

CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MO
MINUTES OF THE OPEN
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

Thursday September 4, 2025 7:30 p.m.

The Board of Aldermen met for an open meeting on Thursday, September 4, 2025. Mayor Thomas presided over the meeting. He called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Conducted by all in attendance.

Roll Call

Mayor Thomas requested a roll call. The following Alderpersons were "Present" virtually or in person: Alderman Wiese, Alderwoman Harmon-Ward, Alderwoman Dailes, Alderwoman Smith, Alderwoman Hester, and Alderman Gillespie. Six aldermen were present. There was a quorum.

Also present were City Clerk Denise Johnson, City Attorney Sam Alton, City Treasurer Rick Rogan, Interim Chief Timothy Sanders, Director Jeff Ross, Director Marvin Crumer, Finance Director Deletra Hudson and other members of the city's staff.

Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Thomas requested approval of the agenda as presented.

Motioned by Alderman Wiese and seconded by Alderman Gillespie to approve the agenda.

Mayor Thomas called for board discussion and hearing none, he called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese "Yes", Alderwoman Harmon-Ward "Yes", Alderwoman Dailes "Yes", Alderwoman Smith "Yes", Alderwoman Hester "Yes", and Alderman Gillespie "Yes". The vote being six "Yes" votes. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Mayor Thomas requested approval of the following board meeting minutes by block with the necessary corrections:

Special Closed Meeting Minutes	June 24, 2025	Special Open Meeting Minutes	June 27, 2025
Open Board Meeting Minute	July 1, 2025	Special Open Meeting Minutes	July 11, 2025
Special Closed Meeting Minutes	July 11, 2025	Special Closed Meeting Minutes	July 22, 2025
Special Open Meeting Minutes	Aug. 1, 2025	Open Board Meeting Minutes	Aug. 14, 2025

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve the presented board meeting minutes, with the necessary corrections.

Mayor Thomas called for board discussion and hearing none, he called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese "Yes", Alderwoman Harmon-Ward "Yes", Alderwoman Dailes "Yes", Alderwoman Smith "Yes", Alderwoman Hester "Yes", and Alderman Gillespie "Yes". The vote being six "Yes" votes. Motion carried.

Presentations/Requests

--REJIS Service and iCloud Maintenance

This matter was tabled by Mayor Thomas to a latter date.

New Business

--Application for Alderperson-Ward 3 Michelle Nunley

Mayor Thomas asked the board to consider the application submitted by Resident Michelle Nunley for the position of Alderperson in the 3rd Ward for the term that ends April of 2026.

Mayor Thomas called for board discussion. Members expressed their concerns with the process of appointing board members as opposed to residents running for a seat in a general election. Members also expressed the need for additional help within the wards.

Motioned by Alderwoman Harmon Ward and seconded by Alderwoman Dailes to approve the appointment of Resident Michelle Nunley to the position of Alderperson in the 3rd Ward for the term ending April of 2026.

Mayor Thomas called for further board discussion and hearing none, he called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese "No", Alderwoman Harmon-Ward "Yes", Alderwoman Dailes "Yes", Alderwoman Smith "Yes", Alderwoman Hester "No", and Alderman Gillespie "Yes". The vote being four "Yes" votes and two "No" votes. Motion carried.

Financial Report of City Finances- Rick Rognan and Mayor Thomas

--Unaudited Finance Statements- July/August 2025

Treasurer Rognan presented the unaudited financial statements to the board and residents. Finance Director Hudson provided an August 2025 financial report to the board for review.

--Independent Audit update -Year 2022

Treasurer Rognan presented a draft of the independent 2022 audit. The finalized version will be presented at the next open meeting.

--Tax Rate Information for the Public Hearing –Sept. 18, 2025

Treasurer Rognan presented the preliminary numbers for the September 18th tax rate public hearing to be held at 7pm in the Bellefontaine recreation center. Key tax notes presented include:

- Residential, going up by \$12 million, it's up 14.44. That means an assessment change of about 14.44%. It represents 70% of the tax dollars.
- Senate Bill 190 does not impact rental properties. The city must continue to identify our rental properties. They do not qualify for any bill relief.
- Commercial, going up by 22.69, it is \$3 million. Commercial's only 12% of the tax revenue.
- Personal property is down by \$1.8 million, 8.66 reduction it is 14% of our tax revenue. Property ages, it decreases. Residents pay less.
- Agriculture is 0%
- Debt service is going to stay nearly the same. \$1.10 cents for \$100 cents valuation. The proposed rate would be \$1.2460.

