



City Council ACTION

The following is a summary of select City Council action items from the January 6, 2024 City Council meeting.

Boards & Commissions Appointments

The following board and commission nominations were approved:

- Tracy Fender – Personnel Board

Summarized City Council Actions

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

Landfill Tipping Fee Increase (Item #7 Bill #1099-22): The City Council approved an amendment to Section 24-15 of the City's Code of Ordinances to increase fees at the St. Joseph Sanitary Landfill. Following a Landfill Life Expectancy and Disposal Fee Study conducted by SCS Environmental, fees are being increased to help reduce waste tonnage, extend the lifespan of the landfill, and ensure the City remains competitive with other landfills in the region. The rate increase is expected to encourage some neighboring communities to divert waste to alternative landfills, further extending the life of the City's landfill.

Animal Control Pet Licensing Agreement (Item #8 Bill #1100-22): The City Council authorized a contract with DocuPet to facilitate the licensing of pets within the city through an accessible, user-friendly online platform to simplify pet licensing, improve compliance and enhance city resources. With DocuPet, residents can license and renew pet registrations anytime, making compliance easier and records more accurate for animal control. DocuPet's platform also includes lost pet alerts, helping to quickly reunite pets with owners and reduce demands on city services.

Urban Trail System Maintenance (Item #10 Bill #1102-22): The City Council approved Purchase Orders with Auxier Construction Company and JD Bishop Construction, LLC for maintenance of the Urban Trail System. Some areas of the trail have begun to degrade due to weather effects and normal wear and tear, necessitating repairs. On the Black Snake Creek Trail portion of the Urban Trail System, there have been issues with unauthorized vehicle access. To address this, large rocks will be placed along the edges of the trail near roadways to discourage vehicles from driving on the trail. Additionally, on Alabama and King Hill Avenue, a goat path has formed in the grass due to frequent use by citizens. In response, Buchanan County and the City are collaborating on a project to improve sidewalks in this area, connecting three schools to the Urban Trail System. This project will also upgrade ADA-compliant corners to meet current standards.

Greystone Plat 11 Final Approval (Item #11 Bill #1103-22): The City Council approved the final plat for Greystone Plat 11 which includes an additional 18 lots on Stonebridge Drive East in Greystone Subdivision. The preliminary plat including these lots was approved in 2014. The final plat is in substantial compliance with the preliminary plat and the Planning and Community Development Department recommended approval of the final plat.

Fire Department Grant Acceptance (Item #13 Bill #1105-22): The City Council approved acceptance of the FY23 Emergency Management Performance Grant from the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency. The grant funding will be used for the purchase of two portable MOSWIN interoperable radios and necessary programming. Interoperable communications are vital for all emergencies and would be a critical component in the case of flooding, storms, or any terrorism threat.

1419 North 19th Street Housing Rehabilitation (Item #16 Bill #1108-22): The City Council approved the execution of a Housing Rehabilitation Contract with Jason Burchett (owner) and Superior Exteriors (contractor) to rehabilitate the home located at 1419 North 19th Street. Community Development Block Grant funding is intended to eliminate slum/blight conditions and minimize housing code violations. Work will include lead hazard control, new windows, and new roof and gutters.

Civic Arena Improvements (Item #20 Bill #1112-22, Item #21 Bill #1113-22, Item #22 Bill #1114-22): The City Council approved various funding for three enhancement projects to the Civic Arena, including:

- Purchase and installation of flooring for the office, ticket booth and meeting rooms.
- Repairs to a collapsed drainage system beneath the northeast entry stairs.
- Replacement of office furniture and accessories.

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.

Landfill Moratorium (Item #23 Bill #1115-22): The City Council approved the establishment of a temporary moratorium on the dumping of construction and demolition (C&D) waste, effective until the opening of Cell 8. Creation of a moratorium on accepting customers with C&D material at the landfill is one option to help control volume without impacting residential customers. A newly formed Landfill Task Force will monitor progress of the landfill and report back to the City Council on the impact of this moratorium.

City Manager Employment Agreement (Item #26 Bill #1116-22): The City Council authorized an Employment Agreement with Mike Schumacher to serve as the City Manager of the City of St. Joseph. Under the terms of the Employment Agreement, Mr. Schumacher will begin service as the City Manager effective January 21, 2025.

Landfill Task Force (Item #27 Bill #1117-22): The City Council approved the creation of a Landfill Task Force Committee and appointment of individuals to serve on it. The primary goal is to review landfill data and present recommendations to the City Council for a long-term plan. Over their 12-month term, Task Force members will concentrate on expediting the process of opening future landfill cells, developing a plan to maximize the landfill's lifespan, evaluating the effectiveness of the construction and demolition debris moratorium, and formulating a five-year rate plan for the landfill.

City Manager's Report

Interim City Manager Clint Thompson reported the following:

- **Snow Removal Crews:** A heartfelt thank you to all our city staff involved in snow removal efforts over the past few days. Your hard work in tackling record-breaking snowfall has been no small feat, and we truly appreciate everything you do to keep our community safe and accessible.
- **New City Manager:** I would like to welcome Mike Schumacher as our new City Manager. Mr. Schumacher will officially begin his role on January 21st. I also want to extend my gratitude to the Council, Directors and the citizens of St. Joseph for their support during my tenure as Interim City Manager.