

require, a public body to conduct a closed meeting for specific purposes elaborated in that section. § 610.022.3.

31. Section 610.022.3 further limits the topics a public governmental body may discuss once the body has closed the meeting. That statute provides, “[p]ublic governmental bodies shall not discuss any business in a closed meeting, record or vote which does not directly relate to the specific reason announced to justify the closed meeting or vote.”

32. Section 610.027.2 establishes that: “[o]nce a party seeking judicial enforcement of sections 610.010 to 610.026 demonstrates to the court that the body in question is subject to the requirements of sections 610.010 to 610.026 and has held a closed meeting, record or vote, the burden of persuasion shall be on the body and its members to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of sections 610.010 to 610.026.”

33. When a public body conducts a closed meeting, the public body must then demonstrate that a meeting was closed for the specific reason or reasons as authorized by law, that the correct provision of law was appropriately cited when taking a vote to adjourn to close session, and that its members did not discuss any business not related to the stated reason for entering the closed meeting.

34. The City’s principal office is its City Hall, located at 200 3rd St, Belle, MO 65013.

35. At all times relevant to this Petition, the City, the Board, and Mayor White have been aware of their obligations under the Missouri Open Meetings Law.