

**JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL
INFORMAL MEETING NOTES
JULY 17, 2023**

Mayor Lawson called the July 17, 2023, Joplin City Council informal meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

In attendance were Council Members: Charles Copple, Keenan Cortez, Josh DeTar, Mark Farnham, Doug Lawson, Gary Shaw, Kate Spencer, Phil Stinnett, and Christina Williams. Also, in attendance were City Manager Nick Edwards and City Attorney Peter Edwards.

Sales and Use Tax Update

Leslie Haase, Finance Director presented.

We have July sales tax, not quite as good of a month as we had last year. It came in down just over 2.5% for the year we are up 3.5%. August 2022 was a largest month ever. I do not anticipate having a month like that this year.

The manufacturing tax has gone away. This is the month we go through the 3rd quarter results for sales tax. The next slide is May-July top 100 businesses which does capture a large majority of our sales tax, but the businesses do change from quarter to quarter. Blue is last fiscal year; green is this fiscal year. The mall not having as good of a quarter, the 3rd quarter is not as good as last year. Discount stores are doing better, grocery stores are about the same, furniture stores not as good, restaurants are doing a little bit better. One area that did surprise me construction and home improvement for the quarter was down, motor vehicles for this quarter a little down, telephone and utilities up, hotel motel up just a little bit, convenience stores down. North Park Crossing essentially same. 1717 up, general retail about the same, and a decrease in other.

Year to date through the 3rd quarter pink is 2022 yellow is 2023 you can see looking from 3rd quarter to this, sort of evens out some categories. The mall is obviously still down but not as much the 3rd quarter. Discount stores still doing better in 2023, grocery stores down, furniture down, restaurants up, construction when you look at the whole year its up, but not a lot. Motor vehicles, I'm sure this is part of the interest rates we are seeing, so it's down. Telephone and utilities are up, Hotel motel up just a little bit, convenience stores are up, North Park Crossing is down just a little bit, 1717 up and then general retail and other are down.

We will move to use tax. July was a good month use tax, one of our bigger months by \$508,000 which you can see is an 82.5% increase over July of last year but if you look at August it might have been a little bit of a timing issue so we will see how August comes in.

In 2023 we've collected over \$3.7 million through July and since this tax went into effect almost \$6.4 million.

Informal Meeting Notes – July 17, 2023

RAVENii Update

Tyler Lavette, presented an update.

Update on Signage

Tony Robyn, Assistant City Manager presented.

It is the consensus of the Council to proceed with the panhandling signs.

Mr. Copple suggested having the sign company produce a sample sign first to ensure the font size is readable.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Holly Nagy, City Clerk, MRCC