City of Joplin
Phone Directory

Emergency – Police/Fire 911
Main Number 417-624-0820

Department Ext.
Animal Control 280
Building Codes/Inspections 521
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Airport 623-0262
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Cemeteries 623-7990
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Emergency Management 623-5858
Fire Dept. (non-emergency) 623-0403
Health Dept. 623-6122
Library 623-7953
MAPS (Metro Area Publictransit System) 626-8607
Memorial Hall 625-4750
Parks (Programs, Shelters, Leagues) 625-4750
Parks (Maintenance) 627-8879
Police Dept. (non-emergency) 623-3131
Recreation Programs 625-4750
Schifferdecker Golf Course 624-3533
Sunshine Lamp Trolley 626-8609
Trash Service—Residential 1-800-431-1507
WIC (Women, Infant & Children Supplemental Food Program) 623-1928

The Joplin Citizen is a quarterly newsletter published by the City of Joplin for all city residents to receive by mail. Please send questions or comments to Lynn Iliff Onstot, Public Information Officer, City of Joplin, 602 South Main Street, Joplin, MO 64801, or you may send an email to lonstot@joplinmo.org.

City plans family activities for holiday fun

Window displays opening earlier than previous years

To help get everyone in the holiday spirit, Joplin City Hall’s windows will again be decorated for all to enjoy. The public is invited to the annual unveiling of the large windows of the historic structure, 602 South Main. The opening takes place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, November 20. This year’s theme is “Winter Holiday in Cinema”. Santa’s elves will also provide cookies, coffee, and cocoa for those attending.

The City is again working with area attractions to help design and decorate a display for one of the windows. Agencies involved are: Joplin Museum, George Washington Carver National Monument, Joplin Little Theater, Historic Murphysburg, Wildcat Friends Group, Joplin Regional Artist Coalition, and Downtown Joplin Alliance.

Please join us for the unveiling and be sure to bring friends and family down to enjoy this year’s decorations. Starting a little earlier this year, the decorations will be up for those visiting Joplin during the Thanksgiving season and will be on display for public viewing through Sunday, January 6, 2019.

And after seeing the displays, be sure to walk down to Spiva Park at 4th & Main for the tree lighting event. Read on for details...

Spiva Park Tree Lighting set for November 20

The annual Spiva Park Tree Lighting Ceremony brings a festive holiday spirit to downtown Joplin. Set for Tuesday, November 20, this free family-friendly event is held at Spiva Park, at the corner of 4th and Main Street. Activities, including music, refreshments, as well as a craft projects for kids start at 6 p.m.

Lights for the tree and park area will be turned on at 6:30 p.m. and will brighten the downtown to welcome the holiday season.

The Christmas light show displayed in the park is set to music and starts on the half hour, from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Area residents are welcome to come to the park in the evenings between November 20 and January 1, 2019 to watch the show.

For more information, call the Joplin Parks & Recreation office at 417-625-4750.

For more fun activities & programs, see page 6

Santa’s Workshop: theme for annual Christmas Parade

Come downtown to enjoy the Annual Christmas Parade on Tuesday, December 4. Starting at 6 p.m. the parade follows Main Street, beginning at 15th Street and ending at 3rd Street. This year’s theme is “Santa’s Workshop”.

For more information about placing an entry in the parade, contact Freeman Health Systems, coordinator of the event, at 417-347-3962 or email joplinchristmasparade@freemanhealth.com.
New Senior Center offers more space and beautiful view

Disaster recovery funds used for new facility

The new Senior Center opened in July and a ribbon cutting and open house was held in August. A great crowd joined City officials, representatives from the Area Agency, and the Joplin Area Chamber’s Ambassadors.

This new facility provides staff with a larger kitchen and prep area, and patrons enjoy a designated room for exercise classes, a computer lab, reading area, a billiards room, and a private area for health and wellness checks and counseling. The center is now also an official stop of the Sunshine Lamp Trolley.

Located at 2616 Picher Avenue, it is open from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and offers a low-cost lunch for citizens age 60 and up Monday through Friday. Center staff also prepare the meals for delivery to homebound seniors offered through the Area Agency on Aging.

“We had outgrown the previous facility,” said Stan Heater, Chief Executive Officer of AAA. “This center gives room for an efficient traffic flow that helps our staff and volunteers providing this service to the community. Plus, there’s more space for other services our seniors enjoy.”

Last fiscal year, which ended in June 2018, the center provided 17,560 meals to senior citizens at the center, and 54,690 homebound meals were prepared for the Meals on Wheels program. The new center’s dining area accommodates about 200 people, including some outdoor seating.

