

**REGULAR MEETING**  
January 18, 2022

The Independence City Council met for a Regular Meeting, January 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., virtually held via Microsoft Teams and in person, in the Council Chambers, 111 E. Maple.

Lupe Moe, Member, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 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, Karen DeLuccie, Mike Steinmeyer, Daniel Hobart and Mayor Eileen Weir. The following members of the City Council were absent: None.

**CITIZENS REQUEST TO SPEAK:**

Richard McKie spoke to Council regarding Bill No. 22-004.

Colleen Huff spoke to Council regarding conflict of interest on Bill No. 22-004.

Holmes Osborne spoke to Council regarding crime.

Rebecca Miles spoke to Council regarding Rockwood Golf Course Redevelopment.

Kenneth Love spoke to Council regarding eminent domain.

Laura Dominik spoke to Council regarding COVID-19 mitigation.

Lowell Croft spoke to Council regarding Bill No. 22-710.

Sheri Tindle spoke to Council regarding utilities resolutions being brought to PUAB before the City Council.

**REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER:**

Councilmember Huff requested that Item No. 1 and Item No. 7 be pulled for separate consideration.

Councilmembers Huff and Steinmeyer moved to approve the AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA minus Item No. 1 and Item No. 7.

2. Council action is requested to issue a contract for intra-city transit services with First Transit for the Community Development Department.
3. Council action is recommended to approve a change order to a purchase order between the City and PULLMAN Power LLC in the amount of \$50,700.00 for roof slab repairs to the Van Horn Reservoir for the Water Department.
4. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to TriCom Technical Services, in the amount of \$81,000 for Cyber Security Services.
5. Council action is requested to approve Morgan Stanley as Senior Underwriter for Independence Power & Light's ("IPL") 2022 refunding transaction and to authorize the City Manager to enter into an Underwriter Agreement.
6. Council action is requested to approve the Hawthorne Place Community Police Officers MOU.

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Bill No. 22-703, entitled, [Res. #6759]

“A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING JODI KRANTZ AND JOHN THORNTON TO THE TOURISM COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.”

Bill No. 22-704, entitled, [Res. #6760]

“A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BARGAINING UNIT, LOCAL UNION 53, FOR THE TERM OF JANUARY 16, 2022, THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2024.”

Bill No. 22-705, entitled, [Res. #6761]

“A RESOLUTION NAMING ANGELA SANDLER BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ENGLEWOOD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.” – *Individual Appointment Mayor Eileen Weir*

Bill No. 22-706, entitled, [Res. #6762]

“A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CALVIN HOLST TO SERVE AS THE CITY MANAGEMENT ANALYST.”

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 declared the motion carried, and the AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA was approved.

In response to Councilmember Huff, City Manager, Zach Walker stated that the purchases related to Item No. 1 and Item No. 7 are being made through the Regional Cooperative Purchasing Agreement and provided additional information.

Councilmembers Huff and Steinmeyer moved to approve Item No. 1.

In response to Mayor Weir, Mr. Walker provided more information about the need for purchasing new police vehicles and additional background information.

1. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to Shawnee Mission Ford, for the \$234,276.00 purchase of (6) 2022 Ford Explorer Police Interceptors for the Police 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.

Councilmember Huff and Steinmeyer moved to approve Item No. 7.

7. Council action is requested to issue a purchase order to Shawnee Mission Ford, for the \$211,445.00 purchase of (5) 2022 Ford Explorer Hybrid Police Interceptors for the Police 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.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Mayor Weir opened a new information only public hearing for the application by Joe Saitta requesting a Special Use Permit to operate a car dealership business at 9300 E. US 40 Highway. Assistant Community Development Director, Rick Arroyo, provided background information on this item. Mayor Weir declared the public hearing closed. *New Information Only.*

Bill No. 22-002, entitled, [Ord. #19292]

“AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A USED CAR LOT AT 9300 E. US 40 HIGHWAY, IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.”

