



701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Council Memo

Department Source: Law

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: August 17, 2026

Re: Declaring the Results of the August 4, 2026 Special Elections to Elect a Ward 4 Council Member and to Impose an Additional Sales Tax for the Purpose of Improving City Public Safety Services

Impacted Ward: Ward 4

Executive Summary

This resolution formally declares the results of the special elections held on August 4, 2026 to elect a Ward 4 council member to fill the remainder of an unexpired term and to impose an additional sales tax of one percent for the purpose of improving city public safety services. The resolution on the Council agenda contains official results published by the County Clerk following the election.

Discussion

Elected officials may take office at any time after the official election results are certified by the election authority, provided the minimum qualifications and all other preliminary requirements for being sworn into office have been met.

The official results show that on August 4, 2026, the following votes were cast for the Fourth Ward candidates appearing on the ballot:

Council Member, Fourth Ward

Dave Sorrell	2,933
Ryan King	813
Sharon Jones	3,934

Based on the results of the election, Sharon Jones was duly elected Council member of Ward 4.

Furthermore, on August 4, 2026, the voters approved the following proposition:

Proposition 1: Shall the municipality of Columbia, Missouri impose an additional citywide sales tax at a rate of one percent, solely for the purpose of providing revenues to improve public safety for the city, which shall be limited to expenditures on equipment, salaries and benefits, and facilities for police and fire departments?

Approval of the election results by Council is not a required step; however, it is traditional for the formal passage of a resolution declaring the election results to occur in order to create a permanent City record to track the outcome of an election. In addition, following adoption of the resolution, it is tradition for a formal public swearing in ceremony be conducted for the newly elected officials.

A separate ordinance that imposes an additional citywide sales tax at a rate of one percent for the purpose of providing revenues to improve public safety for the city is also on the Council agenda under introduction and first reading. That ordinance and associated notice to the Department of Revenue is required to ensure the tax is properly extended.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None.

Long-Term Impact: Unknown.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
05/04/2026	R96-26 : Calling a special election to be held in Ward 4 of the City of Columbia on August 4, 2026, to elect a council member to fill the remainder of an unexpired term; establishing a filing period.
05/18/2026	B119-26 (Ordinance No. 026316: Calling a special election on August 4, 2026, on the question whether to impose an additional sales tax of one percent for the purpose of improving city public safety services.

Suggested Council Action

Adoption of the resolution.