



# City Council ACTION

The following is a summary of select City Council action items from the October 16, 2023 City Council meeting.

## Boards & Commissions Appointments

No board or commission nominations were considered.

## Summarized City Council Actions

Following is an explanation of select items that were taken up by the City Council:

**3611 Pettis Road Light Manufacturing Rezoning** (Item #4: Bill #574-22): The City Council approved a request for Zoning District Changes from R-1A (Single Family Residential) to M-1 (Light Manufacturing) for 3611 Pettis Road and a nearby lot. Both properties are surrounded by similar M-1 zoning and the rezoning is being completed in conjunction with a subdivision that will create two lots. If both approved, the combined lot would have a consistent zoning map. The Planning Commission previously recommended approval of the zoning district change.

**Whitehead Plaza Precise Plan Amendment** (Item #5: Bill #576-22): The City Council denied an amendment to the Whitehead Plaza Precise Plan that is located just east of Belt Highway between Pickett Road and the hike and bike trail. The proposed amendment would have allowed for apartment residential development. As a result of the denial, residential development will continue to require City Council approval of a conditional use permit.

**Aquatic Park Pool Filter Room Improvements** (Item #8: Bill #568-22): The City Council approved an agreement with Westport Pool for pool filter room improvements at the St. Joseph Aquatic Park. The improvement will cost up to \$330,603.00 and will be paid for using Parks Sales Tax funds. The existing filters have exceeded their life expectancy and have significant damage, wear, and tear.

**St. Joseph Museums Agreement** (Item #14: Bill #579-22): The City Council approved a two-year Management Agreement with St. Joseph Museums, Inc. for the purpose of operating, maintaining, improving, and supervising municipal museums, including the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion.

**Historic Preservation Grant Funds Acceptance** (Item #15: Bill #580-22): The City Council approved the acceptance of grant and donation funds that will be used to create the St. Joseph Parks Walking Tour. The project will enable users to follow the tour on their smartphones and other devices. The tour will provide visitors with information on the rich history of the parks, historic and current photographs parks features, information and photographs about features that no longer exist (such as the zoo at Krug Park), and current information about the parks, including upcoming events and any changes that are happening to the facilities.

**714 Felix Street Façade Improvements** (Item #19: Bill #584-22): The City Council approved an agreement to renovate the storefront at 714 Felix Street for \$16,439.00 under the River Bluff Gateway program. The work will include removal of a portion of façade below the existing awning and replacing it with new storefront windows and door. 714 Felix is a one-story building adjacent to the alley between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

**316 Massachusetts Street Rehabilitation Grant** (Item #20: Bill #585-22): The City Council approved an agreement with South St. Joseph Development Corporation to provide ARPA Rehabilitation Grant Program funds in a total amount of \$20,000 for a project at Carnegie Library Park located at 316 Massachusetts Street. The grant application describes the improvements as including native plantings, parks amenities (including a pet friendly drinking fountain), interactive elements, and digital educational content.

**Sewer Manhole Survey and Inspection** (Item #21: Bill #586-22): Federal and state regulations require that the City comply with “Combined Sewer Overflow 9 Minimum Controls;” a Capacity, Maintenance, Operations and Management (CMOM) program; and terms of the City’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), which permits the operation of a sewer plant and discharge of treated water. Among the requirements in those programs, the City must regularly gather condition data and maintenance history for manholes. The City Council approved an agreement with Surveying & Mapping, LLC, which will conduct the required manhole surveys and record condition data that will then be used for maintenance operations.

**4000 Block of Stockyards Expressway Concrete Improvements** (Item #22: Bill #587-22): The City Council approved a \$96,344.00 in work by JD Bishop Construction, LLC for concrete street improvements to the 4000 Block of Stockyards Expressway. That section of Stockyards Expressway has been identified in the City’s annual street condition inspection as a priority repair. Earlier in the summer, severe heaving of multiple slabs of concrete were temporarily repaired. The authorized work will implement a long-term repair that will help prevent further failure.

**Medical Officer Contract with Dr. Robert Corder** (Item #23: Bill #588-22): The City Council approved a contract with Dr. Robert Corder to serve as the Medical Officer for the Health Department. The Medical Officer establishes standing orders that Health Department nursing staff adheres to. The doctor is also responsible for providing feedback and guidance to the Director of Health and Public Health Staff. Dr. Corder will fill the role in which Dr. Robert Stuber served from 2011 until his recent passing. The contract authorizes payment of \$18,000 annually for the services provided by Dr. Corder.

**Funds Allocation for the King Hill Avenue Corridor of the River Bluff Gateway Project/Authorization of Civic Arena Painting Project** (Item #24: Bill #589-22 & Item #25: Bill #590-22): The City of St. Joseph was awarded a grant through ARPA from the Missouri Department of Economic Development in the amount of \$2,500,000.00 for community revitalization through the River Bluff Gateway program; however, those funds can only be used for projects in Qualified Census Tracts ("QCT"). The River Bluff Gateway Program had been developed to pay for improvements to the King Hill Avenue, 6th Street, Downtown, and St. Joseph Avenue corridor; however, large portions of King Hill Avenue are not located in a QCT and therefore is not eligible for this funding. Those circumstances left a gap in the King Hill Avenue portion of the corridor.

The City also had separate unrestricted funds scheduled for use to paint the interior and exterior of Civic Arena but identified the opportunity to shift the unrestricted funds to the King Hill Avenue corridor and complete the Civic Arena project using restricted funds because the Civic Arena project qualifies for use of restricted funds.

The City Council passed a set of resolutions that authority the transfer of the restricted from the King Hill Avenue corridor to the Civic Arena project and transfer the unrestricted funds from the Civic Arena project to the King Hill Avenue corridor improvements.

The resolutions also authorize \$75,000 in River Bluff Gateway funds that are scheduled for use downtown to complete a streetscape improvement project around the entry of Civic Arena.

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Bryan Carter reported the following:

- The third Krug Park Public Engagement Session will occur on Wednesday, October 18 at City Hall.
- The 2019 CIP included \$400,000 for a skateboard and bike park. Over the last year, it has become clear that full development of a high-quality park is going to be significantly more expensive than originally anticipated due to inflation. The Parks, Recreation, and Civic Facilities Department did apply for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant in hopes of bridging the gap, but that grant was denied. Staff are currently evaluating different possibilities and approaches and will be bringing different options to the City Council soon.
- Spire employees, the Missouri Department of Conservation staff, and City staff recently worked on a project organized by Martha Clark with Missouri Forest ReLeaf. They planted 40 oak trees, most of which were along Noyes Boulevard. They replaced a section that recently had approximately 40 dead ash trees removed.