

**CITY OF BRENTWOOD, MISSOURI
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 7, 2026**

Alderman David Plufka called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Brentwood City Hall, 2348 S. Brentwood Blvd, Brentwood, MO 63144. Virtual access was also available.

ROLL CALL

Alderman David Plufka – Present
Alderman Sunny Sims – Present
Alderman Jeff Gould – Present
Alderman Sharon Harter – Present

A quorum was declared. Also present were Fire Chief Ronnie Contrell, Public Works Director Dan Gummershiemer, Police Major Sullivan, Assistant Fire Chief Ed Berine (virtual), City Administrator Bola Akande (Virtual), and City Clerk Octavia Pittman.

APPROVAL OR AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA

The meeting agenda was approved by acclamation.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Stuart Clark, St. Clair Avenue – addressed the commission with comments regarding his experience with e-bikes, trikes, tandem bikes and trikes for the disabled. He noted his understanding of the need for law enforcement to regulate the use of said bikes for juvenile safety and offered assistance. He presented information to the committee to consider when adopting legislation as to not inadvertently impact the responsible riders. He also offered reminder that Brentwood Bound was built to include 10-foot-wide shared use pad crossing Manchester for such uses.

Mark Abels – St. Clair Avenue – addressed the commission noting his ownership of a tandem bike with electric power. He concurred with issues with children riding unsafely through the neighborhood and commented that there are different classes of bikes. He encouraged parents to be more involved.

Sue Cronin, Salem Road – stated uncomfortableness with a sex offender residing nearby on Eulalie. She asked what can be done to make citizens aware.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR AND ALDERMEN

Chairman Plufka – Ward 1

No report.

Aldерwoman Sims – Ward 2

No report.

Alderman Gould – Ward 3

No report.

Aldерwoman Harter – Ward 4

Reported “Red” visited the Early Childhood Center today and it was a big deal to the kids. And Officer Petit was just fantastic with the kids, and the way...

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

City Manager Akande had no report.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Department

Major Sullivan reported the following:

- **Crime Report** – overall crime is down, a comprehensive crime report will be presented at the next meeting.
- **Retail Holiday Detail** – this year's detail was well received by the retailers. He noted 6 documented incidents and 5 arrests.
- **0311 Tactical Training sessions** – 22 officers have completed the 0311 tactical training. The program is proving effective to have an outside agency provide training.
- **PD Kitchen Update** – renovation is complete and under budget.
- **Chief Letters of Commendation** – letters of commendation along with the Officer of the Year will be presented at an upcoming Board of Aldermen meeting.

Major Sullivan also noted that the department is currently investigating a sex offender complaint.

Fire Department

Interim Chief Beirne reported the following:

Hiring Process – With the resignations of Fire Chief Cottrell and FF/PM Chris Cosmas, we have an active hiring/recruitment process in effect. Applications are accepted until January 16th; written testing dates are January 20th, 22nd, and 24th. Medical practical evaluation, and interview process dates are still to be determined based on the number of successful candidates.

Training Update – Site work was completed early last month and progress on construction of the new shared training tower continues to report on schedule. This

is mostly attributed to cooperation of the weather and American Fire Training Systems starting three weeks early on our fabrication sets. We are on track for early spring completion.

Fire Engine Update – Purchases of loose equipment, as approved in the FY25 budget, are 99% complete. The equipment ordered continues to arrive weekly. The truck remains on schedule for delivery in January 2026 with a tentative final inspection visit by the committee in the third week of January.

MOGEMT – Public Consulting Group (PCG) is in process for FY25 data collection. As noted in October’s report, we intend to bring a Resolution forward for the January 28 Public Safety Committee meeting, confirming our continued participation and authorizing changes/reductions in fee collection percentages.

