



# City Council ACTION

The following is a summary of select City Council action items from the February 5, 2024 City Council meeting.

## Boards & Commissions Appointments

The following board and commission nominations were approved:

- Miles Ramsay – Parks and Recreation Board
- Billy Coats – Parks and Recreation Board
- Carly Ardussi – Parks and Recreation Board
- Annette Lanham – Parks and Recreation Board
- Marcus Tyrrell – Aviation Board

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:

**Fire Truck Outfitting Purchase** (Item #14 Bill #694-22): The City Council approved the purchase of additional equipment for three new fire trucks. Over the past several months the City Council authorized the purchase of three new fire apparatus vehicles, or fire trucks. The purchase of the additional equipment will fully outfit the three trucks with necessary equipment, including intercom systems, hose reels and hoses.

**Civic Arena Video Equipment Purchase** (Item #15 Bill #695-22): The City Council approved the purchase of upgraded video equipment for the Civic Arena. The upgrade includes six Da-Lite deluxe diagonal screens, six Da-Lite drapery presentation kits, six Epson laser projectors, eight HDMI splitters, and twelve 100' rolls of HDMI Cable with booster. The purchase will modernize aging video equipment that is utilized for events.

**Metronet Business Agreement** (Item #18 Bill #698-22): The City Council authorized an agreement with Metronet Business that will enable an upgrade to the City's computer network. The agreement will provide City-owned and operated facilities with dedicated fiberoptic connections that will provide faster internet and network speeds, significantly increased reliability, and increased security. The project is anticipated to reduce outages in multiple buildings. The agreement also includes a new land-based phone system to replace the current system which is no longer supported with service and maintenance and managed wi-fi services for the Civic Arena. Despite expected significant improvements in service levels and reliability, the service is anticipated to be cost-neutral when the existing provider's services are discontinued.

**Homelessness Continuum of Care Consultant Agreements** (Item #20 Bill #701-22 & Item #21 Bill #702-22): The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development provides a Continuum of Care (CoC) Planning Grant that enables communities to develop plans to eliminate homelessness. In St. Joseph, the City of St Joseph is the project sponsor for Continuum of Care (CoC) Planning Grant. As the sponsor, the City contracts with independent contractors, The Center for Common Concerns, Inc. (dba Homebase) and United Way to serve as coordinators to assist with the operations of the Continuum of Care and the application and documentation. Homebase assists with and prepares for the submission of the HUD Notice of Funding Availability and United Way collaborates with City staff and Homebase to host all meetings and training opportunities for homeless service providers. The United Way also delivers important updates regarding homeless policies and regulations to all members of the CoC. The City Council authorized execution of agreements with both agencies to continue their services.

**Firefighter Turnout Gear Purchase** (Item #22 Bill #703-22): The City Council approved the purchase of firefighter turnout gear from Conrad Fire Equipment, Inc., for use by the Fire Department. The gear consists of a coat, pants, and boots, with each set costing over \$3,600. The Fire Department works to replace turnout gear every six years on a rotating basis. To maintain that schedule, 16 sets of gear were authorized for purchase.

**River Bluff Gateway Grant Administration** (Item #23 Bill 704-22): The City Council approved an agreement with Assel Grant Services for administration of the River Bluff Gateway grant program. Assel wrote the grant application to receive the funds that are utilized for the River Bluff Gateway program and has experience administering State of Missouri ARPA grants and similar grant programs. The services they will provide the City include oversight of grant applications, recommendations of funding, reviewing applications for compliance with ARPA guidelines, and providing recommendations to the City on use of funds. The services that will be provided by Assel have previously been performed by City staff; however, to process grants more expeditiously and ensure other objectives continue to be completed, the services will now be performed by Assel.

**Fire Dispatch and Alerting Platform Purchase** (Item #26 Bill #699-22): The City Council authorized the purchase, installation, and maintenance of a Westnet First In dispatch and station alerting system that will automate and enhance the system used to notify Fire Stations of emergencies. The system will provide an automated text-to-speech alert in the appropriate fire stations to provide pertinent information to responding units. The system will provide a quicker dispatch process for the Communications Center Operators by allowing them to gather further important information about an emergency or input other calls for service while the system dispatches the appropriate units to the alarm.

## **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Bryan Carter reported the following:

**Next City Council Meeting:** The City Council meeting previously scheduled for February 20 was cancelled by approval of a resolution during the February 5, 2024, City Council meeting. The next meeting of the City Council will occur on March 4, 2024.

**Parks Riverfront Hotel-Motel Tax Proposed Projects Work Session:** A work session will be scheduled at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 26 to discuss Parks projects that have been proposed to be completed utilizing Hotel-Motel Tax funds.