

CITY OF PLATTE WOODS

6750 NW Tower Drive - Platte Woods, Missouri
(816) 741-6688

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Platte Woods, Missouri met on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at City Hall, 6750 NW Tower Drive, Platte Woods, Missouri.

PRESENT

John Smedley, Mayor
Larry Cory, Alderman
Britton Snyder, Alderman
Eric Wright, Alderman

Rebecca Wortman, City Clerk
Public - 7

OPENING

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Smedley at 7:01 p.m. Mayor Smedley asked the Council to review their copies of the March 2026 meeting minutes and today's agenda. Mayor Smedley asked for a motion to approve the minutes and agenda. Alderman Wright motioned to approve, Alderman Hoover seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident brought up his concern about drivers speeding on Crystal Pool and would like the City to look into a temporary speed bump. Jim Kerns believed that Tomahawk, Woody Creek, Crystal Pool and Maple Lane may all benefit from some kind of speed bump. Discussions of speed bumps vs. speed humps (which are more gradual and less likely to be damaged by snow plows) were discussed. Erosion on the Crystal Pool dam was mentioned. Alderman Snyder offered to get bids on adding rip-rap around the dam area.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ALDERMAN'S REMARKS

- Emergency Director Jim Kerns discussed his reports on Public Safety Calls for Service 2026, Emergency Management Activity Report, and 811 Locate Activity Report. He stated the resident Facebook page continues to be a good method to disseminate information to residents. He receives information from four sources posts it immediately.
- For emergency management planning purposes, Mr. Kerns believes the City need to look at gaps and see what we need to be self-sufficient in the event of a disaster such as a tornado. He also mentioned that FEMA recommends each household be prepared to be self-sufficient for 72 hours. Mr. Kerns believes the City should work to comply with guidelines set forth by FEMA in order to receive reimbursement for disaster-related debris removal. This would include attending training classes sponsored by FEMA. He also expects the Emergency Pod Captains will be participating in a tabletop exercise in June.

At 7:31 p.m., Mayor Smedley called for a closed session pursuant to 610.01(3) regarding personnel issues.

At 7:48 p.m., the general session was called back to order.

- Alderman Hoover stated she was pleased with the election turnout.
- Alderman Snyder reported on the following activity at the Imeson House:
 - Volunteer Day will take place on Saturday, April 25. He has had about 20 people sign up to volunteer. A dumpster will be placed at the park that weekend for disposing of brush and landscaping materials.
 - He has placed an order for picnic tables and the Girl Scout troop who meet at Imeson has volunteered to put them together. They also expressed an interest in donating to the cost of the tables through their fundraising. In this regard, Alderman Snyder would like to place a plaque on the tables recognizing the troop for their help. Gravel will be added to the path where the tables will be placed.
 - He will work with Jim Kerns on the type of security cameras to be purchased for the Park. Mr. Kerns would like to be able to access the cameras to monitor weather events.
 - A Montessori home school group has expressed interest in a long-term rental at Imeson. Possible issues with traffic control were discussed, as there may be overlap between the time the home school students are picked up and Micah Woulfe's music students start arriving. They also have a registered service dog. Snow removal during the winter would also have to be done by the City's snow removal contractor first thing in the morning. Jim Kerns mentioned the City should be listed as an additional insured on any long-term lessee's insurance policy. Alderman Snyder plans further meetings with the school group.
 - He stated that Platte Woods was not selected for the Parade of Hearts.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The City Clerk provided report on the City's financials for March with no concerns noted. Alderman Snyder moved to approve Paybills Resolution #3-12-26, Alderman Cory seconded, and all voted aye.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

- With respect to the City's passing of the increased sales tax from 1 to 2%, Mayor Smedley mentioned that he had a recent call with the Governor about the State's plan to eliminate income tax and replace it with a series of sales taxes, and that changes to municipal sales taxes would be more stringently regulated if that becomes law
- Groundbreaking for the sidewalk/bike trail is now scheduled for late August or September.
- The Municipal Court transfer remains scheduled to be completed by May 15.
- Mayor Smedley expressed his thanks for all the volunteers he has worked with for the past 20 years. He also specifically called out Susie Lewis and Keith Sargent for their service to the City.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mayor Smedley asked for a motion to approve Britton Snyder be issued a debit card for the General Account and to add him to the Imeson Park Account. Alderman Hoover motioned to approve, Alderman Cory seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

- Ordinance 884 (approving settlement with Freedom Center), Ordinance 885 (granting franchise to Spire), Ordinance 886 (approving contract with GFL), and Ordinance 887 (approving initial payment to City of Kansas City for sidewalk/bike lane project) were reviewed. Mayor Smedley asked for a motion to approve the ordinances. Alderman Wright so moved, Alderman Cory seconded, and all voted aye.
- Ordinance 883 was approved as a draft only to submit to State Senator Luetkemeyer's office to support the public safety sales tax levy. Mayor Smedley asked for a motion to provide Ordinance 883 to Sen. Luetkemeyer and the legislature. Alderman Cory motion to approve, Alderman Hoover seconded the motion and all voted aye.
- Ordinance 889 certifies the April 7, 2026 election results. Alderman Wright resigned which left a vacancy to be filled. Mayor Smedley nominated Hallie Spencer to fill the vacancy as Alderman of Ward 2, and asked for a motion to approve the resignation of Alderman Wright and the nomination of Hallie Spencer. Alderman Snyder so moved, Alderman Hoover seconded, and all voted aye.
- Hallie Spencer, Britton Snyder and Larry Cory took the Oath of Office of Alderman. Eric Wright took the Oath of Office as Mayor.
- Mayor Wright thanked former Mayor Smedley for his 20 years of service as mayor, which included shepherding Platte Woods through the 2008 Financial Crisis, COVID-19 pandemic, and the Hailmageddon of 2026, as well as modernization of the City's sewer system and creation of Imeson Park
- Mayor Wright stated he walked the City this spring, distributing flyers that listed his top priorities for the City as 1) ensuring financial stability, 2) maintaining public safety, 3) improving communication, 4) fostering community engagement, and 5) making Platte Woods a force for good.
- His short term goals include catching up on late sewer payments, improving ordinance enforcement, collaborating with Platte County Sheriff's Department, implementing digital tools to allow residents to communicate immediate needs more effectively, and scheduling more community development days.
- His long term goal is to ensure the financial security of the City. He believes the electoral results show that residents appreciate being part of Platte Woods and are willing to maintain this independent community.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ordinance 888 amends the City Code relating to sewer charges, increasing the \$1.00 per month charge to \$5.00 per month. It was noted the monthly charge of \$1.00 had been in place for the past 60 years. Mayor Wright asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 888. Alderman Cory so moved, Alderman Hoover seconded, and all voted aye.
- Ordinance 890 brings the City's roofing codes in line with the county's requirements. Mayor Wright asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 890. Alderman Snyder so moved, Alderman Hoover seconded, and all voted aye.
- Ordinance 891 prohibits slot-style video gaming machines in the City. Although there are none in the City, this ordinance aligns with the State's crack-down on unregulated machines in convenience stores and bars. Mayor Wright asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 891. Alderman Hoover so moved, Alderman Spencer seconded, and all voted aye.

- City Hall was affected by the recent hail storm and repairs need to be done to prevent further water damage caused by rain. Mayor Wright asked for a motion to approve expenditure not to exceed \$5,000 for roof maintenance. Alderman Cory so moved, Alderman Hoover seconded, and all voted aye.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Wright asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Hoover so moved, Alderman Spencer seconded, and all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. The next meeting was announced for May 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – R. Wortman