

AN ORDINANCE

amending Section 46-3, Council Zones., of the Joplin Municipal Code, to realign the zones to allow for more equal distribution of the electors included therein, and to include certain recently annexed properties, pursuant to Section 1.05 of the City Charter; and, containing an emergency clause.

WHEREAS, over the course of several years, the numbers of electors within the four (4) Council zones have grown unequal; and,

WHEREAS, in order to correct this imbalance, Jasper County has agreed to modify certain precinct boundaries; and,

WHEREAS, since the last Council election, the City of Joplin has annexed territory into the City; and,

WHEREAS, Section 1.05 of the City Charter requires the Council Zones to contain as nearly as practicable, an equal number of electors, and to reestablish the zones following annexation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 46-3, Council Zones, of the Municipal Code, as stated by Ordinance No. 99-193 and passed by the Council of the City of Joplin, Missouri, on December 6, 1999, and as re-adopted by the Council of the City of Joplin, Missouri, on November 19, 2001 by Ordinance No. 2001-177, and re-adopted January 7, 2002, by Ordinance No. 2002-001, and further re-adopted March 4, 2002, by Ordinance No. 2002-079; and re-adopted November 17, 2003 by Ordinance No. 2003-213, and re-adopted November 21, 2005 by Ordinance No. 2005-193; and lastly, as re-adopted October 15, 2007 by Ordinance No. 2007-222, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 46-3. Council zones.

The Council zones shall include the following voting districts or precincts:

- (1) Council Zone No. 1: Voting precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8.
- (2) Council Zone No. 2: Voting precincts 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.
- (3) Council Zone No. 3: Voting precincts 7, 16, 18, 23, 24, and 25.

- (4) Council Zone No. 4: Voting precincts 21, 22, 26, 27, and that portion of the Thurman, Diamond, and Saginaw Precincts lying within the corporate boundaries of the City of Joplin, Newton County.

Any councilmember who holds office as a zone councilmember shall continue to qualify as a resident and registered voter of the zone for which he was elected until the end of his unexpired term if he continues to reside in and be a qualified and registered voter in the zone as it existed on the date of his election to the unexpired term. Therefore, insofar as the council zones set forth in this section change the boundaries of the zones of any incumbent zone councilmember, such change shall not be effective until the term of such zone councilmember shall have expired. In the event of a vacancy in the office of a zone councilmember prior to such change in boundaries of such zone, a resident and qualified and registered voter of such zone, either as it existed on the date of the election of such zone councilmember or as it shall exist when the boundaries are changed as provided in this section, shall qualify as a resident and qualified and registered voter of such zone."

Section 2. That this Ordinance, being an Ordinance providing for the re-statement of the boundaries of Council Zones, for the purpose of electing Council Members, is an emergency within the meaning of Section 2.12(2) of the HOME RULE CHARTER of the City of Joplin, Missouri, and as such, this Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, this 8th day of September, 2009, by vote of 8-1.

Gary L. Shaw, Mayor

ATTEST: Barbara L. Hogelin, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: Brian W. Head, City Attorney