history of the program were given, and a certificate of appreciation was presented to Mayor Topliff for the city's part in offering educational opportunities for area firefighters.

#### IV. Ordinances

- a. **Bill 4747 to become Ordinance 4747 - Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, to add the following section to the city code: Chapter 28, Offenses, Article III – Offenses Against Public Health and Safety, Section 28-84 Possession of Marijuana, Section 28-85 Public Consumption of Marijuana, Section 28-86 Consumption of Marijuana in a Motor Vehicle, and Section 28-87 Marijuana Accessories.  
Councilman Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Niesen. Motion carried.
- b. **Bill 4748 to become Ordinance 4748 - Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, to amend the City Code by deleting Division 3 of Article VI pertaining to an Electrical Board.  
Councilman Johnny Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Collins. Motion carried.
- c. **Bill 4749 to become Ordinance 4749 - Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, prohibiting parking on Howell Avenue from Olden Street south to Bratton Avenue, East Olden Street 325 feet West of Howell Avenue, Third Street 325 feet West of Howell Avenue, and East Olden Street from Howell Avenue to Davidson Street.  
Councilman Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Niesen. Motion carried.
- d. **Bill 4750 to become Ordinance 4750 – Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, to approve the City and Utility Budget beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024.  
Councilman Johnny Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Collins. Motion carried.
- e. **Bill 4751 to become Ordinance 4751 – Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, to approve the adoption of the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) #1, #2, and #3 budgets for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024.  
Councilman Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Niesen. Motion carried.
- f. **Bill 4752 to become Ordinance 4752 – Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, to approve the proposed water rates.  
Councilman Johnny Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Collins. Motion carried.

- g. Bill 4753 to become Ordinance 4753 – Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, to approve the proposed electric rates.  
Councilman Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Niesen.  
Motion carried.
- h. Bill 4754 to become Ordinance 4754 – Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, to approve the proposed sewer rates.  
Councilman Johnny Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Collins. Motion carried.
- i. Bill 4755 to become Ordinance 4755 – Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, to approve the proposed sanitation rates.  
Councilman Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Niesen.  
Motion carried.
- j. Bill 4756 to become Ordinance 4756 – Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, to add the following section to the City Code: Chapter 2, Administration, Article IV – Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Councils, Division 10. – Airport Advisory Board Section 2-299 Appointment, Section 2-300 Selections and Terms, Section 2-301 Selection of Officers, 2-302 Recommendations.  
Councilman Johnny Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Collins. Motion carried.
- k. Bill 4757 to become Ordinance 4757 – Second Reading.** An Ordinance by the City of West Plains, Missouri, to amend and replace the following three existing sections of the City Code: CHAPTER 50 - ZONING, ARTICLE III. – DISTRICTS, DIVISION 13. – HEALTHCARE DISTRICT, SECTION 50-442 Standards for medical marijuana dispensaries, SECTION 50-443 Standards for medical marijuana-infused products manufacturing facility, and 50-444 Standards for medical marijuana cultivation facilities.  
Councilman Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Niesen.  
Motion carried.
- l. Bill 4758 to become Ordinance 4758 – First Reading.** An Ordinance approving the adoption of amended budgets for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023.  
Councilman Johnny Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Collins. Motion carried.

**V. Resolutions**

- a. Resolution 2023-29 –** A Resolution of the City of West Plains, Missouri, authorizing the city administrator to execute administrative contract agreements between the City of West Plains, Missouri, and Anthem for benefits coverage.  
Councilman Murrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Niesen.  
Motion carried.

**VI. Council Action**

Two West Plains Tourism Board grant recommendations were discussed and approved for two eclipse related events including the West Plains Senior Center for \$250 and Ozark Artery, Inc., also for \$250. The motion was made by Councilman Murrell to approve, seconded by Councilman Collins. Motion passed.

**VII. City Administrator's Report**

City Administrator Sam Anselm reported City Hall closing dates for the Thanksgiving holiday would be Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24, and the Christmas Tree lighting has been set for December 1.

**VIII. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF December, 2023.

CITY OF WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI

BY: Michael ToPliff  
MAYOR MICHAEL TOPLIFF

ATTEST:

Allison Skinner  
CITY CLERK ALLISON SKINNER