

# 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 Thursday, January 8, 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  
Kathy Rollins, Park Director  
Public - 4

## **OPENING**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Smedley at 7:02 p.m. Mayor Smedley asked the Council to review their copies of the December 11, 2025 meeting minutes and today's agenda. Mayor Smedley asked for a motion to approve the minutes and agenda. Alderman Wright motioned to approve, Alderman Cory seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- A resident had questions about the public hearing held on Monday, January 5, 2026 concerning the City's Public Safety Operations. The issue of difficulty in hiring police officers was discussed. The costs involved in maintaining a police department include salaries, retirement, vehicle maintenance, updating police radios, ticket database fees as well as other costs related to the court. Mayor Smedley stated the City is unable to compete with pay offered by agencies such as Riverside and the Platte County Sheriff's Office, both of which are offering sign-on bonuses.
- The Mayor stated consideration is being given to hiring a public safety officials who would be able to drive around; however, this individual would not carry a weapon or have the ability to issue tickets.
- A resident had questions about Imeson Park finances. Mayor Smedley stated rental income is used for structure maintenance, utilities, lawn care, etc., and is a break-even proposition with profits being equal to costs. Alderman Snyder pointed out that the City has also applied for and received grants for park maintenance.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ALDERMAN'S REMARKS**

Alderman Wright stated he learned during the recent Public Hearing that many of the residents were not aware that Mayor Smedley was not running for re-election. He is interested in working on better methods of communicating with residents and will work with the Mayor and Alderman Snyder to send out a survey to residents by e-mail to get resident input for the following items to be put on the April 7, 2026 ballot and motioned to approve these additions to the ballot contingent on resident support and input:

- Ensuring City crime deterrence, Security and considering City Public Safety Operation for the City;
- Placing City levy increase to get back to originally voted value, to recover lost General Revenue from Missouri legislative freezes, franchise fee reductions, increase in delinquency rates of city services fees, and increases in insurance/litigation costs on the ballot; and
- Raising property tax levy increasing sales use tax and putting public safety sales tax on the ballot.

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The City Clerk provided report on the City's financials for December with no concerns noted. Alderman Wright moved to approve Paybills Resolution #12-11-25, Alderman Hoover seconded, and all voted aye.

**MAYOR'S REMARKS**

- The City is waiting for an update from the Presiding Judge on transfer of the Court to Platte County.
- The Board of Zoning Adjustment is scheduled for a hearing on Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. to consider variances requested by two residents.
- The sidewalk grant will be rebid on January 27, 2026. This grant is for construction of sidewalks in commercial areas and crosswalks across 9 Highway & Prairie View Road.
- Sunshine Law states that individuals making requests are subject to fees to reimburse the City for employee's time and copying costs in responding to requests. Recent changes allow unpaid costs to invalidate the request. Effective January 8, 2026, this new Sunshine Request policy will be implemented.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Smedley nominated Larry Cory as Ordinance Officer, Jim Kerns as Emergency Management Officer/Treasurer, and Rebecca Wortman as City Clerk. Jim Kerns will be nominated to act as Administrative Chief on a temporary basis to deal with Police Department evidence, etc. Alderman Hoover moved to approve the nominations, Alderman Snyder seconded, and all voted aye.

Mayor Smedley asked for approval of proposed Ordinances 879 and 880.

- Ordinance 879 - approving the City's appointment of an Ordinance Enforcement Officer in the event the Police Department is suspended. Mayor Smedley provided an overview of the authorities to be granted to such Ordinance Enforcement Officer. City Clerk Wortman read Ordinance No. 879 twice by title, Alderman Wright motioned to approve, Alderman Cory seconded, and all voted aye.
- Ordinance 880 – lifting restrictions on short term rentals, quantities and the enforcement of city codes relating thereto between the dates of May 29, 2026 to July 26, 2026 which coincides with the FIFA World Cup. City Clerk Wortman read Ordinance No. 880 twice by title, Alderman Snyder motioned to approve, Alderman Hoover seconded, and all voted aye.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- No old business discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT-**

Mayor Smedley asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Cory so moved, Alderman Wright seconded, and all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m. The next meeting was announced for February 12, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – R. Wortman