The previous center at 22nd and Jackson Avenue received structural damage during the May 2011 tornado. Funds from the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program were used to build the center. The grant is offered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

“This program focuses on rebuilding communities after disasters, and this center is just one of the projects that’s been achieved with this grant,” said Patty Heagel, Assistant Director of Planning, Development and Neighborhood Services. “We appreciate HUD and their support of Joplin’s recovery. We also thank and recognize Mercy for their donation of the property within a centrally located area that is convenient for retired citizens and seniors.”

Bates Architects, Rogers, Ark., served as the architect and R.E. Smith Construction, Joplin, was the contractor for the project. Guidehouse (aka PricewaterhouseCoopers Public Sector) and Viriya Consulting, LLC provided management and oversight of this facility from the onset of the development.

“The location, appearance and the many services offered here are a wonderful resource for our seniors,” said Joplin Mayor Gary Shaw. “The team focused on not only providing a beautiful center but also one that will serve this community for a number of years. We’re pleased that so many are already enjoying it and invite others to come and experience this place while benefitting from the various services offered here.”

New lending service at Library provides access via mobile devices

Joplin Public Library is excited to introduce hoopla, a brand new, revolutionary library lending service! Patrons can now borrow thousands of videos and music albums right from a smartphone, tablet or web browser. This easy-to-use digital lending platform is available to all Joplin Public Library patrons using web browsers or Apple devices.

hoopla is a program that allows Joplin Public Library patrons to use their library account to electronically borrow movies, TV episodes and music albums and access them from any compatible device. Using cloud computing, patrons can borrow titles using a home computer, begin watching on a tablet, and resume using a smartphone – anywhere there’s an Internet connection!

The app is designed for users of all ages and skill levels, and is as easy to navigate as the library shelves. Best of all, with mobile devices, hoopla allows you to take the library with you wherever you go!

Patrons will enjoy access to over 300,000 videos and music albums! Simply find a title, click “Borrow,” and watch or listen wherever you are. When your lending period expires titles are automatically removed from your library, making late fees a thing of the past.

hoopla was designed and published by Midwest Tape, LLC. Midwest Tape has been a leader in library media service for over 25 years.

For more information, call the Library at 417-623-7953 or visit our website, www.joplinpubliclibrary.org.
Early Childhood Center is first Disaster Recovery program featured on HUD website
Center offers hands-on learning for our youngest citizens

Joplin’s Early Childhood Center opened in April 2018 and has gained much attention for its unique and advanced environment for some of our younger citizens. The center provides half-day educational services targeted specifically to meet the special needs and low to moderate income households with three- to five-year-olds. With 38,000 square-foot, the Center can accommodate approximately 400 children. After the disaster, the early childhood classes were being held in FEMA trailers.

As part of the City’s long-term recovery plan, the School District’s Center offers a hands-on and innovative approach to provide a strong foundation for early development of children, ensuring their preparedness for kindergarten. It also provides half-day day care options for the children enrolled to fill the gap of child care needs due to Joplin’s loss of a number of licensed childcare spots in the disaster.

The City partnered with the State of Missouri to build the $10 million center. The project was funded through the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program of the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. Located at 2825 S. McClelland, is the center part of the Joplin Schools system.

The Childhood Center is the first CDBG-DR project nationwide to be profiled on the HUD Exchange website. This website highlights programs and projects around the country that have been achieved with CDBG assistance.

“We were pleased to hear this news,” said Patty Heagel, Assistant Director of Planning, Development and Neighborhood Services. “Joplin is honored to be the first community to have a project profiled that has been made possible through HUD’s disaster recovery program. We’ve had great assistance through HUD and appreciate their support of our recovery efforts.”

To view the profile: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg/project-profiles/

Recycling Center offers Community Shred Event on November 17

Start cleaning out your files! Region M Sold Waste Management District and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources is partnering with the Joplin Police Department and Recycling Center to host a free shredding event in November.

If you have personal papers no longer needed, but you fear identity theft if you trash them, then bring your papers to the mobile shredding truck on Saturday, November 17. The service is available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Joplin Recycling Center at 1310 West A Street.

This is a great opportunity to safeguard your identity and protect yourself from fraud. All of the paper shredding will be performed ON SITE by CRC Shredding. Large amounts of paper can be shredded quickly at no cost and witnessed via an interior camera. Volunteers will be available to help unload boxes.

