

## REGULAR MEETING

August 2, 2021

The Independence City Council met for a Regular Meeting, August 2, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., virtually held via Microsoft Teams and in person, in the Council Chambers, 111 E. Maple.

Tim Allison, Chaplain and Bereavement Coordinator, Visiting Nursing Association, provided the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Eileen Weir, Presiding Officer of the City Council, called the meeting to order. Upon roll call, the following members of the City Council were present: Mike Huff, John Perkins, Brice Stewart, Mike Steinmeyer, Daniel Hobart and Mayor Eileen Weir. The following members of the City Council attended virtually: Karen DeLuccie. The following members of the City Council were absent: None.

## CITIZENS REQUEST TO SPEAK:

Laura Dominik spoke to Council regarding Bill. No. 21-764.

Holmes Osborne spoke to Council regarding vehicles.

## PRESENTATION RESOLUTION:

Councilmembers Huff and Hobart moved to approve Bill No. 21-785.

Bill No. 21-785, entitled, [Res. #6709]

“A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING BRIANA JARVIS, WAREHOUSE CLEAR, WITH THE POWER AND LIGHT DEPARTMENT, AS THE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST 2021.”

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

## PROCLAMATIONS:

City Clerk, Becky Behrens, read a proclamation for Independence’s Missouri Bicentennial Celebration. The proclamation was accepted by the Chair of the Heritage Commission, Kalyn Parker.

## REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER:

Councilmember Stewart requested that Item No. 8 be pulled for separate consideration.

Councilmember DeLuccie requested that Bill No. 21-786 be pulled for separate consideration.

Councilmembers Huff and Steinmeyer moved to approve the AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA minus Item No. 8 and Bill No. 21-786 to be considered separately.

1. Approval of minutes for the Regular Meetings on July 6, 2021, and July 19, 2021.
2. Council action is recommended to issue a purchase order to Insituform Technologies, USA, LLC in the amount of \$90,306.50, for CIPP Storm pipe repair Auth74.
3. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to Allied Services, in the amount of \$60,000, for street sweeping disposal at Courtney Ridge Landfill.
4. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to the Community Services League, in the amount of \$60,000.00, for the I-Share Program.
5. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to Riverside Technologies, in the amount of \$112,800 for managed IT services.

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6. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to Wesco Distribution, in the amount of \$83,960.00, for a 20MVAR Capacitor Bank for the Power and Light Department.
7. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$139,658.39 to Foley Industries Inc, for the purchase of a Caterpillar TL943D Telehandler for the Water Department.
9. Council action is recommended to approve a change order to a purchase order between the City and Pullman Power LLC in the amount of \$303,300.00 for roof slab repairs to the Van Horn Reservoir for the Water Department.

Upon roll call, the vote to approve the AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor the motion carried, and the AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA was approved.

In response to Councilmember Stewart, City Manager, Zach Walker, stated that we are trading the Ford truck for this Chevy truck. Mr. Walker provided information about why we are trading in the original vehicle.

Councilmembers Stewart and Huff moved to approve Item No. 8.

8. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to Foley Industries Inc, for the \$60,906.64 purchase of a 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 5500 through Roberts Auto Plaza Inc for the Water Department.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

In response to Councilmember DeLuccie, Mr. Walker provide background information about the agreement with IBEW.

Councilmembers DeLuccie and Huff moved to approve Bill No. 21-786.

Bill No. 21-786, entitled, [Res. #6710]

“A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS-MAINTENANCE AND CLERICAL BARGAINING UNIT, FOR THE TERM OF JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024.”

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Mayor Weir opened a full public hearing for the application received from Kevin Smith for a Restaurant Selling Intoxicating Liquor License for Ain’t Yo Momma Kitchen located at 206 N. Main Street. Director of Community Development, Tom Scannell, provided background information on this item. There being no additional speakers, Mayor Weir declared the public hearing closed. *Full Public Hearing.*

Council action is requested on the application received from Kevin Smith for a Restaurant Selling Intoxicating Liquor License for Ain’t Yo Momma Kitchen located at 206 N. Main Street.

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the item approved.

#### NON-ORDINANCE ACTION ITEMS:

Bill No. 21-787, entitled, [Res. #6711]

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENSURE THAT ALL AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

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MEETINGS ARE RECORDED AND PUBLISHED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE." – Requested by Councilmember Karen DeLuccie

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 21-788, entitled, [Res. #6712]

"A RESOLUTION REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 6256 AND DISBANDING THE COUNCIL INTERVIEW COMMITTEE."

Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – Councilmember Stewart. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Councilmembers DeLuccie and Hobart moved to postpone Bill No. 21-789 indefinitely.

Bill No. 21-789, entitled, [postponed indefinitely]

"A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 6256, WHICH REESTABLISHED THE COUNCIL INTERVIEW COMMITTEE AS AN ADVISORY BODY TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR CERTAIN BOARD APPOINTMENTS."

Upon roll call to postpone Bill No. 21-789 indefinitely, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent –None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

## ORDINANCES:

Bill No. 21-040, entitled, [Ord. #19235]

"AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL AND DESTRUCTION OF MUNICIPAL COURT RECORDS THAT HAVE MET ALL REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SUCH DESTRUCTION AND ARE THE SUBJECT OF CIRCUIT COURT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2021-214."

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 21-041, entitled, [Ord. #19236]

"AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH TRUMAN HERITAGE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AS A QUALIFYING COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, UTILIZING 2019-20 HOME PROGRAM FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$181,603.62."

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Abstentions: Councilmember Huff. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 21-042, entitled, [Ord. #19237]

"AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH TRUMAN HERITAGE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AS A QUALIFYING COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, UTILIZING 2020-21 HOME PROGRAM FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$217,729.00."

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 21-043, entitled, [Ord. #19238]

"AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH OIKOS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AS A QUALIFYING COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, UTILIZING 2020-21 HOME PROGRAM FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$144,118.00."

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was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 21-044, entitled, [Ord. #19239]

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS AGREEMENT WITH THE MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF US 40 HIGHWAY FROM THE BLUE RIDGE CUTOFF TO STERLING AVENUE AS PART OF THE US 40 HIGHWAY COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT (PROJECT NO. 111802 / FEDERAL PROJECT NO. STP 3379{437}).”  
was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 21-045, entitled, [Ord. #19240]

“AN ORDINANCE DE-ANNEXING CERTAIN LAND SOUTH OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF TRUMAN ROAD AND M-7 HIGHWAY AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH SAID ACTION.”  
was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Bill No. 21-046, entitled, [Ord. #19241]

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$203,443 FOR THE CITY’S SENIOR ADULT NUTRITION SITE PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 AND EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT TO THE COMMUNITY CENTER SERVICES AGREEMENT; MAKING THE NECESSARY APPROPRIATIONS; AUTHORIZING FUTURE CHANGE ORDERS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND/OR TIME EXTENSIONS; AND, AUTHORIZING CERTAIN FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS.”  
was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

## FIRST READINGS:

Bill No. 21-047, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$547,500.00 FROM THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF OVERTIME FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR IMPAIRED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT AND YOUTH ALCOHOL LIQUOR COMPLIANCE CHECKS FROM OCTOBER 1, 2021, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; AUTHORIZING FUTURE CHANGE ORDERS AND/OR TIME EXTENSIONS FOR THE SAME PROJECT AND MAKING THE NECESSARY APPROPRIATIONS.”  
was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-048, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$296,300.00 FROM THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF OVERTIME FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR A CRASH INVESTIGATION SOFTWARE LICENSE, LETSAC CONFERENCE FEES AND HAZARDOUS MOVING VIOLATIONS ENFORCEMENT FROM OCTOBER 1, 2021, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; AUTHORIZING FUTURE CHANGE ORDERS, EXTENSIONS, AMENDMENTS OR ADDENDUMS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE SAME PROJECT AND MAKING THE NECESSARY APPROPRIATIONS.”  
was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-049, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$52,000.00 FROM THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF OVERTIME FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR OCCUPANT PROTECTION ENFORCEMENT FROM OCTOBER 1, 2021, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; AUTHORIZING FUTURE CHANGE ORDERS, EXTENSIONS, AMENDMENTS OR ADDENDUMS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE SAME PROJECT AND MAKING THE NECESSARY APPROPRIATIONS.”

