Mayor Stanley called the January 19, 2021 Informal Meeting of the Joplin City Council to order at 5:15 p.m.

In attendance were Council Members: Charles Copple, Keenan Cortez, Doug Lawson, Anthony Monteleone, Diane Reid Adams, Gary Shaw, Ryan Stanley, Phil Stinnett, and Christina Williams. Also, in attendance were City Manager Nick Edwards and City Attorney Peter Edwards.

Monthly and quarterly sales tax updates
Finance Director Leslie Haase presented the sales tax report for January (which represents collections from November). Collections are flat for the same month as 2020, which is good news. For the year, we are still up 1%. The first quarter for 2021 versus the same quarter in 2020 was very good in almost all the categories for the top sales-producing 100 stores.

Police/Fire/Public Safety Staffing RFP Discussion
Finance Director Leslie Haase stated she and the police and fire chief put together the RFP’s for the Resource Allocation Study for the Police and Fire Department. The purpose of the study is to determine the optimum staffing levels based on the current level of service being provided, as well as an enhanced level of service. Director Haase highlighted the details in the study’s summary, including the required content of an RFP response, tentative city timeline, and a proposal for the evaluation process.

After discussion, Mr. Cortez made a motion to approve the RFP studies. Dr. Reid Adams seconded the motion. Voting in favor were Council Members: Copple, Cortez, Lawson, Monteleone, Reid Adams, Shaw, Stanley, Stinnett and Williams, 9. Nays: 0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Barbara Gollhofer, City Clerk