

**JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL  
INFORMAL MEETING NOTES  
AUGUST 21, 2023**

Mayor Lawson called the August 21, 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 will talk about the sales tax for August. As predicted it is down from August of last year, if you look at August 2022 it was our biggest month ever. So, not unexpected that it's down. It's down almost 10.5% so for the fiscal year we are up almost 1.9%, with two months remaining. We will see how September comes in.

Manufacturing sales tax we talked about how this tax has stopped. I'm not sure how long you want to continue seeing this. I don't expect to see anything more other than a little bit here and there.

Use tax on the flip side was our largest month ever. August last year was a big month, but August of this year was an even bigger month. So, you can see we are up almost 34%, that does represent June purchases. I think it's going to be interesting to see how this trends month to month going forward. I do know Wayfair went into affect in the beginning of the year. It probably has taken some time to catch up, where all the businesses in the United States should be collecting this. For the fiscal year we've collected \$4.5 million, in a little over a year and a half we have collected almost \$7.2 million. The use tax has definitely had a good impact on the city.

**Capital Improvement Projects Update**

Rob Beachner, Capital Improvements Project Manager, Dakota Rusk, Civil Engineer I and Chris Parker, Civil Engineer II presented the update.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Holly Nagy, City Clerk, MRCC