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Councilmember DeLuccie stated her concerns with the number of used car lots in that area and stated she will be voting no. In response to

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Mayor Weir, Mr. Arroyo stated there had been no violations at this property and stated the applicant purchased the property within the last year. In response to Councilmember Perkins, Mr. Walker stated he will provide more information about used car lots per capita to the Council. In response to Councilmember Hobart, Mr. Arroyo stated there was an active car lot within the last year by another owner at this location. Mr. Walker provided background information about why staff recommended against this application. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart and Steinmeyer. Noes – Councilmembers: DeLuccie, Hobart and Mayor Weir. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

Mayor Weir opened a new information only public hearing for the application by Todd and Kim Scheerer requesting a rezoning from I-1, Industrial, to C-2, General Commercial, for property located at 11445 E. Truman Rd. Mr. Arroyo provided background information on this item. Mayor Weir declared the public hearing closed. *New Information Only.*

Bill No. 22-003, entitled, [Ord. #19293]

“AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A REZONING FROM DISTRICT I-1 (INDUSTRIAL) TO DISTRICT C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) FOR 11445 E. TRUMAN ROAD IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.”

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.

## NON-ORDINANCE ACTION ITEMS:

Bill No. 21-836, entitled, [failed]

“A RESOLUTION LIFTING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.” – *Requested by Councilmembers Mike Steinmeyer and Mike Huff-Postponed from 12/20 and 1/3*

Councilmember Steinmeyer stated he would like the Council to be more involved in reviewing the State of Emergency every 30 days as stated in the declaration. Councilmember Steinmeyer referenced the City Charter, Section 11.12.004 (6-7) and stated he feels this should be reviewed at some point.

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

Bill No. 22-707, entitled, [Res. #6763]

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURSUE AN EXTERNAL FORENSIC AUDIT OF THE STAY WELL FUND.” – *Requested by Councilmember Mike Huff*

Councilmembers Hobart and Perkins moved to send Bill No. 22-708 to the Stay Well Committee for consideration.

Councilmember DeLuccie stated she attends the Stay Well Committee meetings and feels they are very well informed. Councilmember DeLuccie stated she would like the Stay Well Committee to look at this first. Councilmember Steinmeyer asked if it would be good to have a forensic audit to send as part of the Stay Well Committee’s review and make recommendation based on what they’ve seen. Councilmember DeLuccie stated she has attended the Stay Well meetings for years and they know exactly what they are doing and what is best for the citizens. Councilmember DeLuccie stated she believes we are acting too quickly. Mayor Weir stated that while other boards bring recommendations to the Council, the Stay Well Committee brings recommendations to the City Manager and that is a key difference. Mayor Weir feels that given the many changes that have happened in our Stay Well Employee Healthcare Fund that a regular audit would be appropriate but wants clarification on the resolution. The Mayor stated we have the Audit and Finance Committee that might be appropriate to work with this and bring something back to Council. Councilmember Huff stated the reason for this resolution is because he has had a number of retirees and

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current employee constituents contact him asking what can be done, and he would like this to go to the Audit and Finance Committee. Councilmember Perkins stated that he is in favor of the motion to send this to the Stay Well Committee to review and bring information back to the City Manager. Councilmember Perkins stated that there could be criminal activity and he feels confident that there is no criminal activity here. In response to Mayor Weir, Mr. Walker provided information about what a forensic accounting services are and advised this is usually costly and typically structured around litigation and other critical projects. Mr. Walker advised of other types of audits and reviews available. In response to Councilmember Steinmeyer, Mr. Walker stated that he does not understand the scope or need for the audit and has not been approached by either chair of the Stay Well Committee to understand what the Council's desire is for an audit. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated the desire is to make sure that the money has been appropriated properly and he believes transparency is important. Mr. Walker stated that every year the Annual Comprehensive Financial Review that is performed by a third party auditor, of which the Stay Well Fund is one of the Funds audited, no findings have been made by the third party auditor in this five year window regarding the Stay Well Fund.

Upon roll call to send Bill No. 22-707 to the Stay Well Committee, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Perkins, DeLuccie and Hobart. Noes – Councilmembers: Huff, Stewart, Steinmeyer and Mayor Weir. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the motion failed.

