

3JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL  
INFORMAL MEETING NOTES  
NOVEMBER 18, 2019

Mayor Shaw called the November 18, 2019 Informal Meeting of the Joplin City Council to order at 5:15 p.m.

In attendance were Council Members: Taylor Brown, Melodee Colbert-Kean, 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 Assistant City Attorney Jordan Paul.

**Tobacco 21 Ordinance**

Health Director and Interim City Manager Dan Pekarek presented information on the Tobacco 21 ordinance for the city council's review and discussion. Director Pekarek stated the ordinance was a recommendation of the 2016 community health needs assessment conducted by the Regional Health Collaborative. Director Pekarek explained the ordinance is modeled after Springfield's ordinance, which was recently passed. He reviewed the ordinance section by section and answered questions as they arose.

After Dan's presentation, Scott Vorhees, chairman of the health committee for Vision 2022, spoke on behalf of that organization stating they are in support of the ordinance, however, he did recommend there be no jail time as a penalty but did agree with the civil penalties and fines.

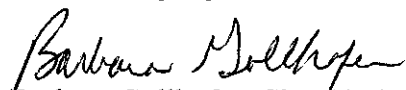
Johanna Jayaraj, a junior at Thomas Jefferson school, spoke on the importance of regulations and how this ordinance might aid in reversing the vaping trend by keeping tobacco products out of the hands of youth through awareness and enforceable regulations.

Mr. Stanley stated that the Joplin Youth Council rated the dangers of vaping as one of the top issues among youth that needs to be addressed.

There was discussion on the annual \$25 permit fee required to sell or distribute tobacco products, nicotine products or vapor products.

Toby Teeter, Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce President stated the Chamber supports the ordinance. He stated the health costs employers in our area pay for employees who smoke are above the national rate and he would like to see us normalize the rate down through the adoption of the ordinance.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

  
Barbara Gollhofer, City Clerk