

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

COJ Team | March 16, 2026

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Finance Department Overview: Key Functions

- Article Four of the City of Joplin's Charter details specific duties of the Finance Director and the Finance Department
- Maintain the accounting system on a fund basis in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and in compliance with the adopted budget
- Furnish monthly financial reports
- Monitor internal controls to ensure the reliability of reports and all financial activity

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Finance Department Overview: Key Functions

- Manage all active and idle funds for the city to maximize investments while minimizing risk
- Coordinate the financial functions of the City and provide administrative support to City management, Department Heads, and other City staff
- Budget Preparation is from April 1 to October 31, while Annual Audit Preparation is from November 1 to April 30
- Payroll, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Purchasing, Business Licensing, Fixed Assets, Utility Billing and Collecting, Centralized Cash Receipts, Grants, General Ledger, Budget, and Audit are key functions of Finance Department

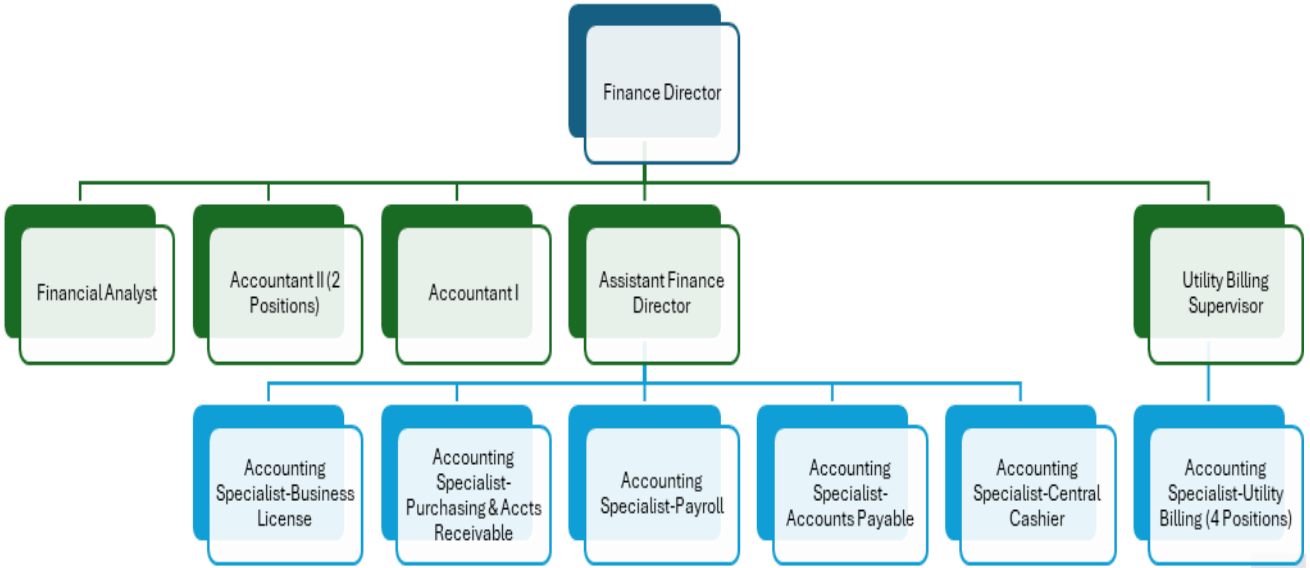
FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Finance Department Overview: Key Statistics

DESCRIPTION	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
New Business Licenses Issued	1,271	1,750	2,184	2,398
Business Licenses Renewed	3,902	4,191	4,462	4,344
Cash Receipts Posted	230,605	234,927	234,398	237,493
Utility Bills Issued	281,850	279,081	281,985	283,812
Payroll Checks/DD Issued	19,353	20,228	22,099	22,361
A/R Bills Issued	2,134	2,798	2,608	5,027
Purchase Orders Issued	5,218	5,681	6,639	6,613
A/P Checks Issued	9,483	9,651	10,046	10,337

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Finance Department Organization Chart



Meet the Finance Department Staff!



FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Staffing Update: 1 Position is currently vacant

NAME	POSITION	DOH	YOS
Leslie Haase	Finance Director	2/2/1998	28
AJ Whistler	Asst Finance Director	3/25/2013	13
Victoria Maturino	Financial Analyst	8/25/2014	11
Joel Gibson	Accountant II	7/31/2006	19
Mallory Wicklund	Accountant II	6/22/2015	10
Vacant	Accountant I		
Hailey Dininger	Accounting Specialist-Payroll	5/18/1998	27
Carrie Cook	Accounting Specialist-A/P	3/13/2013	13
Soledad Zavala	Accounting Specialist-A/R & Purchasing	11/11/2013	12
Jennifer Wagler	Accounting Specialist-Business License	11/18/2019	6
Charlene Stinebaugh	Accounting Specialist-Central Cashier	5/05/2025	0
Utility Billing:			
Hillary Kory	Utility Billing Supervisor	11/12/2018	7
Hannah Brown	Utility Billing-Billing	6/25/2012	13
Chelsea Rives	Utility Billing-Billing	8/29/2022	3
Kim Taft	Utility Billing-Collections	8/8/2022	3
Kristen Fortune	Utility Billing-Collections	7/25/2023	2

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

2025 and 2026 Key Initiatives to begin and/or continue in FY 2026

- Continuation of Implementation of Action Plan-Strategy 7 & 8 of Addressing Declining Neighborhoods: Vacant Lot Inventory and County Lot Transfer Program
- Begin Transition to Online Business License Option
- Coordination of Grant Project Implementation and Grant Reimbursements
- Begin Development and Updates of Financial Policies
- Continuation of Time & Attendance Software Implementation

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

2025 and 2026 Key Initiatives to begin and/or continue in FY 2026

- Update & Improve the Communication of Financial Information through the Website and a Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR)
- Assist with ½-Cent Sales Tax Renewal Initiative
- Assist with Implementation of Prospect Village Development
- Develop RFP for External and Independent Fee Review in FY 2027

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Additional 2026 Projects and Major Tasks

- State Audit Follow-Up
- Opioid Settlement
- Assist with Renewal of ½-Cent Sales Tax
- Expand External Financial Reporting
- Banking Services Bid and Contract Award

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Additional 2026 Projects and Major Tasks

- Closeout of 1717 Marketplace TIF & TDD
- Investments
- EV Charging Stations
- Transition from ACOM to DMS: AP Checks, Payroll Checks, Direct Deposit, Purchase Orders and Accounts Receivable Invoices

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Recently Completed Major Accomplishments

- Develop and Implement New Internal Budget Process
- User Fee Review
- Expand External Financial Reporting: Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR)
- 5-Year Bid and Implementation of Health Insurance and Other Ancillary Lines
- Implement new GASB Standards (GASB 101)

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Recently Completed Major Accomplishments

- State Audit
- Assist with FOP & IAFF Contracts
- Develop General Fund Financials
- Tier II LAGERS Transition
- Vehicle Replacement Schedule

Questions?