

November 18, 2019
Springfield, Missouri

The City Council met in regular session November 18, 2019 in the Council Chambers at Historic City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken McClure. A moment of silence was observed.

Roll Call	Present: Abe McGull, Matthew Simpson, Mike Schilling, Phyllis Ferguson, Jan Fisk, Craig Hosmer, Richard Ollis, Andrew Lear, and Ken McClure. Absent: None.
Minutes	The minutes of November 4, 2019 City Council Meeting and November 5, 2019 and November 12, 2019 Special City Council Meetings were approved as presented.
Consent Agenda	The Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

City Manager Report	Jason Gage, City Manager noted Police Chief Paul Williams provided councilmembers with the monthly crime statistics for October. He noted an increase in auto thefts due, in large part, to vehicles stolen with keys in the ignition, or left running. He further noted Springfield Police Department and the Public Information Office will begin running their annual public service campaign reminding citizens to keep their doors locked.
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Mr. Gage reminded citizens to join councilmembers and staff this weekend for the Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony. He noted it will take place Saturday evening in Park Central Square with the show starting at 6:30 p.m., with the lighting occurring at 7:30 p.m. The evening will include performances by several local and regional artists: Studio Vie Dancers; Springfield Little Theatre YES Troupe, Springfield Regional Opera; scenes from The Nutcracker by Springfield Ballet and many more holiday classics. Santa and Mrs. Clause will make an appearance and pose for selfies, along with numerous costumed characters. Police Chief Williams and Fire Chief Pennington will do readings of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" in Park Central Library. The books will be provided free to the children, thanks to the Mayor's Commission on Children. He further noted there will be free hot chocolate, free horse and carriage rides and free ice skating at Jordan Valley Park.

Mr. Gage noted Springfield Fire Department firefighters began going door to door Saturday in the Rountree Neighborhood, as the department continues efforts to ensure that every Springfield resident has adequate warning of a fire in their home. Since April 2017, firefighters have installed 3,313 smoke alarms in area neighborhoods as a part of Project RED Zone. They have visited 22,057 homes. He noted the next neighborhoods will be Oak Grove and Delaware neighborhoods.

Mr. Gage highlighted the \$21 million-dollar grant the City received notice of last week. The Grant Avenue Parkway includes major multi-modal transportation improvements, along Grant Avenue in the heart of Springfield. It will include an off-street pedestrian and bicycle pathway between Sunshine Street and Walnut Street – a 3.3-mile stretch

that will connect downtown Springfield with the Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium. He thanked the City's Public Works, Planning and Public Information & Civic Engagement Departments who convened a multi-departmental, multi-agency team to prepare the grant proposal. He noted work will be underway soon, but this early stage is very conceptual and will require a lot of community coordination and public input to determine what the completed project will look like.

Mayor McClure expressed his appreciation for work done by city staff and community partners to acquire the \$21 million-dollar grant. Mr. McClure further noted the strong support shown by our Congressional delegates in procuring said grant. He expressed his belief the grant is transformational and fits well with City Council priorities.

Mayor McClure thanked the community for a show of support for the 1/8-cent transportation tax renewal and the 3/4-cent Police-Fire Pension tax.

The following bills appeared on the agenda under Second Reading Bills

Springfield Police Foundation Grant

Sponsor: Fisk. Council Bill 2019-245. A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept grant funds from the Springfield Police Foundation totaling \$75,628.86, to fund the purchase of Photogrammetry/Mapping Software for the Traffic Section Drone, Rifle Rated Ballistic Shields, a K9 Camera System, a Long-Range Acoustic Device, and Major Crime Investigator Camera Packages; and amending the budget for the Police Department for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 in the amount of \$75,628.86.

Councilman Schilling asked if the equipment is for day-to-day usage or for special situations. Jason Gage, City Manager expressed it is intended to be used in special situations but may still be used throughout the year.