Mayor Weir proposed a motion to postpone Bill No. 22-707 to clarify language and intent of the bill. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

Upon roll call for Bill No. 22-707, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Huff, Perkins, Stewart, Steinmeyer and Mayor Weir. Noes – Councilmembers: DeLuccie and Hobart. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill approved.

In response to Councilmember DeLuccie, Mr. Walker stated we do not know the cost of this audit, there is no fiscal impact note associated with his item and he stated that it's been his experience that the party being audited pays for the audit, which would be the Stay Well Fund which is the employees and retirees of the city. Mayor Weir stated that the bill directs the City Manager to pursue an audit to find out what all that will entail based on her interpretation.

Bill No. 22-708, entitled, [Res. #6764]

"A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY CLERK TO REVISE THE PROCEDURES FOR RECORDS REQUESTS PERTAINING TO EMAIL RETRIEVAL AND REVIEW." – *Requested by Councilmember Brice Stewart*

Councilmember Stewart stated that this resolution is asking that Tech Services perform email searches received through the records request process to be consistent and transparent. In response to Councilmember Perkins, City Clerk, Becky Behrens, provided details regarding the current process for processing records requests for email correspondence. In response to Mayor Weir, Ms. Behrens provided details about records retention, specifically relating to emails. Mayor Weir provided additional information regarding the records request processes. Councilmember Steinmeyer provided information about correspondence he had with a reporter regarding a records request they had submitted for emails. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that he wants transparency and accountability when there are records requests made and wants them tracked and accurately provided to the requester. Councilmember Huff stated he thinks the cost will be very minimal and he agrees we need the transparency; he will be supporting this item. In response to Councilmember Hobart, Mr. Walker stated that there was some email correspondence between him and Councilmember Stewart and Ms. Behrens about the records request process. City Counselor, Jeremy Cover, provided information about the review of records prior to the release of records. Councilmember Hobart stated that he needs to know how the process would work if Tech Services handled all email requests to ensure everything is accurately reviewed. In response to Councilmember Perkins, Ms. Behrens stated that Councilmembers would not be made aware if their emails were requested through Tech Services without updating the process. Councilmember Perkins stated he has

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concerns about the process and cannot support this item at this time. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated again his feelings about the need for this resolution and stated his displeasure with other Councilmember's emails being released but his were not released. In response to Mayor Weir, Councilmember Steinmeyer provided a copy of the news story he is referencing to the Mayor. Mayor Weir stated she believes, based on the information Councilmember Steinmeyer is providing, this is not an issue with information not being provided by Councilmembers, but how it is being delivered. Mayor Weir advised that the City Clerk provides a quarterly report about the records requests made and it may be possible to ask for more details to be added to the quarterly report or have it provided more frequently. Mayor Weir suggested a Study Session on this topic to work out how this would work procedurally. Councilmember Stewart stated that the resolution asks that the Legal Division in Finance and Administration review the emails prior to release and explained information about how Tech Services can pull emails from archives even if the individual user deletes them from their account.

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

Bill No. 22-709, entitled, [Res. #6765]

“A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE RELEASE OF PERTINENT INFORMATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION.” – *Requested by Councilmember Mike Steinmeyer and Mike Huff*

Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that he feels Council should have the option to request all the facts and information available about a case before making decisions on large settlements. Councilmember Hobart stated he felt he had more than enough information to decide not to accept the settlement in the case discussed at the last meeting. In response to Councilmember DeLuccie, Mr. Cover stated that a Councilmember can call or meet with the City Counselor but stated that there is a difference between asking questions and records related to pending litigation. Mr. Cover stated that the Council has closed records related to pending litigation pursuant to the Sunshine Law. Mr. Cover stated this resolution would make pertinent records related to pending litigation open to the Council, but not the public. In response to Mayor Weir, Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that the intent of this resolution is to allow Council to ask for pertinent records in any pending litigation cases. In response to Mayor Weir, Mr. Cover stated that once records are given to the Council there is not a way to guarantee that they stay closed to the public, whether intentional or not intentional. In response to Councilmember Huff, Mr. Cover provided background information on a previous pending litigation situation. Councilmember Huff stated that he had documented proof showing that the Council did not have accurate information from the outside Council.