CRC Shredding is a secure service provider and is fully compliant with industry standards and regulations. All shredded paper will be recycled.

For additional information, contact the Recycling Department at 417-624-0820 ext. 501.

Wastewater rate to increase 12% in 2019 for residents

Starting in January 2019, Joplin residents will experience a 12% increase to their wastewater billing. The rates will be reflected on any bills sent after January 1, 2019.

The average sewer charge on residential homes inside the city will be $43.98, an addition of $4.70 from the current average charge of $39.28. The bill will also have the $11.95 trash rate posted on it, making the total bill to be $55.93. Currently, the total is $51.23 with trash. Customers who participate in curbside recycling will pay an additional $4.75.

Wastewater rates are based on a volume charge per 1,000 gallons, and the size of the customer’s meter. In 2019, it will be $2.07 per 1,000 gallons, up from the $1.85 per 1,000 gallons. The average customer uses approximately 6,000 gallons per month and has a five-eighths inch meter. The meter charge increases as the meter size increases past three-quarters of an inch. Rates are based on customers’ water usage of the three coldest months of the year, December through February.

This year’s increase is the final year of the five-year plan, as outlined in the 2014 wastewater rate study that affected rates from 2015 through 2019. The City anticipates beginning the next rate study this winter for 2020 through 2024.

The City has an independent wastewater rate study completed every five years for the wastewater utility. The study provides real-time data to determine the cost of providing wastewater services by reviewing the volumes of wastewater being treated and the operation and maintenance costs of the City’s two treatment plants.

The Shoal Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Turkey Creek facility treat a combined average of 15 million gallons of wastewater each day, prior to discharging into their respective streams. Wastewater treatment is essential for the protection of public health and the water quality of streams, lakes and rivers in Missouri and the nation.

For more information about wastewater rates, please contact Lynden Lawson at 417-624-0820, ext. 1560.
Health Dept. offers flu shots for Joplin residents
Call office to learn more about insurance coverage, costs

Unfortunately, the flu is a common illness this time of year. It is a contagious respiratory illness caused by flu viruses. Common symptoms include fever, headache, muscle or body aches, feeling tired, cough, sore throat, and a runny or stuffy nose. While some symptoms mimic the common cold, it is different from a cold. In most cases, the flu causes mild to moderate illness, but it can lead to severe illness, and complications can lead to death.

People with the flu can spread the virus before, during, and after they are sick. Flu is spread mainly by droplets made when people who have the flu cough, sneeze, or talk. Viruses can also spread on surfaces, but this is less common. Anyone can get the flu. Some people – like very young children, older adults, and people with some health conditions – are at high risk of serious complications.

Everyone 6 months of age and older should get a flu vaccine every season. Because it takes about 2 weeks before antibodies build up in your system, it is important to receive your vaccine prior to flu season (October-May).

You cannot get the flu from a flu shot. In most cases, individuals receiving the flu vaccination experience no or mild reactions that can include soreness at the shot site, aches, headache, and itching. Rarely do serious complications occur. The health professional administering the vaccine will review your health history, and let you know if you should not receive the flu shot.

You have many options to obtain a flu vaccination. Many physician offices, pharmacies, and health departments offer the flu vaccine, and many insurance companies pay for the injection.

The Joplin Health Department has influenza vaccine for children and adults. We can bill many insurances, including Medicare and Medicaid. We also carry vaccine for those without insurance. Call 623-6122 to determine what your cost, if any, will be for this important immunization and to schedule an appointment.

Fun awaits at the Joplin Public Library
Looking for fun children’s activities? Be sure to check out the series of programs for children in elementary school coming up this fall and winter!

Pumpkin Decorating Contest
October 21-31
Decorate a book-themed pumpkin and enter it in the annual Children’s Department pumpkin-decorating contest. Submit pumpkins for voting between Sat., October 21 - Tues., October 24. Voting will take place through October 31, and winners will be announced on Halloween. All ages are welcome to enter! Only artificial pumpkins will be accepted.

Children & Family Dance Party!
Sat., November 3
10 a.m. – 12 noon
Join Chelsey Davenport and the Children’s Department for an energetic dance party filled with games, singing, and plenty of dancing!

Dog Day Afternoon: Happy Holidays
Tues., December 11, 4 - 6 PM
The holidays have gone to the dogs! Our furry friends are back for a special holiday-themed event. Photo opportunities will be available.

Children & Family Dance Party!
Sat., January 5, 2019; 10 AM – 12 Noon
Join Chelsey Davenport and the Children’s Department for an energetic dance party filled with games, singing, and plenty of dancing!