Council Bill 2019-245. Special Ordinance 27253 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Community Partnership of the Ozarks Grant

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2019-246. A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept a grant in the amount of \$10,000.00, from Community Partnership of the Ozarks for reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Springfield Police Department for participating in the Mental Health First Aid Program and amending the budget for the Police Department for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Council Bill 2019-246. Special Ordinance 27254 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Internal Audit Services

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2019-247. A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with BKD, LLP, for the purpose of providing internal audit services for one year at a cost of \$77,586, with the option of up to four additional one-year terms.

Councilman Lear noted he does not have a conflict of interest on the proposed but is choosing to abstain due to his former affiliation with BKD.

Council Bill 2019-247. Ordinance 27255 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: Lear.

**Administration
and Enforcement
of Codes**

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-248. A general ordinance amending Article I. – ‘Administration and Enforcement of Codes’ of Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the ‘Land Development Code.’ (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-248. Ordinance 6553 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Building Trades
Examination and
Certification
Board**

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-249. A general ordinance amending the City of Springfield Land Development Code, Article IV, ‘Building Trades, Appeals, and Licensing,’ to clarify existing language, delete unnecessary language, and amend certain language by repealing Article IV in its entirety, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article IV, ‘Building Trades Examination and Certification Board.’ (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-249. Ordinance 6554 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Building Code

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-250. A general ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the Land Development Code, by repealing Article V, ‘Building Code,’ in its entirety, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article V, ‘Building Code.’ (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-250. Ordinance 6555 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Electrical Code

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-251. A general ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the ‘Land Development Code,’ by repealing Article VI, ‘Electrical Code,’ in its entirety, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article VI, ‘Electrical Code.’ (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-251. Ordinance 6556 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**International
Property
Maintenance Code**

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-252. A general ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the 'Land Development Code,' by repealing Article VII, 'International Property Maintenance Code,' in its entirety, and enacting a new Article VII, 'International Property Maintenance Code.' (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Councilman Hosmer asked if any amendments are being considered to the property maintenance code. Jason Gage, City Manager noted there are some changes being considered.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson expressed her concern with enforceability of clauses specific to boarding up buildings. She asked if the proposed were to pass, what is the perceived enforceability of this section of the code. Harlan Hill, Director of Building Services provided background history regarding approaches to enforcement. She asked how many citations have been given and in how much time. Mr. Hill expressed his belief approximately a dozen within the past month. She asked if public education would be beneficial towards enforceability. Mr. Hill answered affirmatively.

Councilman Ollis asked if an escalation fee would be beneficial. Mr. Hill noted it has been looked at internally.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson noted prior legislation has capped fee-escalation on the local level.

Councilman Hosmer moved to table Council Bill 2019-252 until the December 16, 2019 City Council meeting. Councilman Schilling seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Schilling, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: McGull, Simpson, and Ferguson. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Plumbing Code

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-253. A general ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the 'Land Development Code,' by repealing Article VIII, 'Plumbing Code,' in its entirety, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article VIII, 'Plumbing Code.' (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-253. Ordinance 6557 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Mechanical Code

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-254. A general ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the 'Land Development Code,' by repealing Article IX, 'Mechanical Code,' in its entirety, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article IX, 'Mechanical Code.' (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-254. Ordinance 6558 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Fuel Gas Code

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-255. A general ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the 'Land Development Code,' by repealing Article XIV, 'Fuel Gas Code,' in its entirety, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article XIV, 'Fuel Gas Code.' (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-255. Ordinance 6559 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Private Sewage Disposal Code

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-256. A general ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the 'Land Development Code,' by repealing Article XV, 'Private Sewage Disposal Code,' in its entirety, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article XV, 'Private Sewage Disposal Code.' (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-256. Ordinance 6560 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Existing Building Code

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-257. A general ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the Land Development Code, by repealing Article XVI, 'Existing Building Code,' in its entirety, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article XVI, 'Existing Building Code.' (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-257. Ordinance 6561 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Swimming Pool and Spa Code

