

JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL  
INFORMAL MEETING NOTES  
MAY 3, 2021

Mayor Stanley called the May 3, 2021 Joplin City Council informal meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

In attendance were Council Members: Charles Copple, Keenan Cortez, Doug Lawson, Anthony Monteleone, Diane Reid Adams, Gary Shaw, Ryan Stanley, Phil Stinnett, and Christina Williams. Also, in attendance were City Manager Nick Edwards and City Attorney Peter Edwards.

**Discussion of Project Titan** – seeking approval of City Council to finalize a proposal of this project.

Brian Corde, managing partner for Atlas Insight, gave an overview on Project Titan. Atlas Insight is a site selection and incentive consulting firm that assists clients with making decisions as to where to place their business investments, whether it be a new facility or an expansion project.

Project Titan consists of two projects that involve an existing facility. Mr. Corde represents the facility (name withheld due to confidentiality privilege) and is seeking approval from City Council to move forward with the project.

The first project is for facility modernization which would require a capital investment of \$40-\$50 million to leverage new technology and increase customer base with improvements that are necessary to improve the return on investment. The key to this is new product development to stay on pace with consumer demands by increasing efficiency and the ability to produce additional volumes to take on new customers. If this project moves forward, there would be a need for a significant amount of training. The start date would be August and October 2022.

Project 2 requires a capital investment of \$10-\$20 to go toward leveraging toward new technologies that would allow for capacity improvements to the current production lines, including packaging automation and improve ergonomics. The improvements are necessary to meet increased customer demand and enable the facility to take on additional production of new products, that would be developed in Joplin. Start-up time for this project would be between April and October 2022.

Mr. Monteleone asked if automation would reduce jobs. Mr. Corde replied the goal for automation is to allow the facility to improve its return on investment analysis. The increased production capacity will lead to more training for the current employees on more sophisticated equipment and allow them to produce more with the time that they have without the cost of any job losses.

After discussion, Mr. Cortez made the motion have City Staff bring a finalized proposal of this project to Council at a future council meeting. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, Lawson, Monteleone, Reid Adams, Shaw, Stanley, Stinnett, and Williams, 9. Nays: 0.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Barbara Gollhofer, MPCC, City Clerk