JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 15, 2025
MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The September 15, 2025, regular meeting of the Joplin City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Cortez.

INVOCATION was read by City Clerk, Holly Nagy

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA was led by Council member Ryan Jackson.

ROLL CALL

Answering Roll Call were Council Members: Joshua Bard, Doris Carlin, Keenan Cortez, Josh DeTar, Mark Farnham, Ryan Jackson, and Doug Lawson. Also, in attendance were City Manager Nick Edwards and City Attorney Peter Edwards.

Absent: Charles Copple, Gary Shaw

Motion by Mr. DeTar, seconded by Mr. Lawson to excuse the absences of Mr. Copple and Mr. Shaw. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw, 2.

PRESENTATIONS

Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Update
Doug Hunt, presented.

Downtown Joplin Alliance Quarterly Update
Lori Haun, presented.

MSSU Coach Ware Proclamation
Mayor Cortez read the proclamation for Coach Ware.

Mid-Alley Lights Update
Tony Robyn, presented

FINALIZATION OF CONSENT AGENDA

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

News from the Public Information Office
Drew Douglas, Public Information Officer, presented.

CITIZEN REQUESTS AND PETITIONS

Josh Long addressed the Council regarding Mr. Jackson.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Lawson to approve the consent agenda. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw, 2.

Minutes from the September 2, 2025, City Council Meeting

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-006 - AN ORDINANCE amending Chapter 26, Buildings and Regulations, Article X, Dangerous Buildings, Sec. 26-615. - Duties of building inspector; issuance of notices. **Ordinance No. 2025-114.**

RESOLUTIONS

AMENDED RESOLUTION NO. 2025-009

Mr. DeTar introduced Amended Resolution No. 2025-009- A RESOLUTION creating a nine (9) member Charter Review Commission for the City of Joplin; and defining the purposes, membership and duties thereof. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Jackson, to approve Resolution No. 2025-009. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw, 2.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-010

Mr. Lawson introduced Resolution No. 2025-010- A RESOLUTION authorizing the AMENDING of a One Year Action Plan with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as required for use of the City of Joplin's Community Development Block Grant Program (Entitlement) and the Joplin Consortium HOME Investment Partnership Program for fiscal year 2023; and authorizing the City Manager to execute said Plan for and on behalf of the City of Joplin. Motion by Mr. Lawson, second by Mr. DeTar, to approve Resolution No. 2025-010. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw, 2.

ORIDNANCES – EMERGENCY

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-139

Mr. DeTar introduced Council Bill No. 2025-139- AN ORDINANCE approving the City of Joplin to enter into a Municipal and Cost Apportionment Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for Project J7S2185C, Route 66 (7th Street) Improvements from Maiden Lane to Route 43 in the amount of Five Million Two Hundred Ninety-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Forty-Six and 43/100 dollars ($5,299,446.43); authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Joplin; amending the Annual Budget of the City of Joplin for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 as adopted by Ordinance 2024-151 on October 21, 2024; and containing an emergency clause. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Jackson, that Council Bill 2025-139 be passed on an emergency basis. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw, 2. **Ordinance No. 2025-115.**

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-140

Mr. Lawson introduced Council Bill No. 2025-140- AN ORDINANCE approving the City of Joplin to enter into a Municipal and Cost Apportionment Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for Project J7S2185D, Route 66 (7th Street) Improvements from Route 43 to St. Louis Avenue in the amount of Six Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-Six and 19/100 dollars ($692,936.19); authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Joplin; and containing an emergency clause. Motion by Mr. Lawson, second by Mr. Bard, that Council Bill 2025-140 be passed on an emergency basis. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. **Ordinance No. 2025-116.**

Mary Price spoke on this item.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-615

Mr. DeTar introduced Council Bill No. 2025-615- AN ORDINANCE approving a Contract by and between the City of Joplin and Branco Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of Eight Million Nine Hundred and Thirty-Five Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty-Five Dollars ($8,935,365) for construction of the Ewert Splash Park project; authorizing the City Manager to execute said Contract by and on behalf of the City of Joplin; and containing an emergency clause. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Lawson, that Council Bill 2025-615 be passed on an emergency basis. Voting in favor were Council Members: Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham and Lawson, 5. Nays: Bard, Jackson, 2. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. ***This council bill failed to obtain the required number of votes to pass as an emergency. This item will move to second and third reading at the October 6, 2025 meeting.***

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-007

Mr. Bard introduced Council Bill No. 2025-007 - AN ORDINANCE dissolving the Personnel Board and transferring any remaining functions, powers, or duties to the Human Resources Department and the City Manager. Motion by Mr. Bard, second by Mr. Jackson, that Council Bill 2025-007 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-007.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-008

Mr. Jackson introduced Council Bill No. 2025-008 - AN ORDINANCE dissolving the Building Trades Board and transferring any remaining functions, powers, or duties to the Building Department. Motion by Mr. Jackson, second by Mr. Bard, that Council Bill 2025-008 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-008.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-009

Mr. DeTar introduced 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. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Bard, that Council Bill 2025-009 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-009.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-010

Mr. Jackson introduced Council Bill No. 2025-010 - AN ORDINANCE dissolving the Solid Waste Advisory Commission and transferring any remaining functions, powers, or duties to the Public Works Department and the City Manager. Motion by Mr. Jackson, second by Mr. DeTar, that Council Bill 2025-010 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-010.