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-258. A general ordinance adopting the 2018 Swimming Pool and Spa Code as Article XVIII of Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the 'Land Development Code.' (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-258. Ordinance 6562 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Energy Code Adoption

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, Hosmer, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-259. A general ordinance adopting the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code as Article XIX of Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, known as the Land Development Code; declaring the intent of the currently constituted City Council to adopt the 2018 or 2021 International Energy Conservation Code to take effect on January 1, 2023; and

instructing City staff to solicit input from stakeholders about whether minor amendments to the 2018 or 2021 Code should be adopted prior to such Code's adoption and to present a report regarding the input and staff's recommendations to City Council. (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Council Bill 2019-259. Ordinance 6563 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Residential Building Code

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-260. A general ordinance amending Chapter 36, Article XIII of the Springfield City Code, known as the Land Development Code, by repealing Article XIII, 'Residential Building Code,' in its entirety, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article XIII, 'Residential Building Code,' amending Chapter 36, Article XIII, Section 36-1302, 'Deletions, modifications, amendments, and additions, Section N1102 (R402) 'Building Thermal Envelope,' by repealing said section in its entirety and enacting in lieu thereof a new Section N1102 to take effect on July 1, 2021; declaring the intent of the currently constituted City Council to adopt the 2018 or 2021 International Residential Building Code to become effective on January 1, 2022; and instructing City staff to solicit input from stakeholders about whether minor amendments to the 2018 or 2021 Code should be adopted prior to such Code's adoption and to present a report regarding the input and staff's recommendations to City Council. (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Councilman Hosmer expressed concern regarding energy efficiency reductions on homes built within the city, if the proposed were to pass. Harlan Hill, Director of Building Services noted his department's effort to work with local industries to create a way forward. Mr. Hosmer expressed his belief the proposed demonstrated a step backwards in terms of energy efficiency.

Councilman Ollis noted the proposed is a phased-in approach, and given time, the energy efficiency standards would be higher than they are currently.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked if the current energy code is not being met. Mr. Hill noted inspectors have not been able to validate if the buildings have been properly insulated or sealed. She asked if current staff levels would permit his department to verify compliance. Mr. Hill answered affirmatively, noting it may take some time to work out. She asked if it would require additional training for his inspectors. Mr. Hill answered affirmatively. She asked if his current budget would allow for additional training. Mr. Hill noted he would be evaluating the budget soon.

Councilman Schilling expressed his desire to move forward with a progressive plan. He further expressed his belief the proposed moved the city backwards regarding energy efficiency and will oppose the bill.

Councilman Hosmer moved for a division of the question to Council Bill 2019-260. Councilman Schilling seconded the motion.

Councilman Hosmer expressed his reason to divide the question from lines 1-14 to specify when City Council would adopt new energy standards, rather than communicate City Council's intention to adopt new energy standards.

Councilman Ollis noted the proposed was passed by Plans and Policies Committee and has been worked on for 18 months. Mr. Ollis expressed he is opposing the division of the question.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked Rhonda Lewsader, City Attorney if present City Council can pass bills that bind future City Councils. Ms. Lewsader noted present City Council may not bind future City Council's, however, they may adopt bills with enactment clauses for future dates. She further noted a future City Council can repeal actions from a prior City Council.

Councilman Simpson asked if the division of the question would result is repealing a section of the bill without replacing it. Ms. Lewsader noted the motion to divide the question as stated would be rendered void as a matter of law given that the division in question separates the overview of the bill from its enactment clauses.

Councilman Hosmer asked if it is the position of staff that the division of the question was improper. Ms. Lewsader reiterated the way in which the question was divided would render the bill void as a matter of law.

Councilman Hosmer withdrew his motion for a division of the question.