Harry Potter Book Night
Fri., February 1, 2019; 3:30-5:30 PM
Back by popular demand! You won’t believe what the Children’s Department has conjured this year in celebration of our favorite boy wizard! Costumes are encouraged, but not required.

For more information contact Tammie Benham, Children’s Librarian at the Joplin Public Library at 417-623-2184.

Enjoy newest updates in City Parks
Projects funded by Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax

◆ There’s a new shelter/amphitheater at Ewert Park. Groups can rent this out for gatherings, picnics, etc. And the design is perfect to host small entertainment groups for festivals and events.

◆ The new inline hockey court in Schifferdecker Park is completed. Park goers can now play roller hockey or futsal (the small sided game of soccer.)

◆ New playground equipment at Leonard Park has been recently installed.

◆ Cunningham Park’s basketball court has been refurbished and is ready for some action.

◆ Landreth Park tennis courts have been repaired and are now reconfigured for 8 Pickle Ball Courts – Joplin’s newest recreational offering.

◆ The tennis court at Leonard Park has been repaired and repainted for tennis enthusiasts. It is also lined as a Pickle Ball Court.

◆ With the weather cooling off, now is the time to get outside and enjoy these great additions and updates in our parks. All of the items listed were paid with funds from the Parks and Stormwater Sales Tax that was renewed by voters in 2011.

◆ To learn more about the past year of Parks and Recreation’s activities and programs, check out their annual report at: https://issuu.com/joplinparks/docs/2017_jpr_annual_report
$7.5 million grant to fund needed taxiway repairs at Joplin Regional Airport

One of Joplin Regional Airport’s main runways used for daily flights in and out of Joplin will soon be repaired with the assistance of a $7.5 million federal grant. In September, U.S. Senator Roy Blunt, announced that Joplin’s Airport will be awarded the grant through the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP).

In 2017 when American Airlines upgraded the aircraft that customers fly to and from Joplin, Airport Manager Steve Stockam was pleased with the additional service, however he recognized the impact these jets would have on the taxiway. Working with FAA later that year, he provided data on the deteriorating conditions of Taxiway D and Runway 18-36. At that time, both agreed that the increased weight of aircrafts provided justification of a strengthening of the pavements, however the AIP priority for this type of work did not meet the level needed for discretionary funding.

Less than a year later, the surfaces began to show significant elevation of distress when compared to previous year according to the 2018 Pavement Management Plan Update. “We were facing a tough situation, and the deterioration was continuing,” said Stockam. “A few months ago, we learned of a possible funding source to pursue when Congress made a special appropriation to fund President Trump’s infrastructure program. Some of those dollars would go toward FAA projects that could be completed in two years. We moved quickly to file for a grant.”

Airport staff and City officials worked with engineers Crawford & Tilley, Inc. and Allgeier, Martin & Associates to design the project and bid within a 90-window timeframe. “We were facing a September 1 deadline, so we had to move fast to submit our application for the first round of funding.”

When notified of Blunt’s announcement on receiving the grant, Stockam learned that Joplin was one of only 37 projects selected for the first-round of funding, and just five airports were from the central part of the U.S. In total, 297 applications were filed with FAA for $666 million in funding.

“This was a ‘right place at the right time situation,” said Stockam. “With the steady growth and success of our commercial service with American Airlines we’ve seen an impact on our infrastructure. The larger commercial aircraft are great news for our customers but have taken a toll on the 25-year-old taxiway that supports our main runway. With the support of Senator Blunt, this grant provided a window of opportunity to address this deteriorating taxiway immediately. Reconstructing Taxiway D now will ensure that we have the infrastructure in place to support the continued growth of our commercial service as we look to add frequency and new service routes.”

The $7.5 million grant will fund 95% of the construction cost. The City will pay the remaining 5%, or approximately $395,000 for the work completed. It will come from the half-cent transportation sales tax that is designated for city’s costs of street maintenance, airport service and public transportation. Work is expected to start in spring 2019.

“Reconstructing the taxiway will allow Joplin Regional Airport to keep up with increasing travel demand, which is great for local families and businesses,” said Blunt. “I’ve been proud to advocate for the Airport Improvement Program, which is especially important for our regional airports. I’ll continue supporting efforts to enhance passenger safety and strengthen our state’s air transportation network.”

