

## **WORK SESSION SUMMARY**

**JULY 2, 2025**

The City of Dardenne Prairie Work Session was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

The meeting was held at Dardenne Prairie City Hall located at 2032 Hanley Road.

The following were in attendance: Mayor Widaman, Aldermen Detweiler, Gittemeier, Johnson, Waters and Wilson. Alderman Nay attended via video. Also present were City Clerk Kim Clark, City Administrator Cathy Pratt (via video), and City Attorney Bradley Pryor.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Widaman recognized a long-standing community member, Ed Etzkorn, for his 11 years of service on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Ed is a Navy Veteran of the Vietnam War and is leaving Dardenne Prairie to move closer to family. The community expresses gratitude for his years of service not only to his country but the community.

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION**

1. Henning Road – Crosswalk at BaratHaven Boulevard (Pratt & Davidson)  
Staff updated on the crosswalk and will be included in the Henning Road project. This project is in the design and environmental process with MoDOT and includes new crosswalk striping and rapid flashing beacons.

2. Architectural guidelines for residential and commercial properties suffering losses (Waters & Johnson)

Alderman Waters is raising concerns about the inconsistencies regarding insurance claims for property damages from recent storms. Residents are asking if the City has any guidelines for insurance companies regarding replacement of damaged structures. Aldermen support the idea of drafting guidelines and discussed the potential challenges and benefits of implementing such guidelines and if the city has the authority. A motion was made by Alderman Johnson to direct legal to look into enforceable means for this situation, second by Alderman Wilson to research to see if the city could get the opportunity to make the situation happen in Dardenne Prairie by looking at the fourth class cities classification and go forward. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Review of 07-02-25 Board of Aldermen agenda  
Mayor Widaman discussed the 250 America movement, which will celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of America. Looking to really make this special and open for recommendations and suggestions on how to make this large patriot celebration. Use this for more of an educational experience and support it throughout the upcoming year.

### **STAFF COMMUNICATION**

**1. City Attorney**

Nothing to report.

**2. City Engineer**

City Engineer Davidson stated the new Public Works Supervisor, Joe Morris will be starting next week. The snow and ice removal RFP is out and due July 11, 2025. The Town Square Ave improvements are starting in early August and Post Road Phase One preliminary plans are nearing approval. Stump Road is nearing

## **WORK SESSION SUMMARY**

**JULY 2, 2025**

completion and has just a few items left. Safe Routes to School, Weldon Spring Road Phase I and Bates Road Phase I have all been recommended by the County for funding and will be decided upon at their July 16 meeting.

### **3. City Administrator**

City Administrator Pratt stated we have had a good response to the IT Manager and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk positions and have already scheduled interviews. She mentioned the first summer concert was a huge success on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and the next concert will be The Well Hungarians on Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Bingo is Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup> and you must preregister to attend. City Administrator Pratt wanted to let everyone know of the opening of the newest businesses, The Quarter Butcher, Beans & Brew Coffee House, Cloud Nine Massage and Town Square Sugar Shack. She encouraged everyone to go support those businesses. City Hall is closed Friday, July 4 in observance of the holiday. Alderman Wilson also mentioned the opening of Starbucks in Ward 1.

### **4. Aldermen**

Alderman Wilson asked about the weeds growing up on the bridge on Town Square Avenue. City Engineer Davidson stated that area is a MoDOT right of way and will be mowed during construction in August but he will contact MoDOT to make them aware.

Alderman Wilson stated the residents of Inverness are concerned with the amount of traffic that is starting to use the subdivision as a cut through to get to Feise Road.

Alderman Detweiler stated the cones and signs are still in the Lewis and Clark subdivision from M & H. They have been laying in the grass for over three weeks. She also mentioned the weeds on the Thoele property on the South Outer Road.

Alderman Johnson encouraged everyone to visit The Sugar Shack at Pub n Grub. He also mentioned the grand opening of The Quarter Butcher.

Alderman Waters inquired about the weeds at the intersection at Weldon Spring and Technology. He also mentioned the property that joins that intersection is under contract and asked to get the property mowed. Alderman Johnson inquired about the installation of the stop light at the intersection. Mayor Widaman stated O'Fallon had moved away from the installation of the light.

**WORK SESSION SUMMARY**

**JULY 2, 2025**

**5. Mayor**

Mayor Widaman will save his comments for the end of the regular session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Alderman Gittermeier, seconded by Alderman Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Kim Clark, City Clerk

The City of Dardenne Prairie Board of Aldermen meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call were Mayor Widaman, Aldermen Detweiler, Gittemeier, Johnson, Nay (via video), Waters and Wilson. Also present were City Clerk Kim Clark, City Administrator Cathy Pratt (via video), City Engineer Matt Davidson and City Attorney Brad Pryor.