Councilman Hosmer moved to amend Council Bill 2019-260 I move to amend Council Bill 2019-260 by striking the text of line 4 that reads "amending Chapter 36, Article XIII, Section 36-1302," and all of lines 5 through 14, and replacing that text with the following: and, effective December 1, 2020, repealing deletions, modifications, amendments and additions made to sections of the 2018 International Residential Building Code related to energy conservation so that the text of the 2018 Code shall be unaltered for those sections. and by striking the text of lines 797 to 841, 'Section 2', and replacing that text with the following: Section 2 – Effective December 1, 2020, City Council hereby amends Springfield City Code, Chapter 36, Article XIII, 'Residential Building Code,' Section 36-1302, 'Deletions, modifications, amendments, and additions,' by repealing the deletions, modifications, amendments, and additions made to the following sections of the 2018 International Residential Building Code so that the text of the 2018 International Residential Building Code shall be unaltered for these sections: N1101.14 (R401.3) 'Certificate (Mandatory)' N1102 (R402) 'Building Thermal Envelope' N1102.4.1.1 (R402.4.1.1) 'Installation' N1102.4.1.2 (R402.4.1.2) 'Testing' N1103.3.3 (R403.3.3) 'Duct testing (Mandatory)' N1105.5.2(1) (R405.5.2(1)) Specifications for the Standard Reference and Proposed Designs N1106.4 (R406.4) 'ERI-based compliance' and by striking lines 843 through 850, 'Section 3', and renumbering Sections 4, 5, 6 as Sections 3, 4, and 5 respectively.

Councilman Schilling seconded the motion and it failed by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling and Hosmer. Nays: McGull, Simpson, Ferguson, Fisk, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Councilman Lear asked for clarification regarding the word “intent” present in the bill. Ms. Lewsader expressed her understanding was there were possible modifications to come, therefor, using the word “intent” provided City Council flexibility.

Council Bill 2019-260. Ordinance 6564 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Ferguson, Fisk, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: Schilling and Hosmer. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Show Me PACE

Sponsor: Ollis, Lear, Hosmer, and McGull. Council Bill 2019-261. A special ordinance authorizing the City of Springfield, Missouri, to join the commercial component of the Show Me Property Assessment Clean Energy District created pursuant to Missouri Revised Statutes Sections 67.2800 to 67.2835, known as the “Property Assessment Clean Energy Act;” stating the City’s intent to participate in the commercial component of the “Property Assessed Clean Energy” Program as a member of such District; requesting appointment to the District’s Advisory Board; disclaiming any need for appropriation; and directing the City Clerk to send a certified copy of this Ordinance to the Board of Directors of the District. (Recommended by Plans and Policies Committee.)

Mayor McClure noted he wants to put into place a PACE program. He further noted upon review of the documents he has concern that there is a lack of clarity regarding the City’s ability to withdraw from the program as well as the collections provision.

Councilman Ollis expressed his belief a commercial PACE bill is beneficial but does support Mayor McClure’s desire to get more clarity on a few aspects of the bill.

Councilman Simpson echoed Councilman Ollis’ comments, further noting the positive impact of retaining building projects within the city limits.

Councilman Schilling expressed his belief the proposed should be passed and his intention to oppose a motion to table the bill.

Mayor McClure moved to table Council Bill 2019-261 until the December 16, 2019 City Council meeting. Councilman Simpson seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

McGull, Simpson, Ferguson, Fisk, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: Schilling and Hosmer. Absent: None. Abstain: None

The following bills appeared on the agenda under Resolutions

Special Municipal Election

Sponsor: Council. Council Bill 2019-263. A resolution declaring the results of the special municipal election held on November 5, 2019 under the Home Rule Charter of the City of Springfield, Missouri.

Rhonda Lewsader, City Attorney provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Lewsader noted on November 5 the city had an election regarding the 1/8-cent

transportation tax renewal and pension sales tax renewal. She also noted the bill would declare the results of the election and a certified copy would be provided to the Department of Revenue as required by state law.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no appearances the public hearing was declared closed.

Council Bill 2019-263. Resolution 10484 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Intent to Annex

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2019-264. A resolution declaring the intent of the City of Springfield, to annex 6.3 acres of private property and 1.5 acres of Missouri Department of Transportation right-of-way generally located at 3615 North State Highway H/Glenstone Avenue. (Staff recommends approval.)

