CITY OF JOPLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

ITEM
Council Bill 2025-530 – Approving the real property tax levy in the City of Joplin

MEETING DATE
August 25, 2025

ORIGINATING DEPT
Finance

ATTACHMENTS
CB 2025-530 Ordinance; Public Hearing Notice; and Average Property Tax Calculation

REVIEWED BY
Department Head: Leslie Haase; City Attorney: Peter Edwards; City Manager: Nick Edwards

SUMMARY
This Council Bill approves the real property tax levy in the City of Joplin, including the Library property tax levy.

BACKGROUND
This is a public hearing to discuss the proposed fiscal year 2025-2026 property tax levy for the City of Joplin and for the affirmation of the tax levy of the Joplin Public Library District. The maximum authorized property tax levy is 54.0 cents and the CPI is 2.90% based on calculations by the State Auditor's office. The property tax of the City of Joplin represents a very small portion of the overall property tax liability for the citizens of Joplin. Property tax provides nearly 1.5% of the general government revenue and is used to fund a portion of Health, Parks and Solid Waste activities.

Staff is recommending the acceptance of the amount calculated utilizing the State Auditor's worksheet at $.1710, which represents a decrease of $.0036 in the City property tax rate from $.1746. The library rate will also decrease by $.0077 from $.2459 in 2024 to $.2382 in 2025 as set forth by Missouri Statute. The total rate will decrease by $.0113 to $.4092 from $.4205 per $100 of assessed valuation. Property tax is expected to generate $1,342,977.00 for the City and $1,666,549.00 for the library. The property tax for a home with an assessed valuation of $100,000 will decrease from $79.90 to $77.75 for both the city and the library portion of the property tax, which is an annual decrease of $2.15.

If the proposed rate is passed, the City's property tax revenue will increase $29,970 from the increase in new construction and territory, while revenue will increase $37,005 due to the amount allowed for reassessment under the approved CPI rate. The Library's property tax revenue will increase $21,045 as a result of new construction and territory, while revenue will increase $46,375 due to the amount allowed for reassessment under the approved CPI rate. Joplin's new construction and territory is $17,611,390, while the Library's value is $9,331,720.

According to preliminary assessment valuations for 2025 released by the County Clerk's Offices of Jasper and Newton Counties, the assessed valuations for each county for the city are:

	2024	2025
Jasper County	$588,413,328	$633,930,737
Newton County	172,851,110	184,158,730
Total – Both Counties	$761,264,438	$818,089,467

FUNDING SOURCE

This item is not applicable for this agenda item.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of this council bill on an emergency basis. Property tax rates must be set by the end of August by state statute.