



**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Meeting Minutes**

MARCH 23, 2026

7:00 PM 1 GOVERNMENT CTR. BALLWIN, MO 63011

THE MINUTES ARE PREPARED IN SUMMARY TO REFLECT THE OVERALL DISCUSSIONS, NOT VERBATIM QUOTES.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stallmann at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present

Absent

Mayor Mark R. Stallmann
Alderman Michael Finley
Alderman Janet Rodriguez Judd
Alderman Pamela Haug
Alderman Tequila Gray
Alderman Frank Fleming

Alderman Mark Weaver

Alderman David Siegel
Alderman Jim Lehmkuhl

City Administrator Eric Sterman

City Attorney Kyle Cronin

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES

The minutes from the March 9, 2026 Board of Aldermen meeting were submitted for approval. A motion to approve as submitted was made by Alderman Frank Fleming and seconded by Alderman Michael Finley. A voice vote was taken with unanimous affirmative result and the motion passed.

The minutes from the March 9, 2026 Board of Aldermen Public Works Committee Meeting were submitted for approval. A motion to approve as submitted was made by Alderman David Siegel and seconded by Alderman Frank Fleming. A voice vote was taken with unanimous affirmative result and the motion passed.



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CITIZEN COMMENTS

Lori Kelling, 227 White Acre Ct., thanked the Board of Aldermen for bill 5053, the Zero Property Tax Ordinance.

John Higdon, 324 Woodmar Ct., spoke to the Board about the Respect MO Voters initiative that he's helping to gather signatures for.

Michael Scott, 643 Kehrs Mill Rd., spoke to the Board about MSD and the residential stormwater issue. He believes the Board is supposed to be the last line of defense against MSD and notes he thinks the City should not sign off on any projects that require MSD's approval until MSD addresses the stormwater issue.

Lori Stringer, 347 Oakleigh Woods, spoke to the Board about the Ballwin Grows Native event at the Golf Course on Friday, March 27th. She also spoke about sustainability and green living planning commissions that other cities have and noted she would be interested in seeing the City have something like that.

LEGISLATION

Bill 5053 - AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE REAL ESTATE TAX RATE OF ZERO (0%) PERCENT IN THE CITY OF BALLWIN FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026.

A motion was made by Alderman Frank Fleming and seconded by Alderman Michael Finley for a first reading of Bill 5053, title only. A voice vote was taken with unanimous affirmative result and the motion passed. Alderman Fleming read Bill 5053, title only.

Discussion:

Mayor Mark Stallmann noted this is the 39th year in a row the City has charged no property taxes for the residents of Ballwin.

Alderman Michael Finley thanked previous boards, department heads and saluted City employees to allow the City to be in a good financial position.

A motion was made by Alderman Frank Fleming and seconded by Alderman Michael Finley for a second reading of Bill 5053, title only. A voice vote was taken with unanimous affirmative result and the motion passed. Alderman Frank Fleming read Bill 5053, title only.

A roll call vote was taken for passage and approval of Bill 5053 with the following results:



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Aye: Aldermen Judd, Finley, Gray, Haug, Fleming, Siegel, Lehmkuhl
Nay: None

Bill No. 5053 was approved and became Ordinance No. 26-10.

CONSENT ITEMS

Administration – Police Vehicle MDT Purchase

Staff recommends purchasing from SHI through the State Contract of Missouri at the price listed in the memo.

A motion was made by Alderman Janet Judd and seconded by Alderman Michael Finley to accept staff's recommendation. A voice vote was taken with unanimous affirmative result and the motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Mark Stallmann invited everyone to the Ballwin Grows Native event on Friday, March 27th at the Golf Course. He also invited everyone out to the Easter Egg Hunt in Vlasis Park on Saturday, March 28th. He also reminded everyone of the Candidates Night on Thursday, March 26th at the Golf Course & Event Center.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Acting City Administrator Denise Keller had nothing to report.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Department – Motorola Portable Radio Purchase

Staff recommends the Board approve the purchase of 42 Motorola portable radios in the amount of \$279,894.46 for use by the Police Department. Motorola is the sole-source provider for radios compatible with the St. Louis County communications network.