A motion was made by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Waters to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Board of Aldermen Minutes – 06-18-25
2. Work Session Summary – 06-18-25
3. Expenditures for Approval – 07-02-25
4. Treasurer’s Report as of April 30, 2025
5. Treasurer’s Report as of May 31, 2025

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – The following individuals were in attendance to speak:

1. Paul Burke
2. Rich Lindermann
3. Andy McKean
4. Arnie Dienoff
5. Gary Plamp
6. Gregory Johnson

**NEW BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Gittemeier to approve Resolution #395. Motion passed unanimously. Roll call was as follows:

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Alderman Wilson – Aye  | Alderman Detweiler – Aye  |
| Alderman Waters – Aye  | Alderman Gittemeier – Aye |
| Alderman Johnson – Aye | Alderman Nay – Aye        |

**Resolution #395**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF DARDENNE PRAIRIE, MISSOURI, SUPPORTING THE COMMEMORATION AND CELEBRATION OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE ON JULY 4, 2026

**OLD BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Gittemeier to read Bill #25-20 for the first time by title only. Motion passed unanimously.

**Bill #25-20** (Postponed from the 04-16-25 meeting)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DARDENNE PRAIRIE, MISSOURI, AMENDING SCHEDULE III OF TITLE III OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE AND PROHIBITING PARKING, STOPPING OR STANDING FOR THE PURPOSE OF DROPPING OFF OR PICKING UP SCHOOL CHILDREN ON EXPEDITION COURT WITHIN THE CITY

A motion was made by Alderman Gittemeier, seconded by Alderman Wilson to read Bill #25-32 for the second time by title only. Motion passed unanimously.

**Bill #25-32** (Read one time only on 6-18-25)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DARDENNE PRAIRIE, MISSOURI, IMPOSING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY DURING THE PENDENCY OF A STUDY OF REVIEW OF REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH PROPERTIES; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO

A motion was made by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Wilson to put Bill #25-32 to final vote. Roll call was as follows:

Alderman Johnson – Aye	Alderman Waters – Aye
Alderman Gittemeier – Aye	Alderman Wilson – Aye
Alderman Nay – Aye	Alderman Detweiler – Aye

Mayor Widaman declared Bill #25-32 passed and designated it to be Ordinance #2370.

**OFFICER & STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

Alderman Johnson mentioned the opening of Sugar Shack located next to Pub N Grub. He also mentioned the grand opening of The Butcher Shop located in The Prairie.

Alderman Wilson mentioned the back to school fair will be held on July 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mayor Widaman read the following prepared remarks:

I'm approaching 90 days in my term here as mayor, and one of the things that I want to do is to try to bring about a new standard, and to help increase transparency of what's going on in the city from the desk of the mayor, so to speak. I have some prepared remarks I'm going to read, and I'm going to do this every quarter, and at the same time, it's going to kind of just let you guys know what's going on, and we'll also post it to the website and different things like that. So as I mark my first 90 days as Mayor of Dardenne Prairie, I want to take a moment to reflect on the progress we've made, and thank those who helped us get here. First and foremost, I want to express my gratitude to the Board of Aldermen for their continued support, to the City Administrator Cathy for steady leadership and to our hardworking city staff who keep the city running every single day. The teamwork and professionalism across our organization has been outstanding. I really do just sincerely thank the board. It's a really great board. I'm really happy to be working with you. You all, and very excited that we have this team that we put together that the city self put together with them. So the past three months, we've taken some important steps, the first of which is we've enacted a moratorium, temporary moratorium on new multifamily housing that gives us time to assess long term impacts on traffic, schools and infrastructure, while making sure our future growth lies with the value of our residents, we also stabilize city leadership. I'm

proud to have recommend Miss Cathy Pratt for permanent appointment as city administrator, and I'm very grateful for the board unanimous approval for that recommendation. Cathy's three decades of experience in city government have already made a very meaningful difference in how our city runs and operates. We're moving forward on IT modernization as well. With the board's full support, we've begun hiring our first full time IT manager. This role will help us transition to cloud based systems, reduce our reliance on paper and streamline operations across City Hall. Once that position is filled, we'll begin a third review of our internal workflows as well to see where we can continue to make more efficient, make things more efficient and responsive, and notably, as many of those who were commenting, we fixed the audio visual in the boardroom here so it's a little bit clearer. We'll continue to polish it up and try to make it not so squeaky for some of the folks. So transparency has been and will continue to be a top priority. In recent months, it became clear that our Sunshine Law response process was in need of serious reform. The city previously relied on an honor system when fulfilling records requests, but in two recent cases, elected officials failed to submit all required documents, which understandably undermine public trust. We are now moving to a standardized IT supported records management system that will ensure timely, consistent and accurate responses. Moving forward, we're also working to build stronger partnerships, not just with local businesses, but with academic institutions as well. In recent weeks, we've started engaging with area colleges and universities to create internship opportunities at City Hall. This will give students valuable experience in public service, while helping strengthen our local talent pipeline. And finally, Dardenne Prairie has joined the American 250 the St Charles County initiative to help celebrate the 250th anniversary of our nation's founding in 2026 planning is underway. We're inviting residents, civic organizations and local groups to partner with us in making this a celebration that reflects the spirit and history of our community. These efforts mark the beginning of a new chapter for our city. It's an item establishing a new standard, which I just spoke about, which is this update is the first of a series of quarterly reports from the mayor's desk. It's one more way that we're committed to transparency, keeping everybody, our residents and you all informed. Thank you again, to the board, to Cathy and our city staff. It's been a productive 90 days, and I look forward to what we'll accomplish together in the months ahead. Thank you so much.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Gittemeier to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kim Clark, City Clerk