JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL
INFORMAL MEETING NOTES
DECEMBER 7, 2020

Mayor Stanley called the December 7, 2020 Informal Meeting of the Joplin City Council to order at 5:15 p.m.

In attendance were Council Members: Charles Copple, Keenan Cortez, Doug Lawson, Anthony Monteleone, Gary Shaw, Ryan Stanley, Phil Stinnett, and Christina Williams. Absent: Diane Reid Adams Also, in attendance were Assistant City Manager Dan Pekarek and City Attorney Peter Edwards.

Joplin Parks Master Plan Study Update-Presented by Paul Bloomberg

Parks Director Paul Bloomberg stated this is the 3rd study they have conducted and have completed 8 weeks of the master plan and have 8 more weeks to go. Paul went over a few of the highlights from the update provided by Landworks Studio:

- Demographic Analysis-we are still in the process of compiling the demographic analysis in a section of the plan we call the "Community Profile."
- Management Structure-we are distributing an online survey tool specifically for parks and recreation department staff to take which will allow us to assess the goals and vision of the department.
- Funding Analysis-we are still in the process of analyzing the previous 5 + years of budgets and sales tax revenue. Following receipt of the citizen survey results and input from staff, we will generate a 10-year capital improvement plan for the department and provide cost recovery goals.
- Parks, Open Space, Trails and Facilities Inventory-On November 11th, the design team came to Joplin to visit and assess more than 35 parks, trails, and facilities. We are still processing and formatting this information in an effort to generate a list of potential capital improvements for this next 10-year planning horizon.
- Programs analysis-we are still in the process of cross-referencing existing programing offerings against different indicators, such as national trends, local private alternatives, as well as the citizen survey.
- City Parks Facilities Map-we are in the process of formatting maps of all parks, and trails, as well as maps depicting the level of service of the park system as well as population growth centers withing the City of Joplin.
- Public and staff input-we held our initial kick-off meeting with staff on Thursday, Oct 1 and met with 11 members of city staff as well as 1 Parks Board member. We conducted a series of pop-up meetings on Tuesday, October 13th to promote the master plan and have conversations with park users. During October we built a website to share news and events concerning the master plan. Website visitors can provide input through a pair of unique virtual tools: an "idea wall" where participants can share any comments about Joplin parks, as well as an interactive park map on which participants can drop pins on various park properties and leave comments. We conducted our second community meeting on Tuesday, November 24th at the Senior Center, this meeting was to promote the project website and have conversations about existing facilities. This meeting drew 20 members of the general public and 2 council members as well as news media and City staff. The focus was on off-road bike amenities, particularly BMX.

- Level of service assessment/citizen survey-during the week of October 26th, we mailed a 6-page, 22-question survey to residents in the city of Joplin. At this time, we have received 160 responses. We have mailed an additional 1,500 surveys. We expect to have results during the week of December 21st and hope to achieve the 300-response mark. Once we have obtained a valid response, we will post the same survey on our website. We expect to have the survey available from December 28th-January 18th.
- Benchmarking Comparisons-with input from city staff, we have selected the following cities for benchmark comparisons: Chesterfield, St. Joseph, Springfield, Cape Girardeau, Lee's Summit, Salina KS, Bentonville AR and Hot Springs AR. Last week we circulated a "Peer Community Survey" to the park directors in each of these cities to collect departmental data. We have already received back 4 out of the 8 surveys completed.
- Vision, Goals, and Objectives-during our kick-off meeting with city staff we brainstormed a set of initial goals and objectives for this master plan. We look forward to the Strategic Planning retreat scheduled for Wednesday January 13th from 11-4.
- Final Master Plan-we will work with staff to provide a final copy of the master plan no later than Monday, February 1st for consideration by City Council at a work session on Monday, February 8th.

After the presentation Paul answered questions from council.

Stormwater Master Plan Update-Presented by Dan Johnson Assistant Director of PW Engineering (Steven Martinez-Engineer and Clayton Christy with Olsson Associates)

- 2019 is when this project was started-a 50% grant became available-the first grant was for roughly $50,000, was recommended to approach the Department of Natural Resources to use funds from other agencies that weren't using their allotted funds. The grant then increased to just under $150,000. The budget increased to $300,00. Council approved the grant in the fall of 2020, in August, the agreement was approved with Olsson Associates.
- Project team members consist of Steven Martinez, City of Joplin Stormwater Engineer and Eric Shelton who is the Project Manager for Olsson Associates.
- Public involvement: Three public meetings were held, in addition to sending out various letters. The city received feedback regarding the letters.
- The next big deliverable item is for the consultant to provide additional analysis on protentional stormwater projects for review by the public and council.
- Updating the City's GIS Map; has 2 major components-these components were presented on the slide.
- Final Master Plan update and report: the final master plan will include a maintenance plan and an operation plan; this will allow city staff to use the information that consultants have taken from similar communities as benchmarking to compare plans and plan out for the future with a focus on level of services provided to citizens.
- Rapid geomorphic assessment is an important component and requirement as part of the grant.
- The final map of the slide listed 25 projects to focus on that are located throughout the city. The current projects estimate a little over $31 million.

After the presentation Dan answered questions from council.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Roschelle Forsythe, Assistant City Clerk