Mary Lilly Smith, Director of Planning and Development provided a brief overview of the proposed. She noted the proposed merely initiates action towards annexation with both a public hearing and a vote by City Council scheduled in January 2020.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no appearances the public hearing was declared closed.

Council Bill 2019-264. Resolution 10485 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Ozark Transportation Organization Grant

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2019-265. A resolution authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to make application to the Ozark Transportation Organization for \$217,600 of federal grant funds administered by the Missouri Department of Transportation, through the Surface Transportation Block Grant program, for the purpose of funding the construction of the Fasnigh Creek Greenway Trail, Clay Avenue to Brookside Drive.

Eric Classen, Traffic Engineer provided a brief overview of the proposed. He noted the proposed simply seeks approval for the application. He further noted if granted the funds, they would come back to City Council for approval to accept the funds.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no appearances the public hearing was declared closed.

Councilman Ollis thanked Mr. Classen and the rest of staff for their diligence regarding the project and walkability in the Springfield community. He noted it ties in well with the Art Museum's Master Plan.

Councilman Simpson expressed his support for the proposed. He noted the multi-faceted benefits for Springfield residents as well as visitors. He also noted the project's tie-in to the Art Museum's Master Plan.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson thanked staff for their work on the project. The asked Mr. Classen what the completion date is for the trail. Mr. Classen noted prior grant funds must be dedicated before August 2020, however, this new grant must have funds dedicated by September 2021. He estimated design construction to begin in 2021.

Council Bill 2019-265. Resolution 10486 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Public Rights of
Way ADA
Transition Plan**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2019-266. A resolution adopting the Public Rights of Way ADA Transition Plan.

Eric Classen, Traffic Engineer provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Classen noted Springfield has 640 miles of sidewalk, 60 percent of which is considered in fair to very good condition. He noted 30 percent of the 10,000 plus curb ramps follow ADA regulations, however, this does not mean they are in terrible condition; simply, an element of the ramp is out of compliance.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no appearances the public hearing was declared closed.

Council Bill 2019-266. Resolution 10487 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

EMERGENCY BILLS

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

The following bill appeared on the agenda under Grants

**Environmental
Workforce
Development and
Job Training Grant**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2019-267. A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) for the purpose of creating job training programs that recruit, train, and place local unemployed and under-employed residents into full-time employment in the environmental field, and to enter into necessary agreements to carry out the grant; amending the budget of the Department of Workforce Development for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 in the amount of \$200,000 to appropriate the grant funds; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval on one reading.

Sally Payne, Assistant Director of Workforce Development provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Payne noted they have a little over 70 percent employment rate with trainees so far with an average starting wage of \$16 per hour. She noted participants leave with 13 certifications. She also expressed her gratitude for having received the grant on prior occasions.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson noted she new a participant in the program who had a job making roughly \$9 per hour and upon completion of the program, made just over \$16 an hour. She expressed her belief that programs such as this are life changing.

Anita Cotter, City Clerk noted Mayor McClure had opened the floor for public speakers but did not declare the public hearing closed. Mayor McClure asked if there were any scheduled speakers. Ms. Cotter noted there were none. There being no appearances the public hearing was declared closed.

Council Bill 2019-267. Special Ordinance 27256 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

AMENDED BILLS

PUBLIC HEARING

The following bills appeared on the agenda under First Reading Bills

Blackman Woods Lift Station Relief Sewer

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2019-268. A special ordinance approving the plans and specification for construction of Blackman Woods Lift Station Relief Sewer; and to accept the bid of Accurate Excavating of S.W. Mo., Inc. in the amount of \$95,808.00 for the project; and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to enter into a contract with such bidder for said improvement.

Jacob Berger, Professional Engineer provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Berger noted passage of the proposed would allow them to reduce operating and maintenance costs. He further noted four bids were received, with two above the engineer's estimate.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no appearances the public hearing was declared closed.