Councilmember Hobart stated that if we have outside counsel acting on their own volition then we all need to be apprised of that. Councilmember DeLuccie stated that she was approached by the plaintiff to speak one-on-one, and she declined. Councilmember DeLuccie stated that feels this resolution is unnecessary and will not be supporting this. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that his issue is Council not getting all the information needed to represent the best interest of the citizens. Councilmember Stewart stated that Council should be able to ask for records regarding the Titan Fish case and he also feels like two members of the Council should abstain from this vote because their records would be a part of what is released.

Councilmember Hobart stated his feelings about the validity of the case in question. In response to Mayor Weir, Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that this resolution would pertain to the Titan Fish case and any pending litigation cases in the future. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that citizens have the right to ask questions. Mayor Weir agreed that citizens have a right to ask questions and stated that if records are made available to the Council, the Council has an obligation to keep them confidential. In response to Mayor Weir, Mr. Cover stated that the city has retained Steve Coronado to represent the city in the Titan Fish case and as the City Counselor, he communicates with Mr. Coronado, but is not directly involved in the case. Mr. Cover stated that the most recent update is that the KC Star has filed a motion to intervene or obtain a sealed deposition given by Mayor Weir that the judge sealed in this case. Mr. Cover stated that currently the sealed order in place from the judge regarding the deposition prohibits it from being disseminated beyond the parties and their attorneys. As representatives of the city, Councilmembers would be able to have the information, but it would not be public information.

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

Bill No. 22-710, entitled, [Referred to PUAB/PRT]

“A RESOLUTION ADDING THE 97 ACRE FORMER ROCKWOOD GOLF COURSE TO THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE PARKS SYSTEM AND DECLARING THE CITY COUNCIL INTENT TO MOVE THE SOLAR PANEL PARK FROM THE PROPERTY.” – *Requested by Councilmembers Mike Huff and Mike Steinmeyer*

Councilmember DeLuccie provided background information about the Rockwood Purchase and the MC Power contract. She stated that we cannot terminate the contract with MC Power at this time and stated we are making decisions without knowing anything about the money. Councilmember DeLuccie stated she will be voting no. Councilmember Steinmeyer referenced minutes from a community meeting regarding Rockwood Golf Course. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that if we keep the solar panels, then they need to meet the requirements of the City Code just as we hold our residents accountable to the City Code. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that this has been discussed and talked about and is not a shock, and stated the residents want something to be done about this and for dealings to be transparent. Councilmember DeLuccie stated the resolution requires the city to remove the panels by December 31, 2025 and gave more information about the financial impacts this could have now and long term. She stated that we do not have to do this resolution today. Councilmember Huff stated that MC Power does not own the solar farm; they built it and maintain it but it is owned by someone else. Councilmember Huff stated he spoke with some consultants, and it is feasible to move the panels in 2025 and stated that if needed before 2025, the decision can be changed. Councilmember Huff stated we have never charged anyone for the solar farm and stated we should look into where all the billings is going to. Councilmember DeLuccie stated we charge people who agree on the solar panels for extra kilowatt hours and stated she did not agree with this in the beginning, but people are doing that.

Councilmembers Hobart and DeLuccie moved to defer this item to the PUAB and Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department.

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

Councilmember Perkins stated that he voted yes on the motion because there is a lot to be discussed and he stated he feels Councilmembers should be doing their due diligence when bringing items like this forward. In response to Councilmember Perkins, Mayor Weir stated that the motion has been voted on and Council can ask questions to staff outside of the meeting.

Bill No. 22-711, entitled, [Res. #6766]

“A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE CITY MANAGER TO INCLUDE FUNDING IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 SUBMITTED BUDGET FOR THE ADDITION OF A CHIEF INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER POSITION.” – *Requested by Councilmember Brice Stewart*

Councilmember Stewart provided background information about why he requested this item. In response to Mayor Weir, Mr. Walker stated that if this position was not under the Tech Services Division, the position could be a Council position similar to the Management Analyst position or reside in the City Manager’s office. Councilmember Stewart stated he did not ask for this position to be in the Manager’s office specifically, to avoid possible Charter violations regarding personnel issues. In response to Mayor Weir, Councilmember Stewart advised that his intent is for the City Manager to look at what would be needed to include this position in the next budget but will not direct for this position to be created at this time.

