

BILL NO. 1774

INTRODUCED BY: Alderman Hurtt

ORDINANCE NO. 1712

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WARSON WOODS, MISSOURI, AMENDING SECTION 120.020 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY AS THE SAME RELATES TO THE CITY'S ABILITY TO CLOSE MEETINGS, RECORDS AND VOTES PURSUANT TO SECTION 610.021, RSMo.

WHEREAS, in August 2023, the Missouri General Assembly amended Section 610.021, RSMo., regarding when municipalities are authorized to close meetings and records, and the exceptions thereto; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen of the City believe it to be in the best interest and benefit to the citizens and governance of the City to amend the Municipal Code to comply with the recent amendments to Section 610.021, RSMo.;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF WARSON WOODS, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That Section 120.020 of the Municipal Code of the City of Warson Woods, Missouri, be and hereby is amended by deleting Section 120.020 in its entirety and enacting, in lieu thereof, a new Section 120.020 to read as follows:

Section 120.020 Closed Meetings and Records Policy.

- A. Except to the extent disclosure is otherwise required by law, the City is authorized to close all meetings, records and votes, to the extent they relate to the following:
1. Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys. However, any minutes, vote or settlement agreement relating to legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body or any agent or entity representing its interests or acting on its behalf or with its authority, including any insurance company acting on behalf of a public governmental body as its insured, shall be made public upon final disposition of the matter voted upon or upon the signing by the parties of the settlement agreement, unless, prior to final disposition, the settlement agreement is ordered closed by a court after a written finding that the adverse impact to a plaintiff or plaintiffs to the action clearly outweighs the public policy considerations of Section 610.011, RSMo., however, the amount of any monies paid by, or on behalf of, the public governmental body shall be disclosed; provided however, in matters involving the exercise of the power of eminent domain, the vote shall be announced or become public immediately following the

- action on the motion to authorize institution of such a legal action. Legal work product shall be considered a closed record.
2. Leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration therefor. However, any minutes or vote or public record approving a contract relating to the leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body shall be made public upon execution of the lease, purchase or sale of the real estate.
 3. Hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded. However, any vote on a final decision, when taken by a public governmental body, to hire, fire, promote or discipline an employee of a public governmental body shall be made available with a record of how each member voted to the public within seventy-two (72) hours of the close of the meeting where such action occurs; provided however, that any employee so affected shall be entitled to prompt notice of such decision during the seventy-two (72) hour period before such decision is made available to the public. As used in this Subparagraph, the term "personal information" means information relating to the performance or merit of individual employees.
 4. Non-judicial mental or physical health proceedings involving an identifiable person, including medical, psychiatric, psychological, or alcoholism or drug dependency diagnosis or treatment.
 5. Testing and examination materials, before the test or examination is given or, if it is to be given again, before so given again.
 6. Welfare cases of identifiable individuals.
 7. Preparation, including any discussions or work product, on behalf of a public governmental body or its representatives for negotiations with employee groups.
 8. Software codes for electronic data processing and documentation thereof.
 9. Specifications for competitive bidding, until either the specifications are officially approved by the public governmental body or the specifications are published for bid.
 10. Sealed bids and related documents, until the bids are opened; and sealed proposals and related documents or any documents related to a negotiated contract until a contract is executed, or all proposals are rejected.
 11. Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment, except that this exemption shall not apply to the names, positions, salaries and lengths of service of officers and employees of public agencies once they are employed as such.
 12. Records which are protected from disclosure by law.
 13. Meetings and public records relating to scientific and technological innovations in which the owner has a proprietary interest.
 14. Records relating to municipal hotlines established for the reporting of abuse and wrongdoing.

15. Confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body and its auditor, including all auditor work product; however, all final audit reports issued by the auditor are to be considered open records pursuant to this Chapter.
16.
 - a. Security measures, global positioning system (GPS) data, investigative information, or investigative or surveillance techniques of any public agency responsible for law enforcement or public safety that, if disclosed, has the potential to endanger the health or safety of an individual or the public.
 - b. Any information or data provided to a tip line for the purpose of safety or security at an educational institution that, if disclosed, has the potential to endanger the health or safety of an individual or the public.
 - c. Any information contained in any suspicious activity report provided to law enforcement that, if disclosed, has the potential to endanger the health or safety of an individual or the public.
 - d. Operational guidelines, policies and specific response plans developed, adopted, or maintained by any public agency responsible for law enforcement, public safety, first response, or public health for use in responding to or preventing any critical incident which has the potential to endanger individual or public safety or health. Financial records related to the procurement of or expenditures relating to operational guidelines, policies or plans purchased with public funds shall be open. When seeking to close information pursuant to this exception, the public governmental body shall affirmatively state in writing that disclosure would impair the public governmental body's ability to protect the security or safety of persons or real property, and shall in the same writing state that the public interest in non-disclosure outweighs the public interest in disclosure of the records.
17. Existing or proposed security systems and structural plans of real property owned or leased by a public governmental body, and information that is voluntarily submitted by a non-public entity owning or operating an infrastructure to any public governmental body for use by that body to devise plans for protection of that infrastructure, the public disclosure of which would threaten public safety.
 - a. Records related to the procurement of or expenditures relating to security systems purchased with public funds shall be open.
 - b. When seeking to close information pursuant to this exception, the public governmental body shall affirmatively state in writing that disclosure would impair the public governmental body's ability to protect the security or safety of persons or real property and shall in the same writing state that the public interest in non-disclosure outweighs the public interest in disclosure of the records.
 - c. Records that are voluntarily submitted by a non-public entity shall be reviewed by the receiving agency within ninety (90)

days of submission to determine if retention of the document is necessary in furtherance of a State security interest. If retention is not necessary, the documents shall be returned to the non-public governmental body or destroyed.


18. The portion of a record that identifies security systems or access codes or authorization codes for security systems of real property.
19. Records that identify the configuration of components or the operation of a computer, computer system, computer network or telecommunications network and would allow unauthorized access to or unlawful disruption of a computer, computer system, computer network or telecommunications network of a public governmental body. This exception shall not be used to limit or deny access to otherwise public records in a file, document, data file or database containing public records. Records related to the procurement of or expenditures relating to such computer, computer system, computer network or telecommunications network, including the amount of monies paid by, or on behalf of, a public governmental body for such computer, computer system, computer network or telecommunications network, shall be open.
20. Credit card numbers, personal identification numbers, digital certificates, physical and virtual keys, access codes or authorization codes that are used to protect the security of electronic transactions between a public governmental body and a person or entity doing business with a public governmental body. Nothing in this Section shall be deemed to close the record of a person or entity using a credit card held in the name of a public governmental body or any record of a transaction made by a person using a credit card or other method of payment for which reimbursement is made by a public governmental body.

SECTION 2. Savings Clause. Except as expressly set forth herein, nothing contained in this Ordinance shall in any manner be deemed or construed to alter, modify, supersede, supplant or otherwise nullify any other Ordinance of the City or the requirements thereof whether or not relating to or in any manner connected with the subject matter hereof.

SECTION 3. Severability Clause. If any term, condition, or provision of this Ordinance shall, to any extent, be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder hereof shall be valid in all other respects and continue to be effective and each and every remaining provision hereof shall be valid and shall be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law, it being the intent of the Board of Aldermen that it would have enacted this Ordinance without the invalid or unenforceable provisions. In the event of a subsequent change in applicable law so that the provision which had been held invalid is no longer invalid, said provision shall thereupon return to full force and effect without further action by the City and shall thereafter be binding.

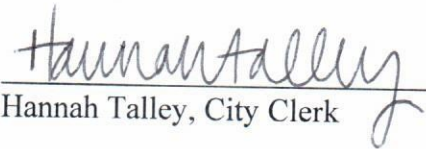
SECTION 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and take effect from and after its final passage by the Board of Aldermen and approval by the Mayor.

THIS BILL PASSED AFTER HAVING BEEN READ IN FULL TWO TIMES PRIOR TO
PASSAGE BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF WARSON WOODS,
MISSOURI, THIS 20TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.



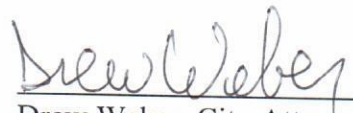
Sean Fitzgerald, Mayor

ATTEST:



Hannah Talley, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Drew Weber, City Attorney