Trunked Radio System

Sponsor: Fisk. Council Bill 2019-269. A special ordinance amending the budget of the City of Springfield for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 in the amount of \$2,000,000, for the purpose of appropriating funds to complete the upgrade of the Trunked Radio System and purchase P-25 compliant radio equipment.

David Holtmann, Director of Finance provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Holtmann noted the funds help complete the city's obligation to pay for the upgrade for the Trunked Radio System and purchase P-25 complaint radio equipment. He also noted the system supports 4,500 public safety and critical infrastructure users. He further noted the Trunked Radio System is owned and operated by City Utilities with costs shared equally between the City of Springfield, City Utilities of Springfield, and Greene County through a participation agreement.

Mayor McClure asked if funds were currently set aside to fund the proposed. Mr. Holtmann answered affirmatively. Mayor McClure asked if all three members of the TRS Board are contributing. Mr. Holtmann answered affirmatively.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no appearances the public hearing was declared closed.

The following items appeared on the agenda under Petitions, Remonstrances, and Communications.

Ms. Josephine Grace addressed City Council. Ms. Grace expressed her concern with public safety issues. She encouraged more public awareness regarding organized crime and weapons.

Ms. Angela Mayer addressed City Council. Ms. Mayer expressed her concern with abandoned properties and the perceived lack of inspections. She further expressed a desire to see higher penalties for chronic nuisance properties.

Councilwoman Fisk asked which residence Ms. Mayer was referring to in her illustration of nuisance properties. Ms. Mayer noted the residence is 1121 Mt. Vernon Street. Councilwoman Fisk expressed her desire to assist in getting the property owner to handle the issue. Ms. Mayer thanked Councilwoman Fisk and reiterated her desire to see more being done to tackle the larger issue.

Councilman Ollis asked when she reports an issue, has there any resolution. Ms. Mayer noted she has not had any resolution. She expressed her belief that many landlords are more concerned with money than maintaining properties. Councilman Ollis thanked Ms. Mayer for communicating her issues and voiced his support for increase enforcement and accountability.

Councilman McGull asked if there is a tracking system for every complaint concerning vacant homes. Jason Gage, City Manager noted Springfield has an older system but is currently in the process of migrating to a newer database system.

Councilman McGull asked if there is a numbering system involved or feedback provided to the complainant. Harlan Hill, Director of Building Services noted both systems can track using a numbering system with the ability for feedback. He further noted the complaints are not separated specifically by type, such as vacant homes, but is discovered through the details of the complaint.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked if individuals are being fined for not using the registration system that is intended to create a comprehensive database for vacant properties. Mr. Hill noted there have been implementation issues. Ms. Ferguson asked if issues have just now been discovered after three years utilizing the system. Mr. Hill noted the issues are not new and are being worked on. He noted a report will be established and presented to councilmembers detailing the issues and resolutions in the coming weeks.

Councilman Ollis noted the reports presented to councilmembers specify only numbers but lack details as they relate to vacant or nuisance properties. He expressed his desire to see the names of the chronic offenders on the report listed and for more accountability.

Councilman Lear expressed his frustration with nuisance properties and the current reporting structure. He noted his support for removing impediments to implementing a better system for accountability.

Councilwoman Fisk expressed her support for a system to track vagrants near nuisance properties.

Mr. Gary Horchem addressed City Council. Mr. Horchem expressed his concern with aggressive panhandling near the intersection of Campbell and Grand. He further noted the increased presence of drug paraphernalia as well as observable theft.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson encouraged any citizen observing a violation of the law to notify law enforcement.

Mr. Horchem asked for clarification on panhandlers' usage of personal signs as it relates to hanging them on private property, such as the Maple Park Cemetery fence. Mayor McClure noted that the fence is on private property and it would fall on the owner to decide if the sign can be hung or not.

Mr. Bryan Sturges addressed City Council. Mr. Sturges echoed his concern with vacant properties within Springfield. He provided an example of a burned building that's been vacant for three years.

