

**JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL  
MARCH 20, 2023  
MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The March 20, 2023, regular meeting of the Joplin City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Doug Lawson.

**INVOCATION** was read by City Clerk Holly Nagy.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA** was led by Mr. Josh DeTar.

**ROLL CALL**

Answering Roll Call were Council Members: Charles Cople, Keenan Cortez, Josh DeTar, Mark Farnham, Doug Lawson, Gary Shaw, Phil Stinnett, and Christina Williams. Also, in attendance were City Manager Nick Edwards and Assistant City Attorney Jordan Paul.

Motion by Mr. Cortez, second by Dr. Farnham to excuse the absence of Kate Spencer. Voting in favor were Council Members: Cople, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams, 8. Nays: 0. Absent: Spencer, 1.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Olivia Apartments Update was presented by Jeff Neal from Neal Group Construction and Sawyer Smith from Blue Haven Investments.

Motion by Mr. Cople, second by Mr. Shaw for an extension to the agreement for 24 months from approval of next set of building plans by the building department. Voting in favor were Council Members: Cople, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, and Stinnett, 7. Nays: 0. Absent: Spencer, 1. Abstained: Williams, 1.

**FINALIZATION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Some people may have already noticed the colorful box that recently was put up near 8<sup>th</sup> and Joplin Streets, and I'm pleased to explain its purpose. It is a Retired Flag Drop Off Box that Post 13 of the American Legion has placed there for everyone's convenience.

If your American flag is torn or worn down significantly, you can drop it into a Retired Flag box for proper disposal. There are two boxes in Joplin, with one centrally located just east of Memorial Hall at 8<sup>th</sup> and Joplin Street, and the other box is located at the General Aviation Terminal at 5497 Dennis Weaver Drive on the north side of Joplin. Currently the box at the general aviation terminal is located just inside the doors. This box will soon be relocated outside of the building to

allow access to it 24/7.

Members of Post 13 will pick up these flags on a regular basis and store them so they can be properly disposed of during their Annual Flag Retirement Ceremony on Flag Day, June 14.

If you haven't heard – our community has a significant milestone coming up this Thursday. Joplin will celebrate it's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The Celebrations Commission has been actively planning to recognize our City's Sesquicentennial and we have a couple of events coming up this week.

On Tuesday, March 21 (tomorrow) the life of Gabby Street will be presented by Dr. Galen Irwin at Joplin History & Mineral Museum, located in Schifferdecker Park. This free event begins at 6 p.m. with refreshments and the presentation starts at 7 p.m.

On Thursday, Joplin artist Thomas Hart Benton is the focus of a program that Joplin Historian Brad Belk will give here in this room starting at 2:30 p.m. Following we'll move to the Main Lobby on the first floor for a LIVE broadcast of KSN's Living Well program. Several historical segments are planned during the show. Plus there will be birthday cookies and punch for everyone to enjoy and celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

To close the celebration, Joplin's Journey of Faith will recognize Joplin's spiritual heritage with music and insight of Joplin's beliefs from yesterday, today and tomorrow. The program will be held at Central Christian Center, 410 Virginia Avenue, and is hosted by Joplin Ministerial Alliance.

There are other fun events coming up in April and May, plus a movie showcase running from April 13 through July 27 featuring events or actors with a connection to Joplin. Visit Celebrate Joplin's Facebook page for details.

A quick reminder - Joplin Recycling Center is hosting a Paper Shredding Event set for Saturday, April 1 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Center located at 1310 West A Street.

This event is free and open to all residents with a limit of 15 standard-sized file boxes per car. Non-paper materials, such as cardboard, packing paper and brown paper sacks will not be accepted.

During this community service, large amounts of paper can be shredded quickly at no cost to area residents. The document shredding company, Big Bear Shredding, will have their mobile shred truck at the Center and look forward to helping residents clear out papers they've been storing in their homes.

For more information or questions about these announcements or other City items, please visit our website or our Facebook page.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS AND PETITIONS**

Mary Price spoke on financial discrepancies & fiscal responsibility.