Treasurer Rognan stated that the post BOA numbers will be in before the tax rate public hearing.

Attorney Alton discussed the ARPA funds noting that the board already voted to send it back, the funds are still being held a city account, and the city is waiting to hear from the Department of Treasury detailing when and how to send the funds back.

Mayor Thomas updated the residents on audits being conducted by CR Williams. He stated that the 2022 audit should be presented to the residents and online by the end on the month.

Legislative Business- Ordinances and Resolutions:

a) Bill Number 2728 “KELLY DAY” CLAIM SETTLEMENT(S)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF “KELLY DAY” COMPENSATION FOR AMOUNT(S) OWED TO CURRENT OFFICERS OF THE CITY AS REFERENCED IN EXHIBIT A ATTACHED TO THIS ORDINANCE.

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the first reading.

Motioned by Alderman Gillespie and seconded by Alderman Wiese to conduct the first reading of bill number 2728.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the first reading of bill number 2728.
Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the second reading.

Motioned by Alderman Gillespie and seconded by Alderwoman Smith to conduct the second reading of bill number 2728.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.
Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the second reading of bill number 2728.
Mayor Thomas requested approval for bill number 2727 to become ordinance number 2698.

Motioned by Alderman Gillespie and seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve bill number 2728 becoming ordinance number 2698 when, and if, the mayor signs it.

Mayor Thomas asked for any further discussion--none. Mayor Thomas called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese “Yes”, Alderwoman Harmon-Ward “Yes”, Alderwoman Dailes “Yes”, Alderwoman Smith “Yes”, Alderwoman Hester “Yes” and Alderman Gillespie “Yes”. Six “Yes” votes. Motion passed.

Bill number 2728 becomes Ordinance number 2698.

b) Bill Number 2729 PROPOSITION 1 TAX ON RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA SALES
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI,
ADDING PROPOSITION 1 TO THE NOVEMBER 4, 2025 BALLOT ALLOWING FOR
THE IMPOSITION OF A LOCAL AND ADDITIONAL SALES TAX OF 3% ON THE
RETAIL SALE OF ADULT USE MARIJUANA.

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the first reading.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderman Wiese to conduct the first reading of bill number 2729.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.
Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the first reading of bill number 2729.
Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the second reading.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderwoman Smith to conduct the second reading of bill number 2729.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.
Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the second reading of bill number 2729.
Mayor Thomas requested approval for bill number 2729 to become ordinance number 2699.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderman Wiese to approve bill number 2729 becoming ordinance number 2699 when, and if, the mayor signs it.

Mayor Thomas asked for any further discussion--none. Mayor Thomas called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese "Yes", Alderwoman Harmon-Ward "Yes", Alderwoman Dailes "Yes", Alderwoman Smith "Yes", Alderwoman Hester "Yes" and Alderman Gillespie "Yes". Six "Yes" votes. Motion passed.

Bill number 2729 becomes Ordinance number 2699.

c) Bill Number 2730 LESLIE BLACKSHEAR-CONTRACTOR FOR FINANCIAL SERV.
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI, HIRING
LESLIE BLACKSHEAR AS A FINANCIAL SERVICES INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR FOR
THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS AT THE MONTHLY RATE OF \$2000.00.

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the first reading.

Motioned by Alderwoman Smith and seconded by Alderwoman Harmon-Ward to conduct the first reading of bill number 2730.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.
Mayor Thomas called for the vote. "Ayes"—all and "Nays"—none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the first reading of bill number 2730.
Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the second reading.

Motioned by Alderwoman Smith and seconded by Alderwoman Harmon-Ward to conduct the second reading of bill number 2730.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.
Mayor Thomas called for the vote. "Ayes"—all and "Nays"—none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the second reading of bill number 2730.
Mayor Thomas requested approval for bill number 2730 to become ordinance number 2700.

Motioned by Alderwoman Smith and seconded by Alderman Wiese to approve bill number 2730 becoming ordinance number 2700 when, and if, the mayor signs it.

Mayor Thomas asked for any further discussion--none. Mayor Thomas called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese “Yes”, Alderwoman Harmon-Ward “Yes”, Alderwoman Dailes “Yes”, Alderwoman Smith “Yes”, Alderwoman Hester “Yes” and Alderman Gillespie “Yes”. Six “Yes” votes. Motion passed.

Bill number 2730 becomes Ordinance number 2700.

d) Bill Number 2731 DELETRA HUDSON-CONTRACTOR FOR FINANCE DIRECTOR
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI, HIRING DELETRA HUDSON AS AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR FOR THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS TO SERVE AS THE CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR AT THE MONTHLY RATE OF \$5000.00.

