

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING + WORK SESSION
WEST PLAINS CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1910 HOLIDAY LANE, WEST PLAINS, MO 65775

Monday, September 15, 2025
5:30 p.m. Regular Session
Work Session to Follow

I. Preliminaries

The West Plains City Council met in regular session on September 15, 2025, in the council chambers at West Plains City Hall, 1910 Holiday Lane, with the following members present: Councilmember Greg Collins, Councilmember Ron Grennan, Councilmember Johnny Murrell, and Mayor Michael Topliff. Members absent: Councilmember Jessica Nease. Mayor Topliff called the meeting to order followed by the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Collins motioned to amend the agenda to remove item IV(a.) - Bill 4806 as the petitioner has withdrawn the bill, seconded by Councilmember Grennan. Motion carried.

II. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes
 - i. August 18, 2025 – Regular Meeting
 - ii. August 22, 2025 – Special Meeting
- b. Planning & Zoning Recommendation:
 - i. Site Plan- West Plains Auto World
- c. Bid - 395 Jackie Garrett Drive Roof Replacement - \$168,750
- d. Tourist Development Advisory Board Appointments:
 - i. Stewart Walters filling a 2-year term set to expire October 2027
 - ii. Heather Smith filling the unexpired 2-year term of Michael Hullinger set to expire February 2026
- e. Park Board Appointment:
 - i. Jared Barr renewing a 3-year term set to expire October 2028

Councilmember Murrell motioned to approve, seconded by Councilmember Collins. Motion carried.

III. Resolutions

- a. **Resolution 2025-18** – A resolution of the City of West Plains, Missouri, authorizing the mayor to execute an intergovernmental equipment exchange between the City of West Plains and Oregon County for the exchange of mowing equipment and payment of a cash difference in value. Councilmember Grennan motioned to approve, seconded by Councilmember Collins. Motion carried.
- b. **Resolution 2025-19** – A resolution of the City of West Plains, Missouri, approving an agreement between the City, the South 160 Community Improvement District, and Housing Plus, LLC relating to the District's payment of certain fees, on behalf of Developer, relating to applications for permits, reviews, and governmental approvals for the Garner Family Phase 2 project. Councilmember Collins motioned to approve, seconded by Councilmember Grennan. Motion carried.

IV. ~~Ordinances~~

- a. ~~**Bill 4806** – An ordinance of the City of West Plains, Missouri, vacating property located near Robin Wood Drive in the Southern Hills subdivision and further reserving a utility easement within the area to be vacated.~~

V. Proclamation

- a. Missouri Good Neighbor Week

Mayor Topliff performed a proclamation regarding Good Neighbor Week September 28th through October 4th, 2025, and urged residents to stay tuned to the city's social media regarding a scavenger hunt and encouraged citizens to get out and meet their neighbors.

VI. City Administrator Report

City Administrator Sam Anselm updated the council on the progress of the turf installation at Hilburn field. He notified council that September is library card sign up month and the final Civic Center food truck festival for the season will be held Thursday, September 18th. Sam reiterated Mayor Topliff's mention of Good Neighbor Week.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

VIII. Work Session

Mayor Topliff called the work session to order at 5:49 p.m. with the following members present: Councilmember Collins, Councilmember Grennan, Councilmember Murrell, and Mayor Topliff. Members absent: Councilmember Jessica Nease.

a. FY26 Budget

City Administrator Sam Anselm and Finance Director Earlene Rich presented a proposed budget for year ending December 31, 2026.

Discussion included:

- Steps the city has taken prior to proposing the budget to city council
- Next steps such as discussion and decisions citing a first reading of the FY26 budget as well as a public hearing at the October city council meeting
- Council's role in the budget process
- Proposed budget versus adopted budget
- 2026 revenue breakdown by funds such as electric, general, and grant funding
- 2026 summary of expenditures by funds
- Issues & options including employee compensation, business licensing, downtown support, and airport funding
- Proposed utility rate increases
- User fee changes citing parks fees, cemetery fees, utility fees, Civic Center, golf, and library fees
- Unfunded requests
- Capital improvement plan
- Potential sales tax changes
- Budget for the tax increment financing fund
- Balanced Budget
- Changes in fund balances and changes in cash balances

IX. Adjourn Work Session

The work session was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.