Brian Evans spoke on fiscal responsibility, public safety, and taking care of our first responders.

Frank Thompson requested to speak on Joplin’s future moving forward.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Cortez, second by Mr. Shaw to approve the Consent Agenda. Voting in favor were Council Members: Cople, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0. Absent: Spencer 1.

Minutes of the March 6, 2023, City Council Meeting

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-253 - AN ORDINANCE amending Ordinance No. 2022-274, passed by the Council of the City of Joplin, Missouri, August 1, 2022, by removing from District M-2 (Heavy Industrial) and including in District R-3 (Apartment House) property as described below and located approximately 200 feet East of the intersection of S. Maiden Ln. and W. 2nd St, South of W. 2nd St and North of W 4th St. The Council Bill was declared adopted and entitled **Ordinance No. 2023-035**.

**RESOLUTIONS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-004

Mr. Stinnett introduced Resolution No. 2023-004- A RESOLUTION approving modifications to the City of Joplin Purchasing Policy. Motion by Mr. Stinnett, second by Mr. DeTar that Resolution No. 2023-004 be passed. Voting in favor were Council Members: Cople, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams, 8. Nays: 0. Absent: Spencer, 1.

**ORDINANCES – EMERGENCY**

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-110

Mr. Shaw introduced Council Bill No. 2023-110 - AN ORDINANCE approving the City of Joplin to enter into a construction agreement with Blevins Asphalt Construction Company Inc. in the not to exceed amount of One Million, Five Hundred Forty-One Thousand, Nine Hundred Forty-Three and 53/100 Dollars, (\$1,541,943.53) for the Mill and Overlay 2023 project; and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Joplin; and, containing an emergency clause. Motion by Mr. Shaw, second by Mr. Cortez that Council Bill No. 2023-110 be passed on an emergency basis. Voting in favor were Council Members: Cople, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams, 8. Nays: 0. Absent: Spencer, 1. The Council Bill was declared adopted and entitled **Ordinance No. 2023-036**.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-114

Mr. Copple introduced Council Bill No. 2023-114 - AN ORDINANCE approving a Purchase Order to ATMAX Equipment Company in the amount of Two Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Seven and 75/100 Dollars (\$234,457.75) for the purchase of a Mower Max Boom Tractor; and containing an emergency clause. Motion by Mr. Copple, second by Mr. DeTar that Council Bill No. 2023-114 be passed on an emergency basis. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0 Absent: Spencer, 1. The Council Bill was declared adopted and entitled **Ordinance No. 2023-037.**

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-350

Dr. Farnham introduced Council Bill No. 2023-350 - AN ORDINANCE approving the contract by and between the City of Joplin and USA Demolition for the demolition of the structure(s) and clearing of a lot located at 218 N Wall Ave. in the City of Joplin, Missouri, for Four Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty dollars (\$4,950.00); providing how the cost thereof shall be paid; how the assessment thereof shall be made; and containing an emergency clause. Motion by Dr. Farnham, second by Mr. DeTar that Council Bill No. 2023-350 be passed on an emergency basis. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, and Stinnett, 7. Nays: 0. Absent: Spencer, 1. Abstained: Williams, 1. The Council Bill was declared adopted and entitled **Ordinance No. 2023-038.**

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-351

Mr. Cortez introduced Council Bill No. 2023-351 - AN ORDINANCE approving the contract by and between the City of Joplin and USA Demolition for the demolition of the structure(s) and clearing of a lot located at 1417 W 20TH St. in the City of Joplin, Missouri, for Four Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-Five dollars (\$4,875.00); providing how the cost thereof shall be paid; how the assessment thereof shall be made; and containing an emergency clause. Motion by Mr. Cortez, second by Dr. Farnham that Council Bill No. 2023-351 be passed on an emergency basis. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0 Absent: Spencer, 1. The Council Bill was declared adopted and entitled **Ordinance No. 2023-039.**

