



City Council ACTION

The following is a summary of select City Council action items from the October 28, 2024 City Council meeting.

Boards & Commissions Appointments

The following board and commission nominations were approved:

- Kenny Turner – Plumbers Examining and Appeals Board

Summarized City Council Actions

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

Country Lane Zoning Redistricting (Item #4 Bill #1026-22): The City Council approved a request for Zoning District changes from Commercial (C-3) to Planned Garden Apartment Residential (RP-3) for the vacant property located at the corner of Country Lane and Buckingham Street. The change will allow for construction of fourteen semi-detached townhomes built as four triplexes and one duplex. Triplexes are currently permitted with C-3; however, duplexes are not. The Planning Commission previously recommended approval of the zoning district change.

5301 Mitchell Avenue Zoning Redistricting (Item #5 Bill #1027-22): The City Council approved a request for Zoning District changes from Single Family Residential (R-1A) to Light Manufacturing (M-1) for the undeveloped property located at 5301 Mitchell Avenue. The change will allow Herzog Railroad Services to construct a combined office and storage building for their maintenance department. The Planning Commission previously recommended approval of the zoning district change.

InspireU Children’s Discovery Center Block Improvements (Item #9 Bill #1022-22): 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 approved a purchase order with Herzog Contracting, Corp. using the Master Agreement for alley and sidewalk repairs. This project will enhance a prominent section of the downtown neighborhood as well as provide safety upgrades and improvements that will focus on accessibility.

Civic Arena Improvements (Item #10 Bill #1023-22, Item #11 Bill #1024-22, Item #12 Bill # 1025-22): The City Council approved funding for three enhancement projects to the Civic Arena utilizing American Rescue Act Funding, including:

- Handrails to be installed in the upper grandstand seating area to ensure safety when navigating the concrete stairs.
- Counter tops and drawer boxes to be installed within the concession stand to provide a safer, cleaner and more reliable surface for concession workers and customers.
- Bleacher stair units to be installed to ensure a safe transition from the upper concrete grandstand to the lower-level telescopic seating units.

Civic Arena improvements enable the City, Convention & Visitors Bureau, and other partnering agencies to promote, bid, and host future championship opportunities for multiple sporting events.

Missouri Department of Conservation Grant Acceptance (Item #13 Bill #1028-22): The City Council approved acceptance of the 2024 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Program Grant with Missouri Department of Conservation to assist with the purchase and installation of an educational/recreational pavilion and to replace the restroom building at Corby Pond. Corby Pond does not currently have a shelter, and the existing restroom is outdated and not ADA compliant. These upgrades will correct the current shortcomings and enhance the experience Corby Pond has to offer.

Police Department Equipment Purchase (Item #15 Bill #1031-22): The City Council authorized a five-year price agreement with Axon Enterprises, Inc. for the purchase of 134 Taser 1 models to be used by the Police department. Current Tasers are aging and will no longer be supported by Axon. The City has been using Tasers through agreements with Axon since 2007. Due to ever changing dynamics in technology, it is necessary to upgrade to new models periodically. The five-year agreement with no price increases throughout the term includes device warranties, holsters, battery charging docks, unlimited duty cartridges, and training programs for instructor certification and annual recertification.

Mass Transit Equipment Purchase (Item #16 Bill #1032-22): The City Council authorized the purchase of 52 Conversion Kits for the Mass Transit divisions bus bike racks. The existing racks do not safely accommodate the growing number of e-bikes and wide-tired bikes being utilized by Transit Riders and need to be converted to accommodate. The conversion kits are manufactured will modify current racks to be accessible to these riders.

Parks Department Equipment Purchase (Item #18 Bill #1034-22): The City Council authorized the purchase and installation of a new diesel engine for the Parks Departments 2004 70-foot Aerial Lift Truck. The truck was put into service in August of 2004 and has well over 150,000 hours of usage. It is critical for multiple operations conducted by the department, including tree work and holiday lighting.

Continuum of Care Planning Grant Acceptance (Item #21 Bill #1029-22): 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.

City Manager's Report

Interim City Manager Clint Thompson reported the following:

- Tomorrow is the Open House event for the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The event will be here at City Hall from 4-7pm. Citizens are welcome to attend to learn more about proposed transportation projects and initiatives.
- In two weeks, the next Council Meeting would fall on Veterans Day and most City facilities are closed, including City Hall. The meeting has been moved to the following day, Tuesday, November 12th at 5:30pm.
- The Veterans Day Parade will be held on November 11th. It begins behind City Hall at 10:30am.
- The Parks Department will be wrapping up most of their mowing for the season in the coming weeks. They will be working hard on installation of lights at Holiday Park and South Pole. We can expect some park closures while crews work to prepare our parks for the Holiday Season.