Councilman Ollis asked Mr. Sturges if he knew who the property owner is. Mr. Sturges noted he did not know who the property owner is. Mr. Ollis asked if he reported the property. Mr. Sturges answered affirmatively. Mr. Ollis expressed his support to move vacant properties, and like concerns, to the forefront for consideration.

Councilman McGull asked when Mr. Sturges registered his complaint, was it online. Mr. Sturges answered affirmatively, noting it was on the City of Springfield website. Mr. McGull asked if he received feedback or confirmation the complaint was registered. Mr. Sturges noted he did not.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson noted she has also turned the property in several times over the past three years. She thanked Mr. Sturges for reporting the issues, discussing them with councilmembers, and remaining patient as resolutions are entertained.

Councilman Simpson asked how long the typical property stays on the dangerous property list. Harlan Hill, Director of Building Services noted times do vary but can run anywhere from months to a few years. He noted orders for abatement have been issued regarding the property in question.

Councilman McGull asked if it is possible to simply board the property. Mr. Hill

answered affirmatively, noting the severity of property is a factor.

Mr. Terry Bloodworth addressed City Council. Mr. Bloodworth echoed his concern with vacant properties within Springfield. He encouraged councilmembers to utilize all tools to fix the chronic issues stated tonight. He noted he reached out to Missouri State Senator Lincoln Hough regarding the issue and his office suggested the issue is better handled on the local level.

Councilman Ollis asked who the owner of vacant property Mr. Bloodworth noted in his remarks is. Mr. Bloodworth expressed his belief the legal owner is Carol Ward.

Councilman McGull thanked Mr. Bloodworth for presenting, noting it is apparent he has pride in his community. He noted the importance for communication to be sent to anyone who reports issues to the city via the website.

Councilman Schilling thanked Mr. Bloodworth for presenting. He asked if an expedited process could be used to clean up the vacant property, considering it has issues with asbestos. Mr. Hill noted only a few landfills will take material that has asbestos present, Springfield's not being one of them. He further noted the cost can be upwards of \$50,000 to take material containing asbestos. He noted his department is working out options on how to clean up the property.

Councilman Simpson thanked Mr. Bloodworth for presenting.

The following items appeared on the agenda under New Business

The Committee of the Whole recommends the following appointment to the Board of Public Utilities: Louise Knauer to replace Jeff Childs. Ms. Knauer's term will expire December 1, 2022.

The Committee of the Whole recommends the following reappointment to the Board of Public Utilities: Jennifer Wilson with term to expire December 1, 2022.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MISCELLANEOUS

The following bill appeared on the agenda under Consent Agenda First Reading Bills

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2019-270. A special ordinance approving the sale of real property at 2230 North East Avenue to Reed Enterprises, LLC, for \$5,000.00; and authorizing the issuance of a deed for same. (Recommended by Land Inventory Committee.)

The following bill appeared on the agenda under Consent Agenda One Reading Bills

Sanitary Sewer Easements

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2019-262. A special ordinance relinquishing certain sanitary sewer easements located at 3145 and 3155 South Campbell Avenue for the purpose of accommodating new development at said locations.

Council Bill 2019-262. Special Ordinance 27257 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Confirmed

Confirm the following appointment to the Mayor's Commission for Children: Monica Horton with term to expire November 29, 2022.

Confirmed

Confirm the following appointments to the Tree City USA Citizen Advisory Committee: Kate Burns with term to expire December 1, 2020; Susan Turner and Will Branch with terms to expire December 1, 2021; and Aaron Scott with term to expire December 1, 2022.

Confirmed

Confirm the following reappointment to the Tree City USA Citizen Advisory Committee: Nick Baker with term to expire December 1, 2022.

CONSENT AGENDA SECOND READING BILLS

END OF CONSENT AGENDA.

Motion to Adjourn

Councilman Simpson moved to Adjourn. Councilman Schilling seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: Hosmer. Absent: None. Abstain: None. The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Prepared by
Johnathan Saunders



Anita J. Cotter, CMC/MRCC
City Clerk