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-352

Mr. Copple introduced Council Bill No. 2023-352 - AN ORDINANCE approving the contract by and between the City of Joplin and USA Demolition for the demolition of the structure(s) and clearing of a lot located at 1818 S Pearl Ave. in the City of Joplin, Missouri, for Four Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-Five dollars (\$4,575.00); providing how the cost thereof shall be paid; how the assessment thereof shall be made; and containing an emergency clause. Motion by Mr. Copple, second by Dr. Farnham that Council Bill No. 2023-352 be tabled. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0 Absent: Spencer, 1. The Council Bill was tabled.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-505

Mr. Cortez introduced Council Bill No. 2023-505 - AN ORDINANCE adopting a revised step pay plan by reference the City Salary Administration Plan; establishing the annual salary of certain Classified and Unclassified positions for Fiscal Year 2022-2023; amending the Annual Budget of the City of Joplin for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 as adopted by Ordinance 2022-161 on October 17, 2022, to adjust appropriations; and, containing an emergency clause. Motion by Mr. Cortez, second by Dr. Farnham that Council Bill No. 2023-505 be passed on an emergency basis. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0 Absent: Spencer, 1. The Council Bill was declared adopted and entitled **Ordinance No. 2023-040**.

**ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-005

Mr. Stinnett introduced Council Bill No. 2023-005 - AN ORDINANCE amending Chapter 82 – Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article V – Offenses Against Health and Safety, by changing offenses related to marijuana as a result of November 8, 2022, general election ballot measure Amendment 3. Motion by Mr. Stinnett, second by Mr. DeTar that Council Bill No. 2023-005 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0 Absent: Spencer, 1. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2023-005.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-103

Mr. DeTar introduced Council Bill No. 2023-103 - AN ORDINANCE approving a construction agreement with McClanahan Construction, Inc. in the amount of Two Million, Two Hundred Fifty-Four Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$2,254,000.00) for the Turkey Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Equipment Building project, authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Joplin. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Cortez that Council Bill No. 2023-103 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0 Absent: Spencer, 1. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2023-103.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-604

Mr. Cortez introduced Council Bill No. 2023-604 - AN ORDINANCE approving the revised Rules and Regulations (Employee Handbook) as contained to govern employee conduct, workplace protections, job classification, benefits, compensation, discipline, safety, employment practices and to ensure compliance with the Charter of the City of Joplin, State and Federal employment laws. Motion by Mr. Cortez, second by Dr. Farnham that Council Bill No. 2023-604 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0 Absent: Spencer, 1. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2023-604.

**SECOND AND THIRD READING**

**COUNCIL BILL NO. 2023-259**

Mr. DeTar introduced Council Bill No. 2023-259 - AN ORDINANCE providing to vacate approximately 550 feet of Bird Avenue, approximately located between W 15th St and W Junge Boulevard, City of Joplin, Jasper County, Missouri. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Cortez to pass Council Bill No. 2023-259 on Second Reading, advance to Third Reading and pass. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0 Absent: Spencer, 1. The Council Bill was declared adopted and entitled **Ordinance No. 2023-041**.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Kathy Martin spoke on progress of street alley lighting and homelessness.

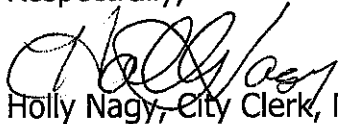
Discussion ensued regarding the water lines at Joe Becker Stadium.

Motion by Mr. Copple, second by Mr. Cortez to direct the City Manager to direct his staff to look into what it would take to properly winterize the ball field so that water can be left on all year round. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0 Absent: Spencer, 1.

Vote to go into closed session, which shall pertain to leasing, purchasing or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration therefore as set forth in Section 610.021 (2) RSMo, as amended, 2020. This meeting, record, and vote to be closed to the extent provided by law. The City Council shall adjourn at the end of the session. Motion by Mr. Shaw, second by Dr. Farnham to go into closed session. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Lawson, Shaw, Stinnett, and Williams 8. Nays: 0 Absent: Spencer, 1.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully,



Holly Nagy, City Clerk, MRCC