COUNCIL BILL NO. 2026-003 ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE calling an election on April 7, 2026, in the City of Joplin, Missouri, to submit to the qualified voters, a question as to whether to impose a one-half of one percent (1/2 percent) citywide sales tax on retail sales within the City of Joplin, Missouri, for the purpose of improving the public safety of the City to replace upon its expiration the one-half of one percent (1/2 percent) general sales tax previously approved by the voters on November 5, 2019 to provide revenues to close the Police and Fire Pension Plan to new hires and migrate new hires to the Missouri Local Government Employees Retirement System, and containing an emergency clause.

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2019, the voters of the City approved imposition of a one-half of one percent (1/2 percent) general sales tax (the "2019 Sales Tax") for the purpose of providing revenues to close the City of Joplin Police and Fire Pension Plan (the "Pension Plan") to new hires and migrate new hires to the Missouri Local Government Employees Retirement System with the provision that the 2019 Sales Tax will expire upon the Pension Plan reaching a fully-funded one hundred twenty percent (120%) status as determined by an independent actuarial study conducted for the City of Joplin or twelve (12) years after enactment, whichever is earlier; and,

WHEREAS, the Pension Plan is currently projected to reach a fully-funded one hundred twenty percent (120%) status in the first or second quarter of 2027 and, thereafter, in accordance with the requirements of the 2019 Sales Tax, it will expire; and,

WHEREAS, Section 94.900, RSMo., was amended by the Missouri General Assembly and became effective on August 28, 2025, authorizing the City of Joplin to impose a one-half of one percent (1/2 percent) citywide sales tax solely for the purpose of improving the public safety of the City on all retail sales made within the City effective upon approval of the qualified voters of the City (the "Public Safety Sales Tax"); and,

WHEREAS, imposition of a Public Safety Sales Tax pursuant to Section 94.900, RSMo., would provide a dedicated funding source for expenditures limited by law to equipment, salaries and benefits, and facilities for police and fire service purposes in the City; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that there is a current and ongoing need for additional funding for police and fire service purposes in the City; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that this need can be met by replacing the 2019 Sales Tax with a Public Safety Sales Tax at the same rate of one-half of one percent (1/2 percent) effective only upon expiration of the 2019 Sales Tax so that the overall sales rate in the City will remain the same and not be increased; and,

WHEREAS, for the foregoing reasons, the City Council desires to submit to the qualified voters of the City at an election to be held on April 7, 2026, the question of whether to impose a one-half of one percent (1/2 percent) citywide sales tax pursuant to Section 94.900, RSMo., for the purpose

of improving the public safety of the City to replace the 2019 Sales Tax upon its expiration.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, as follows that:

Section 1. An election is hereby ordered to be held in the City on April 7, 2026, on the following proposition:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Election – Tuesday, April 7, 2026

PROPOSITION "POLICE & FIRE"

"Shall the City of Joplin impose a citywide sales tax, as authorized by Section 94.900 RSMo., at a rate of one-half of one percent (1/2 percent) solely for the purpose of improving the public safety of the City, said sales tax to replace upon its expiration the general sales tax previously approved by the voters of the City on November 5, 2019, to provide revenues to close the Police and Fire Pension Plan to new hires and migrate new hires to the Missouri Local Government Employees Retirement System?"

Yes. ← —

No. ← —

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

TO vote FOR the Question, complete the arrow opposite "YES".

TO vote AGAINST the Question, complete the arrow opposite "NO."

Section 2. The proposed one-half of one percent (1/2 percent) citywide sales tax pursuant to Section 94.900, RSMo.,, if adopted in the April 7, 2026, election shall become effective and thereafter be imposed only upon the expiration of the general sales tax previously approved by the voters of the City on November 5, 2019.

Section 3. The form of the Notice of Election for said election, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, is hereby approved.

Section 4. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to notify the County Clerks of Jasper and Newton County, Missouri, of the adoption of this ordinance no later than 5:00 p.m., on

the tenth Tuesday prior to the regular or special election, and to include in said notification all of the terms and provisions required by Chapter 115, RSMo., 2016, as amended.

Section 5. This Ordinance relating to an election of the qualified voters of Joplin is declared by the City Council to be an emergency within this meaning of Section 2.12, subparagraph (2), of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Joplin, Missouri, and as such shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, this _____ day of

_____, 2026, by a vote of _____.

_____
Keenan T. Cortez, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Holly Nagy, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Peter C. Edwards, City Attorney