Discussion:

Chief John Bergfeld noted the Police Department's radios are from 2013 and are no longer serviceable due to old age and a lack of parts. He noted in the 2025 budget, \$90,000 was budgeted for replacement for some radios. The radios have to be approved by the St. Louis County's Emergency Operations to operate on restricted frequencies, and last year the County had not approved a replacement yet. An additional \$187,600 was budgeted this year for replacement. The County has approved a replacement from Motorola, the sole-source



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provider for departments, at a total cost of \$279,894.46. 42 radios will be purchased this year and an additional 13 are slated to be replaced in 2027.

Alderman Tequila Gray asked about the lifespan of the radios and the warranty.

Chief Bergfeld noted the radios have a 10-year lifespan with a five year warranty.

Alderman Frank Fleming asked if there was any other choice for radio providers.

Chief Bergfeld noted if you want to have access to restricted frequencies and be able to operate with other police departments in the county, you need to use Motorola because that's who the county has chosen. He also noted it's not just police departments, it's public works and fire departments as well.

Alderman Fleming asked if Chief Bergfeld was comfortable waiting a year to replace the rest of the radios.

Chief Bergfeld noted they will keep the best ones and trade in the others, so he's confident we can make it another year with the rest of the radios we have.

He also noted if there was an emergency need, he'd come back to the Board for purchase approval for others.

A motion was made by Alderman Frank Fleming and seconded by Alderman Michael Finley to accept staff's recommendation. A voice vote was taken with unanimous affirmative result and the motion passed.

ALDERMANIC COMMENTS

Alderman Tequila Gray asked about the recycling events held by the City and how we decide who gets to bring items and whether it's restricted to just City residents.

Parks & Recreation Director Chris Conway noted because it is a grant from St. Louis County, the event has to be open to all St. Louis County residents. Staff asks for a zip code before they're allowed to recycle. He also noted there is a two box maximum for the shred event, but sometimes the truck operator lets people bring more. He noted he will make sure to stress to truck operators that it's limited to two boxes. He also noted the department was planning on doing an analysis of zip codes to see if there are areas where a lot of people are coming to our events and reaching out to the parks departments in that zip code to see if they're interested in hosting a shred event.

Alderman Michael Finley asked whether the restrooms will be open at the parks soon because of the nice weather.

Parks Director Conway noted staff will begin working tomorrow on opening those restrooms. They typically are not reopened until April 15th when the threat of freeze is over.

Alderman Finley also brought up a resident's concern over the pricing for a senior couple at the Pointe since the new fee increase. He noted the resident has been a member for 30 years of the Pointe and will not be renewing.

Parks Director Conway noted that was a concern when the fee increase was brought up and voted on last year. He noted senior couples were previously getting three separate discounts and were essentially paying for one membership but getting two, so the price increase was significant. He also noted the Pointe does not make a



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profit, and with the increasing costs of utilities, staffing and other necessary items, a fee increase was long overdue.

Alderman Gray asked about the possibility of a financial aid package.

Parks Director Conway noted there is a scholarship program that’s used mainly for kids for summer camps and swim lessons for those who are in need, but there are talks about taking a second look at that program and potentially expanding it to memberships. He did note it would be up to the Board to decide how to pay for it, whether it’s through the City’s budget, local sponsorships, etc.

Alderman Janet Judd noted she heard from a resident who had a concern that was discussed at a previous Board meeting several years ago about business signage not being in English.

City Planner Lynn Sprick noted it is not constitutional for the City to control sign content. The City can only control size placement, times the sign is active, etc.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Alderman Frank Fleming and seconded by Alderman Michael Finley to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous affirmative voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

MARK R. STALLMANN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MEGAN FREEMAN, CITY CLERK