



City Council ACTION

The following is a summary of select City Council action items from the September 3, 2024 City Council meeting.

Boards & Commissions Appointments

The following board and commission nominations were approved:

- Dan Hausman – Museum Oversight Board

Summarized City Council Actions

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

Interim City Manager Appointment (Item #7 Bill #956-22): The City Council authorized the appointment of Clint Thompson as Interim City Manager until an employment contract with a new City Manager has been executed and becomes effective. Clint will begin serving as Interim City Manager on September 7, 2024.

Patee House Museum ARPA Funding (Item #10 Bill #959-22): The City Council authorized an agreement with The Patee House Museum to provide \$13,683 to replace of the heat pump at the Museum. The former heat pump failed to adequately cool the museum, and a replacement was vital to everyday operations as well as necessary for the upcoming National Pony Express Association's National Convention to be held in September.

Pony Express Statue Repairs (Item #11 Bill #960-22): The City Council authorized an agreement with Brooner Construction & Crane for replacement of deteriorated granite on the Pony Express Statue located at the intersection of 10th Street, Frederick Avenue, and Francis Street in downtown St. Joseph. The statue has been in place for nearly 90 years and the granite base is cracked and bulging. Brooner will replace the 23-ton granite base with matching granite sourced in the United States.

The City Council previously authorized Jensen Conservation to replace the granite, but Jensen Conservation was unable to complete the work before winding down its business operations.

706 S. 11th Street Acquisition (Item #13 Bill #962-22): The City’s legal department filed a lawsuit against the owner of the property located at 706 South 11th Street to collect unpaid property maintenance fees and penalties totaling \$11,212.10. During negotiations with the owner, he offered to donate the property in exchange for being released from responsibility for payment of the fees and penalties. The property meets the Land Bank’s stated goals of bettering the community and abuts another property recently acquired by the Land Bank, thereby increasing its marketability. Based on those factors, the City Council authorized acceptance of the property and release of the owner’s liability for unpaid fees and penalties.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Services (Item #15 Bill #964-22): The City Council authorized a purchase order with Heritage Environmental Services for the purpose of household hazardous waste disposal services for the two annual collection events that will take place in October 2024 and April 2025. The events will take place in the McArthur Drive parking lot. The cost of the service varies with the amount and type of waste collected.

Fire Department Turnout Gear Purchase (Item #16 Bill #965-22): The City Council authorized the purchase of firefighter turnout gear from MacQueen. The Fire Department employs 51 Firefighters, 33 Drivers, 33 Captains, 3 Fire Inspectors, and 8 Fire Administration positions for a total of 128 that require turnout gear consisting of helmet, coat, pants, and boots. The goal is to continue a revolving turnout gear replacement program to meet National Fire Protection Association requirements and provide all positions with a recommended second set of gear.

Landfill Equipment Purchase (Item #17 Bill #966-22): The City Council authorized the purchase of a Caterpillar D7 Bulldozer from Foley Equipment Company for use at the St. Joseph Sanitary Landfill. The landfill’s bulldozer operates 5 days a week, 10 hours a day, managing waste placement. Additionally, this bulldozer assists with daily cover operations, applying 6 inches of dirt over the trash at the end of each day, as mandated by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The new D7 bulldozer will replace the previous bulldozer which has 11,000 hours of use and has undergone several significant repairs, including its transmission and hydraulic system.

Civic Arena Restroom Improvements (Item #19 Bill #968-22): The City Council authorized a contract with E.L. Crawford Construction, Inc. for the renovation and repairs of restrooms at the Civic Arena at a cost of \$1,273,935. The arena’s plumbing and restrooms are aging and have been failing. The Civic Arena is undergoing other major renovations and with the upgrade to the plumbing and restrooms, the arena will be in a better position to promote, bid, and host future championship opportunities for multiple sporting events.

Lake Avenue & King Hill Avenue Welcome Feature (Item #21 Bill #970-22): The City Council authorized a Small Business Exterior Improvement Project Agreement with Roderick Sign Company for the fabrication and installation of a welcome feature at the intersection of Lake Avenue and King Hill Avenue. The monument-style welcome feature will be double-sided, reading “Welcome to South St. Joseph” on the north-facing side and “Thank you for visiting South St. Joseph” on the south-facing side. The purpose of the Small Business Exterior Improvement funds is to undertake community revitalization projects that will help businesses and contribute to a more engaging streetscape.

River Bluff Gateway Project Revitalization Agreements (Item #22 Bill #971-22 & Item #24 Bill #973-22): The City Council authorized the execution of River Bluff Gateway Project Revitalization Agreements with Baseball Builders LLC (as grantee), GKW Restoration (as contractor), and Mosaic Life Care Foundation to provide funding for rehabilitation projects in three locations.

- 1302 Frederick Avenue – \$59,900 in funds will be utilized to repair building mortar that is severely cracked, missing, or otherwise deteriorated. Masonry repairs will be performed and will have a substantial positive impact on the Frederick Avenue streetscape.
- 521 Felix Street – \$96,000 in funds will be utilized to add a safety railing around the rooftop of the InspireU Children’s Discovery Center. The railing will add security for the “Rooftop Experience” that will serve as community space in the downtown area, as well as housing a musical instrument garden for the Children’s Discovery Center.

InspireU Children’s Discovery Center Block Improvements (Item #23 Bill #972-22): Previously, the City allocated \$1.5 million in funds for the purpose of rehabilitation and improvements within the two-block area adjacent to the InspireU Children’s Discovery Center. The City Council heard a presentation from Mainstreet St. Joseph on August 14 that would utilize \$85,000 of those funds to add decorative features to unoccupied buildings for the purpose of enhancing the corridor. The City Council approved an agreement to fund those corridor-enhancement efforts.

City Manager’s Report

City Manager Bryan Carter reported the following:

- **Youth Sports Facility:** The City has taken the lead on the potential development of a youth sports facility with information having been presented to the City Council during work sessions. Over the last two weeks, a request for qualifications has been issued seeking a development and operational partner for such a facility. Responses to that request for qualification are due Friday, September 27. First draft of proposed memorandums of understanding have also been provided governing the use of property on which the facilities could be placed. These steps have been taken in an effort to prepare for a possible bond election in April 2025.