Recent Alarms – Mattress Firm, 1900 S. Brentwood, was damaged by a vehicle that travelled off the roadway and through the north wall of the building on 11/19. The driver was uninjured; the building sustained major damage to load bearing outer walls and glass showroom panels as well as the entire alarm system. Bricks, cinder blocks, and glass were thrown across the entire showroom. Fire Marshal Hammer and Building Official Benisch inspected the damage and determined that shoring was required. Brentwood Fire units assisted Webster Groves FD with house fires on Kuhlman Ave. The original fire was dispatched on Monday evening, December 1st. A second fire was reported at this same address on Wednesday, December 3rd. No injuries were reported. Brentwood Fire units assisted Rock Hill FD with a house fire on Charleville Ave in the early morning hours of 12/5. The fire conditions in the basement and on the first floor necessitated a second alarm. Bitter cold conditions combined with a narrow one-way street hampered access and equipment movement. No injuries were reported.

Monthly Performance Measures – Due to a shift in fire reporting to FEMA, all incident reports are being modified by the U.S. Fire Administration. Their new system, National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS) is now live for agencies in the State of Missouri. We transitioned to the new system on November 1 to ensure report continuity and data transfers were evaluated prior to the total national switchover on January 1. As of this report, all of our NERIS reports are still being held by our RMS vendor, ESO. This will temporarily delay our monthly performance measure report until all files are uploaded into the national database.

Members noted burns smells from a controlled burning in Forest Park and questioned if the city has received complaints or any communications regarding the event. Interim Chief Beirne noted no awareness and responded that the Department of Conservation typically notifies the entity where it takes place.

Public Works Department

Director Gummersheimer reported the following:

- **Manchester Road** - The electrician is scheduled to return in early January 2026 to replace the obsolete streetlight control cabinet located on the north side of Manchester Road, just east of Dorothy Avenue. Replacement of this

cabinet is necessary to restore streetlight operations on the north side of Manchester Road.

In addition, a replacement streetlight adjacent to the self-storage building is still required. There are also four streetlights on the north side of Manchester Road near the former Circle K gas station that require new wiring. Parks' staff is working on streetlight restoration for lighting adjacent to the tunnel trail under Manchester Road. Staff's goal is to complete all related work in January 2026.

- 2. McKnight Road crosswalk pilot program** - Tapco has been contacted to provide an update on the delivery schedule for the required equipment. Once delivery is confirmed, staff will rent a lift and assist with installation activities.
- 3. Solar streetlights** - A survey regarding potential streetlight installations on Mari Kay Court and Douglas Court will be distributed in January 2026. Staff recommends installing solar streetlights on the dead-end portions of these streets, as the work can be completed using internal labor and will not require an underground power supply.
- 4. Sidewalk Cutting** - Staff from Precision Concrete Cutting started concrete cutting on public sidewalks in Brentwood Forest commencing with North Swan Circle at Swallow Drive. Crews will continue here then work on Wrenwood Lane. Work should be completed in January 2026.

Director Gummersheimer also reported damage to the decorative metal fence on the Litzsinger Road Bridge from a motorcycle accident. He noted we are working with insurance on repairs and reimbursement.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval the Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2025

A motion was made by Alderman Gould and seconded by Alderwoman Harter to approve the consent agenda. **ROLL CALL:** Alderwoman Sims – aye; Alderman Gould – aye; Alderwoman Harter – aye; Alderman Plufka – aye; **MOTION CARRIES.**

OLD BUSINESS

E-Bikes/Mini Bikes/Motorized Scooters A/K/A Motorized Bicycles, Such As Vespas And Other 49cc Scooters Discussion

With the growing popularity of electric mini bicycles, the police department and elected officials have begun to see an increase in the number of complaints regarding the operation of electric bicycles on public roadways. Many of the complaints have centered around juvenile drivers ignoring traffic laws and operating in an unsafe matter. Our current ordinance classified mini bicycles equipped with gas powered motors as motorcycles which require the driver to possess a driver's license however, classified electric powered bicycles as traditional pedal bicycles. This classification as a traditional bicycle did not allow officers to take any lawful

action regarding the reckless driving of a driver under the age of 17. The City Attorney has reviewed and proposed languages making it unlawful for the parent of a child under the age of 17 to allow the operation of an electric bicycle in violation of the laws set forth in the ordinance to include traffic laws and the wearing of a helmet.

Discussions resumed regarding regulations and possible restrictions on age and location. Staff was asked to garner an executive summary from the Attorney also noting how we compare with other municipalities. Members noted interest in conducting a communications campaign when passed for awareness and also contacting the school district for input.

NEW BUSINESS

None

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.