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the first reading.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderwoman Hester to conduct the first reading of bill number 2731.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the first reading of bill number 2731.

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the second reading.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderman Wiese to conduct the second reading of bill number 2731.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the second reading of bill number 2731.

Mayor Thomas requested approval for bill number 2731 to become ordinance number 2701.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderwoman Hester to approve bill number 2731 becoming ordinance number 2701 when, and if, the mayor signs it.

Mayor Thomas asked for any further discussion--none. Mayor Thomas called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese “Yes”, Alderwoman Harmon-Ward “Yes”, Alderwoman Dailes “Yes”, Alderwoman Smith “Yes”, Alderwoman Hester “Yes” and Alderman Gillespie “Yes”. Six “Yes” votes. Motion passed.

Bill number 2731 becomes Ordinance number 2701.

e) Bill Number 2732 RE-ALLOCATION-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI
AUTHORIZING THE RE-ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
("CDBG") FUNDS

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the first reading.

Motioned by Alderwoman Smith and seconded by Alderwoman Harmon-Ward to conduct the first reading of bill number 2732.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote. "Ayes"—all and "Nays"—none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the first reading of bill number 2732.

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the second reading.

Motioned by Alderwoman Smith and seconded by Alderman Wiese to conduct the second reading of bill number 2732.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote. "Ayes"—all and "Nays"—none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the second reading of bill number 2732.

Mayor Thomas requested approval for bill number 2732 to become ordinance number 2702.

Motioned by Alderwoman Smith and seconded by Alderwoman Harmon-Ward to approve bill number 2732 becoming ordinance number 2702 when, and if, the mayor signs it.

Mayor Thomas asked for any further discussion--none. Mayor Thomas called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese "Yes", Alderwoman Harmon-Ward "Yes", Alderwoman Dailes "Yes", Alderwoman Smith "Yes", Alderwoman Hester "Yes" and Alderman Gillespie "Yes". Six "Yes" votes. Motion passed.

Bill number 2732 becomes Ordinance number 2702.

f) Bill Number 2733 AUTHORIZATION OF 457 PLAN

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI,
AUTHORIZING THE RE-PAYMENT OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS OWED TO CERTAIN
EMPLOYEE 457 RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEARS 2019
THROUGH 2024 AS REFERENCED IN

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the first reading.

Motioned by Alderman Wiese and seconded by Alderman Gillespie to conduct the first reading of bill number 2733.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the first reading of bill number 2733.

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the second reading.

Motioned by Alderman Gillespie and seconded by Alderman Wiese to conduct the second reading of bill number 2733.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the second reading of bill number 2733.

Mayor Thomas requested approval for bill number 2733 to become ordinance number 2703.

Motioned by Alderwoman Smith and seconded by Alderman Wiese to approve bill number 2733 becoming ordinance number 2703 when, and if, the mayor signs it.

Mayor Thomas asked for any further discussion--none. Mayor Thomas called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese “Yes”, Alderwoman Harmon-Ward “Yes”, Alderwoman Dailes “Yes”, Alderwoman Smith “Yes”, Alderwoman Hester “Yes” and Alderman Gillespie “Yes”. Six “Yes” votes. Motion passed.

Bill number 2733 becomes Ordinance number 2703.

g) Bill Number 2734 401A CONTRIBUTION PLAN

AN ORDINANCE RE-ESTABLISHING THE CITY’S MONTHLY EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION TO THE CITY’S 401(A) DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN FOR ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the first reading.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderwoman Smith to conduct the first reading of bill number 2734.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the first reading of bill number 2734.

Mayor Thomas requested a motion to conduct the second reading.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderwoman Smith to conduct the second reading of bill number 2734.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Attorney Alton conducted the second reading of bill number 2734.

Mayor Thomas requested approval for bill number 2734 to become ordinance number 2704.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderman Wiese to approve bill number 2734 becoming ordinance number 2704 when, and if, the mayor signs it.

Mayor Thomas asked for any further discussion--none. Mayor Thomas called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese “Yes”, Alderwoman Harmon-Ward “Yes”, Alderwoman Dailes “Yes”, Alderwoman Smith “Yes”, Alderwoman Hester “Yes” and Alderman Gillespie “Yes”. Six “Yes” votes. Motion passed.