Break at 7:43 PM Returned at 7:49 PM

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-136

Mr. Lawson introduced Council Bill No. 2025-136 - AN ORDINANCE approving an agreement with the G&G Construction Company Inc. in the amount of One Million Seven Hundred Seven Thousand Two Hundred and 00/100 DOLLARS ($1,707,200.00) for the Miscellaneous WWTP Improvements 2025 and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Joplin; and, setting a date when this Ordinance shall become effective. Motion by Mr. Lawson, second by Mr. Jackson, that Council Bill 2025-136 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-136.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-137

Mr. DeTar introduced Council Bill No. 2025-137 - AN ORDINANCE approving an agreement with the G&G Construction Company, Inc for the Turkey Creek WWTP Aeration Renovation 2025 in the amount of Two Million Six Hundred Ninety Four Thousand Two Hundred One and 14/100 DOLLARS ($2,694,201.14) for the Turkey Creek WWTP Aeration Renovation 2025 and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Joplin; and, setting a date when this Ordinance shall become effective. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Jackson, that Council Bill 2025-137 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-137.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-141

Mr. Bard introduced Council Bill No. 2025-141 - AN ORDINANCE approving the issuance of a Purchase Order to Tri-State Truck Center, Inc., in the amount of One Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-Nine and 00/100 Dollars ($153,399.00) for the purchase of a 2025 Mack GR64F Chassis with mDRIVE Transmission; and, setting a date when this ordinance shall become effective. Motion by Mr. Bard, second by Dr. Farnham, that Council Bill 2025-141 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-141.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-277

Mr. Lawson introduced Council Bill No. 2025-277 - AN ORDINANCE approving an Agreement between the City of Joplin, Missouri, and Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission which will provide FHWA Metropolitan Planning Assistance and FTA Section 5303 assistance, hereafter known as Consolidated Planning Funds, from November 1, 2025, through October 31, 2026, in accordance with the rules of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) under 49 U.S.C. Section 5303 and 23 U.S. Code Sections 104(F) and 134 to conduct comprehensive and transportation planning programs, as the City of Joplin has been designated to conduct transportation planning programs for the Joplin Area Transportation Study Organization; authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute said Agreement for the City; and setting a date when this Ordinance shall become effective. Motion by Mr. Lawson, second by Mr. Bard, that Council Bill 2025-277 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-277.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-532

Mr. DeTar introduced Council Bill No. 2025-532 - AN ORDINANCE approving the Real Estate Contract by and between the City of Joplin, Missouri, a Municipal Corporation, and Home Pal, LLC., for the sale of one parcel located at 3127 S Wall Avenue, totaling approximately 4,125 square feet of land; and authorizing the City Manager to execute the same by and on behalf of the City of Joplin; and setting a date when this Ordinance shall become effective. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Bard, that Council Bill 2025-532 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-532.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-533

Dr. Farnham introduced Council Bill No. 2025-533 - AN ORDINANCE approving an Agreement by and between the City of Joplin and MetLife to provide dental, life and disability insurance coverage for City employees on behalf of the employer, the City of Joplin; authorizing the City Manager to execute said Contract by and on behalf of the City of Joplin; and setting a date when this Ordinance shall become effective. Motion by Dr. Farnham, second by Mr. Bard, that Council Bill 2025-533 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-533.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-534

Mr. Jackson introduced Council Bill No. 2025-534 - AN ORDINANCE approving an Agreement by and between the City of Joplin and EyeMed to provide vision insurance coverage for City employees on behalf of the employer, the City of Joplin; authorizing the City Manager to execute said Contract by and on behalf of the City of Joplin; and setting a date when this Ordinance shall become effective. Motion by Mr. Jackson, second by Mr. Bard, that Council Bill 2025-534 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-534.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-618

Mr. DeTar introduced Council Bill No. 2025-618 - AN ORDINANCE approving a Purchase Order to be issued to Superion to cover the annual support payment for the financial software and related systems as budgeted in the Proposed Budget of the City of Joplin for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and setting an effective date. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Lawson, that Council Bill 2025-618 be passed on the first reading and advance to second and third. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. The Bill was read as Council Bill No. 2025-618.

SECOND AND THIRD READING

COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-616

Mr. DeTar introduced Council Bill No. 2025-616 - AN ORDINANCE approving the applications of Visionary Balloonworx, MO-KAN Dragway, Ozark Christian College, Branco Enterprises & Neosho Schools, Historic Murphysburg Preservation, Inc., Joplin Disc Golf Club, JOMO Pride, Inc., Joplin Roadrunners, Missouri Liars, Silver Sage Renaissance Festival, Neosho Arts Council, Newton County Tourism Council, and Joplin Trails Coalition for utilization of FY2026 Festivals and Celebrations support pursuant to Ordinance No. 2000-148, as authorized by the voters on November 7, 2000; authorizing the City Manager to execute appropriate agreements with each such organization for the utilization of such funds. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Jackson for Council Bill No. 2020-616 to move to Second Reading, advance to Third Reading and pass. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Jackson, and Lawson, 6. Nay: Farnham, 1. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2. **Ordinance No. 2025-117.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
NEW BUSINESS

Vote to go into closed session, which shall pertain to the hiring, firing, disciplining, or promotion of an employee or particular employees of a governmental body involving personal information as set forth in Section 610.021(3) RSMo, as amended, 2020, more specifically for the purpose of evaluating certain Council employees. This meeting, record, and vote to be closed to the extent provided by law. The City Council shall adjourn at the end of the session. Motion by Mr. DeTar, second by Mr. Bard, to convene into closed session. Voting in favor were Council Members: Bard, Carlin, Cortez, DeTar, Farnham, Jackson, and Lawson, 7. Absent: Copple, Shaw,2.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully,

Holly Nagy
City Clerk