CITY OF JOPLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

ITEM:
Council Bill No. 2025-009 - AN ORDINANCE dissolving the Board of Health and transferring any remaining functions, powers, or duties to the Health Department and the City Manager.

MEETING DATE
September 15, 2025

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT
Health Department

ATTACHMENTS
Council Bill No. 2025-009

REVIEWED BY
Director of Public Health, Ryan Talken; City Attorney Peter Edwards; and City Manager Nicholas Edwards.

SUMMARY
This council bill dissolves the Board and transfers any remaining duties to the Health Department and City Manager.

BACKGROUND
Health practices have become standardized and there is significant oversight from the State of Missouri. This board has historic quorum issues and difficulty appointing certain required members (two physicians and one veterinarian). This board last convened in 2021 as it had no quorum and had no necessary functions. The adoption of any annual health program is ultimately approved by the Council.

FUNDING SOURCE
N/A

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends this Council Bill be approved on First Reading.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-009 ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE dissolving the Board of Health and transferring any remaining functions, powers, or duties to the Health Department and the City Manager.

WHEREAS, the Board was established in 1954 when there was little in the way of state and federal regulation of public health services and programs; and

WHEREAS, health practices have become standardized and there is now significant oversight from the state, as well as federal regulations; and

WHEREAS, the functions of the Board have been replaced over time by the Director of the Health Department and Health Department staff, such that any duties of the Board have become obsolete; and

WHEREAS, the dissolution of the Board of Health will improve the efficiency of the City;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 15.16 of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Joplin, Missouri, the Council retains the authority to abolish the functions, powers and duties of Boards and Commissions and transfer to another board or to a department of the city government.

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

Section 1. The City of Joplin, Missouri, hereby dissolves the Board of Health.

Section 2. The City of Joplin, Missouri, staff are hereby authorized and directed to provide such assistance as may be necessary to carry out the intent of this ordinance.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be effective twenty (20) days after its passage.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, this _____ day of _____, 2025, by a vote of _____.

_____
Keenan T. Cortez, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Holly Nagy, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Peter C. Edwards, City Attorney