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was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-050, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A REZONING FROM DISTRICT C-1 (NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL) TO DISTRICT R-12 (TWO FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) FOR PART OF THE PROPERTIES AT 3806-3822 S. CANTERBURY PLACE IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.”

was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-051, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A TUNNEL CARWASH ON PROPERTY AT 15912 E. US 24 HIGHWAY, IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.”

was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-052, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 14, OF THE INDEPENDENCE CITY CODE PERTAINING TO ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUSTMENT APPEALS.”

was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-053, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE FINDING, DETERMINING AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF ACQUIRING FEE SIMPLE TITLE FOR 24 HIGHWAY COMPLETE STREETS PHASE 2 (PROJECT NO.112011); AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION AND EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS IF NECESSARY; APPROVING THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EXPERTS AS NEEDED; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS AND THE PAYMENT OF FUNDS TO PROPERTY OWNERS OR OTHERS HOLDING PROPERTY RIGHTS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PROJECT.”

was given its first reading by title.

Bill No. 21-054, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE FINDING, DETERMINING AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF NEW RIGHT-OF-WAY AND PERMANENT SIDEWALK EASEMENT FOR THE HARDY AVENUE SIDEWALK PROJECT (NO.112001); AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION AND EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS IF NECESSARY; APPROVING THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EXPERTS AS NEEDED; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS AND THE PAYMENT OF FUNDS TO PROPERTY OWNERS OR OTHERS HOLDING PROPERTY RIGHTS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PROJECT.”

was given its first reading by title.

Mayor Weir and Councilmember Huff moved to amend Bill No. 21-055 to replace the ballot language.

Mayor Weir stated she is asking for this amendment to make it more transparent to the public that this bill would repeal the existing tax and replace with a half cent sales tax. Councilmember DeLuccie stated that we need to have more discussion with the citizens about how we are spending the funds now, what we need, and how much this would raise. Mayor Weir stated that there is a Study Session on August 9, 2021, with a presentation. In response to Mayor Weir, Mr. Walker stated that the current tax is one quarter of a cent.

Upon roll call for the motion to amend Bill No. 21-055, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – Councilmember DeLuccie. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion approved.

Bill No. 21-055, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A FIRE PROTECTION SALES TAX AT THE RATE OF 1/2 OF ONE PERCENT OF THE RECEIPTS FROM THE SALE AT RETAIL OF ALL TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY OR TAXABLE SERVICES AT RETAIL WITHIN THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, WHICH SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT AT SAID RATE THEREAFTER UNTIL REPEALED, BY THE VOTERS OF THE CITY; CALLING FOR THE PROPOSITION ADOPTING

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SAID TAX TO BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT AT THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 2, 2021; PROPOSING THE FORM OF THE BALLOTS AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO DO ALL THINGS CALLED FOR BY LAW IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOLDING OF SAID ELECTION.”

was given its first reading by title.

Mayor Weir and Councilmember Perkins moved to amend Bill No. 21-056 Section 1, Subsection A5 to change the definition of sexual orientation to align with the definition set out by the Human Rights Campaign.

Mayor Weir provided the definition for sexual orientation as defined by the Human Rights Campaign. In response to Councilmember Stewart, Mayor Weir stated the difference between the previous bill voted on and this new bill. Mayor Weir stated that the amendment she is proposing removes the idea of preference and is in alignment with the language adopted and promoted by the Human Rights Campaign. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that the language is too deep in the weeds, and he believes the current definition is fine. He stated that it has not been challenged constitutionally and he is hoping that it will be affective against Conversion Therapy on minors. Councilmember DeLuccie asked if someone could email her a copy of the amendment. Councilmember Hobart stated he appreciates the removal of the phrase “preference or practice” because it seems more inclusive and not offensive.

Upon roll call for the motion to amend Bill No. 21-056, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Perkins, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – Councilmembers: Huff, Stewart, DeLuccie and Steinmeyer. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion failed.

Mayor Weir and Councilmember Perkins moved to amend Bill No. 21-056 Section 1, Subsection A5 to remove the words “preference or practice.”

Upon roll call for the motion to amend Bill No. 21-056, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion approved.

Bill No. 21-056, entitled  
“AN ORDINANCE CREATING SECTION 12.06.008 OF THE INDEPENDENCE CITY CODE FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CONVERSION THERAPY OF MINORS.” – *Requested by Councilmembers Mike Steinmeyer, Mike Huff and Brice Stewart*  
was given its first reading by title.

