CITY OF JOPLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

ITEM
Council Bill 2023-458 – amending Chapter 62, Health and Sanitation by enacting a new Article XI, Lodging Establishments.

MEETING DATE
November 20, 2023

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT
Health Department

ATTACHMENTS
CB2023-458 Council Bill.

REVIEWED BY
Dept. Head: Ryan Talken; Director of Finance: Leslie Haase; City Attorney: Peter Edwards; City Manager: Nicholas Edwards.

SUMMARY
This Council Bill amends Chapter 62, Health and Sanitation by enacting a new Article XI, Lodging Establishments.

BACKGROUND
The City of Joplin Health Department has conducted annual and complaint lodging inspections on behalf of the State of Missouri for the 23 lodging establishments located in the City of Joplin. The Joplin Fire Department has also conducted annual fire safety inspections, The State of Missouri issues lodging permits and is the enforcement agency for compliance issues pertaining to the State Lodging Rule. This ordinance intends to give local control to ensure compliance and includes connectivity to the property maintenance ordinance.

This ordinance adopts the State of Missouri lodging code as a regulatory tool for City of Joplin use and requires annual confirmation of good standing from the Health, Fire, Building and Planning Zoning departments. Status of good standing will be determined by annual inspections utilizing this ordinance and existing ordinances currently found in Joplin City Code. This ordinance grants the authority to deny renewal of City of Joplin business license for establishments deemed not in good standing or uncorrected life, health, and public safety violations. A valid city business license is required to conduct business in the City of Joplin.

The Joplin City Council has been updated throughout the process and advised staff to develop a lodging ordinance for consideration. The proposed lodging ordinance was presented to the Joplin Chamber of Commerce Convention and Visitors Bureau Advisory Board who invited local hoteliers to attend via the SW MO Lodging Association. An informational meeting was held on October 17, 2023 with 5 hoteliers in attendance. Edits were made to the ordinance from the feedback received at this meeting. The hoteliers in attendance were generally supportive of the ordinance. Concerns were expressed on additional fees being imposed on lodging establishments. The proposed fee is a reinspection fee that will be applied to facilities with ongoing compliance issue.

FUNDING SOURCE
Health Fund

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends adoption of this Council Bill on First Reading