Bill number 2734 becomes Ordinance number 2704.

h) Resolution #2025-08 AGREEMENT WITH ST. LOUIS CO. BOARD OF ELECTION
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS, MISSOURI
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS FOR PROVISION OF ELECTION AND
CANDIDATE FILING PROCESSING SERVICES FOR THE 2026, 2027, 2028 AND 2029
MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Attorney Alton presented and explained the resolution to the board and residents.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve resolution number 2025-08 when, and if, the mayor signs it.

Mayor Thomas asked for any discussion—none.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote. “Ayes”-all and “Nays” –none. Motion passed.

Approval of Invoices/Requisitions

Mayor Thomas requested board action to approve the city invoices and requisitions.

The bills presented were reviewed and approved by the Ways and Means Committee in several different scheduled meetings.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve the payment of the invoices and requisitions payable from July 1, 2025 through September 2, 2025 minus one invoice payable to Woody’s.

Mayor Thomas called for any board discussion.

The committee chairman requested to vote on the Woody's invoice separately because it was approved for purchase through the ARPA funds back in September of 2024. Board discussion followed.

Alderwoman Dailes stated that there is documentation to verify that information but if it cannot be found, or if the city cannot verify the funds with the Department of Treasury through the audit, the city should approve taking the funds out of the capital funds account.

Mayor Thomas called for any further board discussion and hearing none, he called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese "Yes", Alderwoman Harmon-Ward "Yes", Alderwoman Dailes "Yes", Alderwoman Smith "Yes", Alderwoman Hester "Yes" and Alderman Gillespie "Yes". Six "Yes" votes. Motion passed.

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderwoman Harmon-Ward to pay Woody's Municipal Supply in the amount of \$52,945 with the ARPA funds if approved and verified by a past board vote from September 2024 and ,if not, expense should come from the city's capital funds account.

Mayor Thomas called for board discussion.

Director Ross stated he does not have access to the minutes from when the vote happened, but he believes it was voted on back in 2022. The board approved the purchase of two trucks at the time. They approved the trucks and out fittings together back in 2022. Purchases were not made earlier due to backlogged production at the time.

Mayor Thomas called for any board discussion and hearing none, he called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese "Yes", Alderwoman Harmon-Ward "Yes", Alderwoman Dailes "Yes", Alderwoman Smith "No", Alderwoman Hester "Yes" and Alderman Gillespie "Yes". Five "Yes" votes and one "No" vote. Motion passed.

Emergency Closed Meeting

Motioned by Alderwoman Dailes and seconded by Alderwoman Smith to go back into closed session pursuant to RSMo. Statute section 610.021(1) and (3).

Mayor Thomas asked for any further discussion--none. Mayor Thomas called for the vote.

The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese "Yes", Alderwoman Harmon-Ward "Yes", Alderwoman Dailes "Yes", Alderwoman Smith "Yes", Alderwoman Hester "Yes" and Alderman Gillespie "Yes". Six "Yes" votes. Motion passed.

Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes each)

Mayor Thomas opened the meeting up for public comment (in person and virtually on zoom) and requested speakers limit their discussion to three (3) minutes.

Comments from residents followed on various topics discussed during the meeting and concerns related to trash can violations, speeding vehicles, and street repair requests.

Attorney’s Report

Attorney Alton commented on various topics.

Department Head Reports

Reports from the directors of the Public Works and Parks & Recreation departments were provided in print. Interim Chief Sanders presented his crime report totals are compiled for the month of August.

Aldermen Reports

Board members thanked the meeting attendees and commented on various topics discussed during the meeting, including the trash can violations, the speeding issues, and other resident issues.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Thomas thanked the meeting attendees and commented on topics discussed during the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn

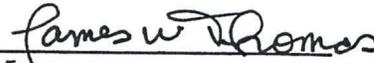
Motioned by Alderwoman Hester and seconded by Alderman Wiese to adjourn the current meeting.

Mayor Thomas called for the vote.

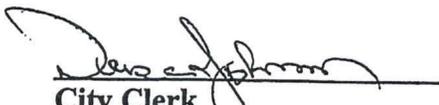
The Aldermen voted as follows: Alderman Wiese “Yes”, Alderwoman Harmon-Ward “Yes”, Alderwoman Dailes “Yes”, Alderwoman Smith “Yes”, Alderwoman Hester “Yes” and Alderman Gillespie “Yes”. Six “Yes” votes. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

ATTEST



Mayor
James W. Thomas



City Clerk
Denise Johnson

Minutes are compiled of excerpts from the discussion and actions taken by the Board of Aldermen. Minutes do not constitute a transcription or verbatim record of what transpired during a meeting.