



City Council ACTION

The following is a summary of select City Council action items from the December 11, 2023 City Council meeting.

Boards & Commissions Appointments

The following board and commission nominations were approved:

- Mike Cazel – Personnel Board
- Branda Hoover – Landmark Commission
- Joseph Marmaud – Museum Oversight Board
- Kristi Green – Planning Commission

No board or commission nominations were denied or postponed.

Summarized City Council Actions

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

Central Assembly of God Conditional Use Permit (Item #4 Bill #647-22): The City Council approved the issuance of a conditional use permit that will allow the property at 1222 North 18th Street to be used as a Day Nursery in an Apartment Residential zoning district (R-4). Central Assembly of God owns the building at the location and plans to open a daycare for up to 21 children.

Changes to Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities Fees (Item #10 Bill #637-22, Item #11 Bill #638-22, Item #12 Bill #639-22 & Item #13 Bill 640-22): The City Council approved a set of amendments to the Code of Ordinances that provide for increase and restructuring of various use and membership fees at Parks, Recreation & Civic Facilities including Civic Center Park, Coleman Hawkins Park, Patee Park, Farview Golf Course, Heritage Park and Remington Nature Center. Many of the increases were the first in multiple years and will help offset recent cost increases.

Knox Box Purchase (Item #14 Bill #641-22): The City Council approved the purchase of an updated Knox Box system for the Fire Department using American Rescue Plan Act Funds. Approximately 300 local businesses and facilities utilize the Knox Box System. Knox Box Systems allow the Fire Department to respond, gain access, and prevent further harm or damage in the facility in the event of an emergency.

City Personnel Manual Annual Revisions (Item #15 Bill #642-22): The City Council approved an ordinance adopting the annual revisions to the City's Personnel Manual, which sets forth the policies and procedures pertaining to employees of the City of St. Joseph.

Hillyard Industries Economic Development (Item #18 Bill #645-22): Taxable Industrial Development Revenue Bonds are the tool used to implement the Chapter 100 economic development program. Under the program, certain property taxes are abated for large development projects. Hillyard Industries, Inc. recently completed construction of a significant new warehouse on the property previously owned by WireCo in downtown St. Joseph. The City Council approved an ordinance that will allow the issuance of \$29 million in Taxable Industrial Development Revenue Bonds for Hillyard Industries' project. Hillyard Industries will be responsible for repayment of the bond debt, but they will receive tax abatement on the property financed by the bond debt. The economic development package will ultimately provide 100% real property tax abatement on the project improvements for ten years and 50% real property tax abatement on the project improvements in years 11 through 25. However, during that same 25-year period Hillyard will not receive any real property tax abatement on the original project site (based on the 2023 assessed valuation of the project site equals \$161,490).

Maple Leaf Skateboard/Bike Park Design/Build Agreement (Item #20 Bill #648-22): The City Council approved an agreement with Spohn Ranch, Inc. for the Design/Build of a Skateboard/Bike Park at Maple Leaf Park, located on Maple Leaf Parkway immediately north of Woodson Street. The project is expected to cost approximately \$400,000.

Missouri Theater Marquee Sign Repairs (Item #21 Bill #649-22): The City Council approved an agreement with Roderick Sign Company to repair and refresh the Missouri Theater marquee sign. The marquee has suffered significant wear and tear due to aging and weather conditions. It will be restored in a manner that retains the current historic look. Despite a trend toward digital signage, the marquee will not be updated to digital.

ARPA Funds Distribution For Non-Profits (Item #23 Bill #651-22): The City Council passed a resolution allocating \$150,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds for a non-profit organization grant program. St. Joseph 501(c)(3) organizations are eligible to apply for funding by submitting a request for funding to the Planning & Community Development Department before February 9, 2024. The City Council will review submitted proposals and determine funding allocations after that date. Additional information will be issued by press release.

