

JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL  
INFORMAL MEETING NOTES  
JANUARY 21, 2020

Mayor Shaw called the January 21, 2020 Informal Meeting of the Joplin City Council to order at 5:15 p.m.

In attendance were Council Members: Taylor Brown, Keenan Cortez, Doug Lawson, Anthony Monteleone, Diane Reid Adams, Mayor Gary Shaw, Ryan Stanley and Phil Stinnett. Also, in attendance were Interim City Manager Dan Pekarek and City Attorney Peter Edwards.

Absent: Melodee Colbert-Kean

**Smart Cities Update**

This update was presented by Planning, Development and Neighborhood Services Director Troy Bolander; his assistant director Patty Heagal; Guidehouse Consultants Dami Kehinde and Chuck Banks; community partners Toby Teeter/Chamber of Commerce President; and Robin McAlester-Liberty/Empire. The update included an overview of the progress to date and a summary of the goals for Joplin: A) Form a sustainable economic development accelerator group under the Joplin Ignite Banner; B) Expand Internet Access in Joplin; C) Accelerate development and adoption of compelling training and workforce initiatives; D) Plan Innovation District; E) Coordinate best-practice sharing among local and national participants.

At the end of the presentation, Director Bolander asked the city council to consider forming a steering committee as part of the Next Steps for what's ahead for Joplin's Roadmap. The steering committee would be made up of representatives from various sectors of the area. They would be given an overview of the Smart City initiative and tasked with setting priorities and act as a clearinghouse for ideas and goals.

After discussion on the steering group, the council members were encouraged to send names of additional categories/sectors (business, educational, financial, etc.) or actual names of businesses/organizations that they think should be included in the Smart Cities Steering Committee.

Mr. Stinnett asked Chamber of Commerce President Toby Teeter for a more in-depth economic development update at a future council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Gollhofer, City Clerk