

JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL  
INFORMAL MEETING NOTES  
OCTOBER 18, 2021

Mayor Stanley called the October 18, 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, Mayor Ryan Stanley, Phil Stinnett, and Christina Williams. Also, in attendance were City Manager Nick Edwards and City Attorney Peter Edwards.

**Sales Tax Update**

Monthly Report: Finance Director Leslie Haase reported October had an increase of 2.8% compared to October 2020. The year end is up almost 12 ½ %.

Quarterly Report: Most categories of the top 100 businesses showed an increase in revenues. Motor vehicles and motor vehicles parts are down considerably due to limited supplies of both.

Year-to-date: compared to 2020, most categories saw an increase in revenues in 2021.

**International Visitors Update**

CVB Director Patrick Tuttle presented a summary of international business and leisure travelers to Joplin from 2016-2020. He explained the information is tracked when visitors use their Visa card in the 64801/64804 zip codes. Mr. Tuttle also presented a comparison summary of international travelers to other Missouri cities. Over 100 countries were represented in the report.

In 2020, there was a 27% decrease of international guests to Joplin, resulting in a 36% decrease in revenue. However, the state fared worse with a decrease of 63.4% guests and a 60.2% decrease in revenue. Travel restrictions put in place due to the Covid pandemic attributed to the decline in numbers and revenue. The good news is that since May 2021, there has been an increase in both domestic and international travelers.

**Boards/Commissions Appointments**

Mr. Cortez nominated Camille Turner to fill the unexpired seat of Kayla McCollum on the ADA Committee. 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 5:30 p.m.

Barbara Gollhofer, MPCC, City Clerk