

**MINUTES**  
**CLOSED + REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**WEST PLAINS CITY HALL**

Monday, December 16, 2024  
 4:45 p.m. Closed Session – City Hall Board Room  
 5:30 p.m. Regular Session – City Hall Council Chambers

**CLOSED SESSION**

The West Plains City Council met in closed session on December 16, 2024 at West Plains City Hall 1910 Holiday Lane, with the following members present: Councilmember Collins, Councilmember Murrell, Councilmember Nease, Councilmember Niesen, and Mayor Topliff.

**I. Preliminaries**

Mayor Topliff called the meeting to order.

**II. Adjourn to Closed Session**

- a. **RSMo 610.021(3)** Hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded.

Councilmember Nease made a motion to go into a closed session seconded by Councilmember Collins. Motion passed.

	Aye	Nay	Not Voting	Not Present
Councilmember Collins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Murrell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Nease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Niesen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor Topliff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The mayor and council members discussed the annual evaluation of city administrator Sam Anselm. Councilmember Murrell made a motion to approve a 5% salary increase effective January 1, 2025 for Sam Anselm seconded by Councilmember Nease. Motion passed.

	Aye	Nay	Not Voting	Not Present
Councilmember Collins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Murrell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Nease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Niesen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor Topliff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**III. Adjourn to Open Session**

At 5:23 p.m. Councilmember Murrell made a motion to go into open session, seconded by Councilmember Niesen. Motion passed.

	Aye	Nay	Not Voting	Not Present
Councilmember Collins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Murrell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Nease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Niesen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor Topliff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**OPEN SESSION**

**IV. Preliminaries**

Mayor Topliff gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**V. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of minutes for the November 18, 2024 regular meeting
- b. 2025 City Council Meeting Calendar
- c. Bid – Redi-Mix FY25
- d. Bid – Gravel FY 25
- e. Bid – FD Surplus Property
- f. Bid – Mowing for FY25
- g. Approval of Tourism Advisory Board Member:
  - i. Bailey Johnson to fill the unexpired 2-year term of Mary Mike Taylor set to expire June 2025

Councilmember Nease made a motion to approve seconded by Councilmember Murrell. Motion passed.

**VI. Resolutions**

- a. **Resolution 2024-29** – A resolution of the City of West Plains, Missouri authorizing the city administrator to execute an agreement with West Plains Downtown Revitalization, Inc. for a downtown coordinator staff member. Councilmember Nease made a motion to approve seconded by Councilmember Collins. Motion passed.
- b. **Resolution 2024-30** – A resolution of the City of West Plains, stating intent to seek funding through the Community Development Block Grant Program and authorizing the mayor to pursue activities in an attempt to secure funding for roadway and stormwater improvements of County Roads 4410 and 1560. Councilmember Nease made a motion to approve seconded by Councilmember Niesen. Motion passed.
- c. **Resolution 2024-31** – A resolution of the City of West Plains, stating intent to seek funding through the Community Development Block Grant Program and authorizing the mayor to pursue activities in an attempt to secure funding for roadway and stormwater improvements of County Road 6460. Councilmember Nease made a motion to approve seconded by Councilmember Collins. Motion passed.
- d. **Resolution 2024-32** – A resolution of the City of West Plains, authorizing the mayor to execute an agreement between the City of West Plains and the County of Howell for a Community Development Block Program grant application. Councilmember Nease made a motion to approve seconded by Councilmember Niesen. Motion passed.
- e. **Resolution 2024-33** – A resolution of the City of West Plains, authorizing the city council, city administrator, and chief of police to execute an agreement with the Southwest Missouri Cyber Crime Task Force and the West Plains Police Department regarding internet crimes against children. Councilmember Nease made a motion to approve seconded by Councilmember Collins. Motion passed.

**VII. Ordinances**

- a. **Bill 4786 to become Ordinance 4786** – Second reading. An ordinance approving the adoption of amended budgets for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024. Councilmember Nease made a motion to approve seconded by Councilmember Niesen. Motion passed.

	Aye	Nay	Not Voting	Not Present
Councilmember Collins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Councilmember Murrell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Nease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Niesen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor Topliff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- b. **Bill 4787 to become Ordinance 4787** – First reading. An ordinance to authorize the mayor to execute the amended contract between the City of West Plains, Missouri and the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission providing for the installation of traffic signal battery components to be maintained by the commission. Councilmember Nease made a motion to approve seconded by Councilmember Collins. Motion passed.

	Aye	Nay	Not Voting	Not Present
Councilmember Collins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Murrell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Nease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councilmember Niesen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor Topliff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**VIII. City Administrator’s Report**

Sam Anselm stated that The West Plains Library Foundation held an event called Festival of Trees where funds were raised for improvements to the library. The Civic Center will be closed December 18<sup>th</sup> due to a planned power outage. Sam thanked the West Plains Greater Area Chamber of Commerce and many volunteers for the successful Christmas parade last weekend and relayed information about the downtown shopping passport.

**IX. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m.