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

ORDINANCES:

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Bill No. 22-001, entitled, [Ord. #19294]

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING FINAL DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN CITY RECORDS THAT HAVE MET ALL REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SUCH DISPOSITION.”

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. 22-004, entitled, [failed]

“AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE NEED TO ACQUIRE REAL PROPERTY FOR THE AMELIORATION OF CONDITIONS WHICH CONSTITUTE BLIGHT IN THE CITY BY NEGOTIATION, OR, IF NECESSARY, BY CONDEMNATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO OBTAIN AND EXECUTE ALL INSTRUMENTS NECESSARY FOR ACQUISITION OF SUCH LAND.”

was given its second reading by title and placed on final passage. Councilmember DeLuccie stated the reasons why she is voting no for this item. In response to Mayor Weir, Mr. Walker stated that the city has not reached out by certified mail. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated his reasons for voting no and disagrees with eminent domain. In response to Councilmember Perkins, Mr. Walker provided background information when this process was used for the building in Englewood. Mr. Walker provided information about what actions this ordinance would allow the city to take and next steps that would require the Circuit Court and Court appointed Board of Commissioners to take additional action which would allow ample ability for the Council to interject and cease this process by resolution. Councilmember Perkins stated we have used this process in the past and it helped make Englewood what it is today because it was successful. In response to Councilmember Hobart, Mr. Cover provided information about what this ordinance would allow if passed. Mr. Cover stated that his best guess would be that it would be July or August before all steps could be completed. Mr. Walker advised that it takes approximately six months to complete the process. Mr. Cover advised that if the city would win this in court, it would force a sale of the property at fair market value. Councilmember Huff stated his feelings against this item. Councilmember Stewart stated that he feels this is a violation of the Missouri Constitution and stated that he contacted Jackson County regarding this property was told the property is in bankruptcy at this time. Upon roll call, the vote was: Ayes – Councilmembers: Perkins and Hobart. Noes – Councilmembers: Huff, Stewart, DeLuccie, Steinmeyer and Mayor Weir. Absent – None. The Mayor declared the bill failed.

Bill No. 22-005, entitled, [Ord. #19295]

“AN ORDINANCE VACATING AN EXISTING PLATTED SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT OF ALL THAT PART OF EASTLAND CENTER 1ST PLAT, ON, AND ACROSS OUTLOT 2, OF THE PLATTED 40’ WIDE UTILITY EASEMENT AND CONTAINING 3,016.79 SQUARE FEET, MORE OR LESS, A SUBDIVISION IN INDEPENDENCE, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI.”

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. 22-006, entitled

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5 ARTICLE 16 “CARNIVAL AND CIRCUS AMUSEMENT RIDES AND DEVICES” OF THE INDEPENDENCE CITY CODE.” – *Requested by Councilmember Brice Stewart*  
was given its first reading by title.

## INFORMATION ONLY:

1. COVID-19 Semi-Monthly Update.
2. Municipal Division monthly case report December 2021.
3. Handouts During the Meeting.

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4. 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).

## COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that these discussions are not a political fight although it is an election year. He stated this is about honest representation of citizens' interests and to end special interest deals that have robbed the city of critical funding resources that we need in this area so much. Councilmember Steinmeyer stated that if we want to make Independence better, we have to work on public trust.

Councilmember DeLuccie stated that she wanted to reiterate that the Stay Well Committee is great and she supports them looking at their finances, but is concerned about the cost of an external audit.

Councilmember Perkins spoke about attending the Care Beyond the Boulevard event. Councilmember Perkins thanked staff for working so hard during the inclement weather.

Mayor Weir thanked the organizations that hosted our Martin Luther King Jr. celebration last night at the Truman Memorial Building. The Mayor stated it was a great tribute to Mr. King.

At 8:06 p.m. the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned to a Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m., February 7, 2022, 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