Environmental Task Force awards scholarships to area college students

The Environmental Task Force of Jasper and Newton Counties (ETF) recently awarded the Bob Nichols Memorial Environmental Scholarship to two local area residents. The $500 scholarship is granted to students majoring in a course of study relating to the environment or environmental stewardship, and reside in Jasper or Newton County.

Hannah L. Morrison and Khye J. Hill were selected as this year’s winners. Morrison is an Environmental Health and Safety major, and Hill is majoring in Ecology. Both attend Missouri Southern State University in Joplin.

The ETF recently created the scholarship to honor Bob Nichols, who served as the chairperson of this group for many years and was a fervent supporter of local and national environmental stewardship. He was a longtime Webb City area resident who donated both time and money to support environmental protection and improvement.

The ETF is comprised of local residents and professionals dedicated to maintaining and improving the soil, water and air quality of Jasper and Newton Counties. The Task Force was formed to address the impact of contaminants introduced as the result of area mining and neglect. It continues to serve as the liaison between the Environmental Protection Agency and local governments for the continued Superfund cleanup activities in the area. It also works to address other air and water contamination issues in the Jasper and Newton counties area. The Task Force has a 501c-3 not for profit status. For more information go to www.envtaskforce.com.

From left, front row: Awardees Hanna Morrison & Khye Hill gather with ETF group for award, including Dan Pekarek, City Health Director, Eileen Nichols, ETF member & Bob Nichols’ daughter. Back row: ETF members Jeff Burkett & Bob Hockman, Tony Moehr, Jasper County Health Director, ETF members Heidi Scheffler & Jill Cornett, MSSU Professors of Environmental Health Teresa Boman & Dr. Mike Fletcher
Old-Fashioned Hayride at McClelland Park

The Joplin Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting their annual Old-Fashioned Hayride at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 19 at McClelland Park. The event is completely free to the public.

The family-friendly event is a wonderful way to enjoy an autumn evening under the stars. Tractor-drawn hayrides will take visitors through the park. The department will be handing out 1,000 hot dogs and s’mores to roast over campfires scattered around the park. Attendees are encouraged to bring roasting sticks to have a weenie roast around the campfires. The movie, Coco, will be shown during the event.

Adult Futsal & Volleyball Leagues Start in November

Registration is now open for the Joplin Parks and Recreation adult recreational sport leagues. Anyone can form a team from work, church, social group, or neighborhood.

Current league offerings are volleyball and futsal. Leagues are filled on a first-come first-served basis. Adult volleyball will play Tuesday evenings, beginning November 6, and futsal will play on Sunday afternoons, starting November 4. The registration deadline is October 28.

Adult volleyball costs $240/team and futsal costs $275/team. All games are played at Memorial Hall, 212 W. 8th Street.

To register, call Parks & Recreation at 417-625-4750 or visit www.joplinparks.org.

Win a Thanksgiving Turkey at the Annual Shootout

Children between the grades of kindergarten through 8th grade are welcome to come and test their basketball skills at the Annual Turkey Shootout at Memorial Hall. During this free throw contest, children compete to win a turkey and/or other prizes.

The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. on November 16. Registration is free and required by November 15 by calling Parks & Recreation at 417-625-4750 or visit www.joplinparks.org.

Letters from Santa Campaign begins November 14

Hey kids, let Santa Claus know how good you’ve been this year! Write a letter to Santa and drop it in Santa’s Mailbox at the Joplin Parks & Recreation Department or at Academy Sports & Outdoors and we’ll deliver it to the North Pole, Polar Express style! Santa’s Mailbox will be available from November 14 to December 3. Santa will write to each child who writes him a letter, provided all letters are in by Monday, December 3!

Please be sure the child includes their full name, wish list, and a RETURN ADDRESS so the Jolly Old Gent can write them back!

Please address letters to:
Santa’s Workshop
9 Reindeer Road
North Pole

Christmas Light Show at Spiva Park

Returning this year is the popular Christmas light show that is set to music, which starts on the half hour and runs from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Area residents are welcome to come to the park in the evenings between November 20 and January 1 to watch the show.

Candy Cane Hunt

Join us Friday, December 7 for our 13th Annual Candy Cane Hunt at Memorial Hall! Santa’s helpers will spread candy canes and prizes around the building for the children to find! After the hunt, children will participate in a craft activity while enjoying hot chocolate.

The Hunt begins at 6 p.m., and the cost is $5 per child. Recommended age is from 3 to 10 years old. Pre-registration is required by December 5 by calling Parks & Recreation at 417-625-4750 or visit www.joplinparks.org.

