

JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL
INFORMAL MEETING NOTES
MARCH 1, 2021

Mayor Stanley called the March 1, 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.

Court Overview/Software Transition

Court Administrator Lamonte Ratcliff presented an overview of the daily operations and processes of the Joplin Municipal Court operations as well as some of the reforms that have taken place and the recent implementation of state mandated software.

He stated a workgroup consisting of employees from the following departments was formed in 2019 to work through all aspects of the implementation process for new software for the Show-Me Courts Reforms: Court, Police, Prosecutor, Finance, and IT.

Finance Director Leslie Haase explained the new software transition resulted in more than \$55,000 in unbudgeted expenditures for the City. Additional supplies such as computers, scanners, cash drawers, and the Omnigo software for E-Ticket Citation Solution accounted for the expenditures.

The electronic ticket writers do not interface with the new court system, so tickets have to be entered manually. The short-term solution is to get an interface using the Omnigo software. The long-term solution may be to continue with Omnigo or get an upgrade to our current Central Square system. Staff will continue to work on a solution and monitor costs.

All of this is changing the court's process which impacts the city. Part of what the team is working on is to come up with processes and procedures to ensure internal controls within this new software to the extent possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Barbara Gollhofer, City Clerk