The City of St. Joseph, Tennessee, was incorporated on October 14, 1958, under the City Manager-Commission Charter as set out in chapters 18 through 29 of title 6, Tennessee Code Annotated. Therefore, the city's charter, as extracted from the Tennessee Code Annotated and set forth herein, is the City Manager-Commission Charter as amended.

For a description of the city's original boundaries, see "Original Boundaries of City of St. Joseph From Notice of Incorporation Election," in the front of Ordinance Book 1 in the recorder's office. The original boundaries have been changed by ordinances that can be found in the recorder's office.