Fun Events and Programs Planned for All Ages

For more information or to register for any of these listings, call Joplin Parks & Recreation at 417-625-4750 or visit www.joplinparks.org.
Making a call to the City?

Need to call the City for a question about your sewer and trash bill? Or maybe you’re making some improvements to your home and need a building permit? Whatever the reason, we want to help get you to the correct department and staff member quickly and efficiently.

If dialing the general number of the City, 417-624-0820, callers are greeted with an automated system to help direct the caller on how to reach their party. **We encourage everyone to please listen and follow the instructions to ensure they receive assistance in quickest possible way.** To help with this, we’ve established “shortcuts” to areas that receive frequent calls. Here’s a “cheat sheet” of options you’ll hear when you call us at the City:

- If you **know your party’s extension, please press 1 followed by the extension number**;
- If you know the **Employee’s Name – please press 2**
- To talk with someone about a **Fine, or a Court matter, please press 3**
- For a **building permit, inspection or other building questions, please press 4**
- For questions about your **sewer or trash billing, please press 5**
- If calling about a **job application or a question for Human Resources, please press 6**
- For a complete list of **City departments, please press 7**
- To talk with someone about a **specific comment or concern, please press 8**

### Departments & services with direct lines (Area code 417)

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<tr>
<th>Department</th>
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<td>Airport</td>
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<td>1-800-431-1507</td>
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<tr>
<td>WIC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Be sure to listen to the voice prompts following your selection.

Please note: if calling a certain person or extension, it is important to dial “1” before dialing your party’s extension number for the call to reach them. Otherwise, your call will be transferred to one of the options listed above, depending on the first number of their extension.

This technology has advanced since the installation of the current phone system, and the City will be implementing a new system in mid-2019. With this change, ALL extension will move to a four-digit extension, with “1” being the first number in each of these.

Many areas have staff that must be out of the office in order to complete their job. Please leave a voicemail for the person you’re trying to reach. Staffers will check their messages and get back with you as soon as they can. To help the public access some staff members who have to be out of the office for their job, some landline extensions are sometimes forwarded to the staff member’s cell phone.

The City’s operators have also noted that many people will call the City’s general number if they missed a call. (Mobile technology captures the ten-digit number; however it does not relay the extension.) Operators have no way to know which of the 500+ employees called someone, or what it would be concerning. Generally, most will call back to reach you, or they will leave a voicemail if their business is not confidential. However, messages cannot be left on phones that voicemail boxes have not been set up or are full, so if doing business with the City, be sure to have available space for a message.

You may also contact the City via email. Department listings are noted on our webpage and can be found at [http://www.joplinmo.org/Directory.aspx](http://www.joplinmo.org/Directory.aspx).

We appreciate your cooperation and assistance in communicating with our citizens, and we are here to serve you.
Citizens are welcome to attend City Council meetings and address Council members regarding issues or concerns they may have. There are several options within the agenda where citizens’ comments are heard:

- Persons wishing to address the City Council regarding an issue or concern that is not related to an item on the City Council meeting agenda should submit a Request to Address Joplin City Council form to the City Clerk. If the form is submitted prior to 12 noon on the Thursday preceding the scheduled council meeting, the citizen’s request would be heard under the “Citizens Requests and Petitions” section of the meeting. This request would also appear on the posted agenda.

- If the request is received AFTER the 12 noon, Thursday deadline, the person would address Council during the New Business portion of the meeting. This request will not appear on the written agenda; however, the City Clerk will alert Council to the request at the beginning of New Business, and the citizen would be invited to the podium to speak.

- If a citizen would like to address the City Council regarding an item ON THE AGENDA, and it is not listed under the Public Hearing section, they should complete a request to address the Council and submit it to the City Clerk before the item is introduced at the meeting. The City Clerk will call them up at the introduction of the item and they can make their comments to Council at that time.

- If an item is listed under Public Hearings, the format provides an opportunity for citizens to address the item in favor or against it, without having to complete a form.

The Request to Address Joplin City Council form is available in the City Clerk’s office on the second floor of City Hall or can be found on the City’s website at http://mo-joplin2.civicplus.com/FormCenter/City-Clerk-6-6/Request-to-Address-Council-92-92. Barb Gollhofer, City Clerk, sits on the left side of the dais and will have this form available at the meeting.

Citizens addressing Council are given five minutes to make their comments. Council may ask them questions, and this time is not accounted for within the five-minute time period. City Council meetings are held at 6 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month. For questions about these protocols, or other City Council matters, please contact the City Clerk’s office at 417-624-0820, ext. 220.