## INFORMATION ONLY:

1. The City Council is expected to convene in an Executive Session at 5:15 pm, Monday, August 2, 2021, in the Council Chambers with the closed session taking place in Conference Room D, on Labor Negotiations as permitted by Sec. 610.021(9), RSMO.
2. The Council Rules of Procedure amendment noticed for consideration will be considered at the Monday, August 16, 2021, City Council meeting.
3. The City Clerk's Office is in receipt of the Susquehanna East Shopping Center Community Improvement District Annual Report ending June 30, 2021.
4. COVID-19 Semi-Monthly Update.
5. Please Note: In accordance with RSMo 610.021, the City Council may convene in an Executive Session at 5:15 pm, in the Council Chambers and move to Conference Room D for the closed meeting, on matters of litigation, legal action, and/or attorney client communications, as permitted by Sec. 610.021(1), on matters of personnel, as permitted by Sec. 610.021(3) and personnel records, as permitted by 610.021(13), on matters of contracts, as permitted by 610.021(12), on matters of real estate, as permitted by 610.021(2) and/or matters of labor negotiations, as permitted by 610.021(9).

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## COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

In response to Councilmember DeLuccie, Mr. Walker stated that he can include answers to her questions regarding the Fire Sales Tax and election costs included in the upcoming Study Session. Mr. Walker also stated that the Fire Sales Tax is currently one eighth of a cent, not one quarter of a cent. Councilmember DeLuccie stated that she does not feel that the mask mandate in city buildings is necessary. Councilmember DeLuccie stated she would like to have a Special Called Meeting for Council to vote on the requirement of masks in city buildings and needs three other Councilmembers to do so.

Councilmembers DeLuccie and Steinmeyer moved to call a Special Called Meeting on August 4, 2021 to review mask mandate for city buildings.

Upon roll call for the motion to hold a Special Called Meeting on August 4, 2021, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Noes – None. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion approved.

Mayor Weir stated she will not be able to attend a Special Called Meeting on that date. Councilmember DeLuccie asked that the meeting be held at 6:00 p.m.

Councilmember Steinmeyer stated he will hold questions he has for the City Manager until the Special Called Meeting.

Councilmember Hobart stated that it is Missouri's bicentennial. He stated that the city is having an ice cream social. Councilmember Hobart stated that the Puppetry Arts Institute will have a show at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on August 14, 2021, at the National Frontier Trails Museum. Councilmember Hobart stated the Museum will be free to get into and so will the Pioneer cabin. Councilmember Hobart stated that Hawaiian Brothers Restaurant is now open on 39<sup>th</sup> Street and Noland Road and he thinks its great. Councilmember encouraged people to get out and enjoy the rest of their summer in Independence.

Councilmember Huff stated he helped welcome the American Solar Car Challenge to Independence. He provided more details about the competition. Councilmember Huff thanked the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department for getting involved in this worthy competition and he would like to see more events like this to bring young people to our city. Councilmember Huff discussed an unfortunate accident where a homeless individual was struck in traffic near I-435 and Truman Road. Councilmember Huff stated he would like to see more enforcement to keep these individuals out of traffic and avoid this kind of accident in Independence. Mr. Walker stated that Mayor Weir has reached out to the Mayor and City Manager of Kansas City regarding this issue. Mr. Walker stated while out of town he noticed in the area he was visiting that they had signs up in public areas, like parks, that helped provide needed information for individuals who may need different social services. Mr. Walker stated that he will put together an item for the next agenda regarding this information.

Councilmember Perkins stated it is unfortunate that an individual was struck in traffic, and he is looking forward to conversations with Mayor Lucas and Councilmembers in Kansas City regarding the homelessness issue. Councilmember Perkins stated that the American Solar Challenge was nice and it was fun seeing the young talent. Councilmember Perkins thanked staff for helping with the back-to-school event at Maywood.

In response to Councilmember Stewart, Mr. Walker stated that staff tends to be fair when it comes to helping move individuals out of a home that has been deemed uninhabitable. Mr. Walker provided information regarding the City Code for condemned property occupancy. Mr. Walker stated that he can

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provide a more specific timeline to him at a later time, but stated that the city tends to be generous towards the homeowner before forcing them out of the property.

Mayor Weir stated the 24 Highway Complete Streets Project will be a huge safety and aesthetic enhancement for that area. Mayor Weir stated the Hardy Avenue Sidewalk Project will help a lot with safety and she is glad to see the Project moving forward. Mayor Weir stated that there will be a meeting on August 9, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. at Castle Park for public comment for the Project. Mayor Weir stated that we have increased COVID-19 vaccination clinic opportunities. Mayor Weir provided clinic hours and information and encouraged people to participate if they have not been vaccinated.

At 6:56 p.m., there being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned to a Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m., August 16, 2021, in the Council Chambers.

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Presiding Officer of the City Council  
of the City of Independence, Missouri

ATTEST:

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City Clerk