Bode Sports Complex Orbital Auto Scrubber (Item #24 Bill #652-22): The City Council approved the purchase of a 20-inch orbital auto scrubber with pads from Clayton Paper & Distribution for the Bode Sports Complex. The scrubber will be used on the recently renovated outdoor courts. It was recommended by the resurfacing contractor to obtain a scrubber for cleaning of the courts, and it is anticipated to help prolong the condition of the courts.

Fairview Golf Course Storm Inlet Repair (Item #25 Bill #653-22): The City Council approved a contract with Legacy Underground Construction, Inc. for repair of a storm inlet at Fairview Golf Course. The project will include the replacement of the failed pre-cast storm water drainage inlet located at the southern edge of the golf course's pond system. The failure has caused the ponds to empty, leaving a marshy surface rather than a series of ponds. The failure led the United States Army Corp of Engineers to designate the pond areas as protected wetlands. Once the authorized repair is made, water levels will be restored, and a petition will be submitted requesting removal of the wetland designations.

Krug Park Renovation Design Plan Support (Item #26 Bill #654-22): The City Council passed a resolution of intent expressing their support of the design criteria, conceptual plan, and point of departure for the design-build phase presented by West 8 at a work session on November 28, 2023, for the Krug Park renovation project. The next step in the project is to get the Request for Qualifications out for bid to choose a design-build professional.

Drew Fisher Counseling Services Economic Development (Item #27 Bill #655-22): The City Council approved a partnership agreement for Economic Development with Drew Fisher Counseling Services to provide funding from the Community Development Block Grant Program for an expansion of its business. The funds will be used to purchase equipment and are available as a result of the business creating two new employment positions.

Opioid Settlement Fund Distribution Memorandum of Understanding (Item #30 Bill #658-22): The City Council authorized a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Buchanan County to create a process for allocating opioid settlement funds that will be distributed for use within St. Joseph and/or Buchanan County. The program will focus on education, prevention, and treatment efforts to combat the opioid epidemic. The MOU establishes a Joint Committee, to be led by a representative of the City of St. Joseph Health Department, for the purpose of allocating the funds in a manner that will have the most significant impact within the community.

Cook Road Bridge Aesthetics Improvements (Item #32 Bill 612-22): The City Council approved up to \$56,000 in funding for aesthetic improvements that the Missouri Department of Transportation will incorporate into their design of a new Cook Road bridge over Interstate 29. The project is scheduled to occur next year. If the aesthetic improvements are incorporated, they will include a package that provides the appearance of a stone veneer and inclusion of signage identifying "St. Joseph" on the north face of the bridge. The actual cost of the aesthetics package will not be known until the Missouri Department of Transportation receives construction bids. In the event costs exceed \$34,900, the City will have the opportunity to terminate the agreement or pay the additional sum that is necessary to include the aesthetic improvements.

The Shoppes at North Village CID Request to Withdraw (Item #33 Bill 619-22): The City Council approved a request to withdraw a petition to establish the Shoppes at North Village Community Development District (CID). The Petition proposed the imposition of a one-cent CID sales tax on the property to fund construction, reconstruction, repair, and replacement of sidewalks, asphalt, common area amenities, and beautification. A work session to discuss the petition was held on Monday, December 4 and City Council members raised various questions and concerns about the proposed CID. Following the work session, the petitioners requested to withdraw the petition. The withdrawal closes the request.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Bryan Carter reported the following:

December 26 City Council Meeting Cancelled: The December 26 City Council meeting was previously cancelled. The next regular meeting will occur on January 8, 2024; however, there are a number of work sessions that will occur before that meeting.

Charter Update Work Session: A work session has been scheduled for January 2, 2024, to discuss potential changes to the City Charter. If the City Council desires to put those changes on the April 2024 ballot, they will need to be approved by the City Council meeting on Monday, January 22, 2024. Potential changes identified by staff will be distributed to the City Council at least a week before the January 2, 2024, meeting.