

June 1, 2021
Springfield, Missouri

The City Council met in regular session June 1, 2021 in the Council Chambers at Historic City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken McClure. A moment of silence was observed.

Mayor McClure welcomed everyone back into Council Chambers, which had been closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Roll Call

Present. Heather Hardinger, Abe McGull, Mike Schilling, Matthew Simpson, Craig Hosmer, Richard Ollis, Andrew Lear, and Ken McClure. Absent. Angela Romine.

Minutes

The minutes of May 17, 2021 City Council meeting were approved as presented.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

City Manager Report

Jason Gage, City Manager, noted to the best of his knowledge City staff has addressed the previous questions raised by Council. He further noted City staff will keep Council updated regarding the issue of Police Department staffing pertaining to recruitment and retention.

Mr. Gage noted work continues regarding the Renew Jordan Creek project. He further noted a virtual public open house will be held between June 7-13, 2021 for individuals to review the proposed master plans and to provide feedback to the City. He added individuals may visit www.renewjordan creek.com for viewing. Mr. Gage added a virtual public information session will also be held on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. He noted individuals may view the session by visiting www.renewjordan creek.com or via the City's Facebook page.

Mr. Gage noted the Missouri Jobs Center and the Springfield-Greene County Health Department are jointly hosting a Get a Shot Get a Job event, which is a combined job fair and vaccination clinic, on June 9, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Job Center located at 2900 E. Sunshine.

Mr. Gage noted the months of January thru March 2021 were a busy first quarter for the Springfield Fire Department. He noted the Fire Department put a new aerial apparatus into service, conducted a Fire Academy graduation No. 920, conducted new training courses for fire personnel, and conducted a grant to purchase 20 smoke alarms for deaf and hearing-impaired individuals. He further noted the Fire Department responded to more than 2,600 calls for service, including 52 building fires and 535 medical or rescue calls, and installed nearly 250 smoke alarms during the first quarter of 2021. He added additional information may be found within the Quarterly Fire Safety Report.

Mr. Gage noted Mayor McClure will present the annual State-of-the-City address this Thursday at 7:30 a.m. He further noted it will be broadcast on the City's website and cable channels, as well as via the City's Facebook page.

Mr. Gage noted the City's Public Information and Civic Engagement Department recently concluded the first phase of the City's Clean Green Springfield Initiative, which ran from April 1 – May 31, 2021. He further noted the City is pleased with the high level of citizen engagement from the community, businesses, and neighborhoods. He added City staff is looking forward to the next steps, such as working with Public Works and Environmental Services to analyze the data as result of the project. Mr. Gage noted Phase 2 will be working in conjunction with the Building Development Services Department's efforts regarding chronic nuisance properties. He further noted the Public Information and Civic Engagement Department is working on drafting a summary document, which will include plans for the next steps. He added more than 1,300 individuals registered to participate in the City's Clean Green Springfield Initiative. Mr. Gage added an additional 25 individuals have also committed with ongoing assistance with neighborhood clean-up efforts and an additional couple of dozen new commitments for Adopt-A-Street and Adopt-A-Stream partners. He noted more than 25 tons of trash has been collected and removed from the community during the first phase. Mr. Gage expressed his belief a clean community demonstrates citizen pride in their community, especially for visitors to witness and enjoy during their stay.

Mayor McClure expressed his appreciation to the Public Works staff for their dedicated support and service for their upkeep of Hazelwood Cemetery, especially for Memorial Day.

Mayor McClure thanked Mr. Gage for tonight's updates.

The following bills appeared on the agenda under Second Reading.

**Sunderland Foundation
Donation – Springfield
Art Museum North
Parking Improvements
Project**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-118.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept grant funds in the amount of \$500,000, from the Sunderland Foundation, and through the Springfield Art Museum Foundation, to support construction of the Art Museum North Parking Improvements Project at the Springfield Art Museum; and amending the budget of the Springfield Art Museum for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 in the amount of \$500,000.

Council Bill 2021-118. Special Ordinance 27500 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None.

Purchase of Land at 237 West Mill Street – Renew Jordan Creek Phase I Project

Sponsor: Romine. Council Bill 2021-119.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a contract for the purchase of land generally located at 237 West Mill Street as part of the Renew Jordan Creek Phase I project and to execute all necessary documents in support thereof. (Staff recommends approval.)

Council Bill 2021-119. Special Ordinance 27501 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None.

Purchase of Land – 353 North Campbell Avenue – Renew Jordan Creek Phase I Project

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-120.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a contract for the purchase of land generally located at 353 North Campbell Avenue as part of the Renew Jordan Creek Phase I project and to execute all necessary documents in support thereof. (Staff recommends approval.)

Council Bill 2021-120. Special Ordinance 27502 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None.

Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission – Galloway Street Improvements

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-121.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Governor's Transportation Cost Share Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the purpose of funding construction of the Galloway Street Improvements; and amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget of the Department of Public Works in the amount of \$1,500,000 to appropriate the Governor's Transportation Cost Share funds for this project.

Council Bill 2021-121. Special Ordinance 27503 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None.

Central Street Phase 2 Corridor Improvements Project – Bid of D&E Plumbing & Heating LLC

Sponsor: Romine. Council Bill 2021-122.

A special ordinance approving the plans and specifications for the Central Street Phase 2 Corridor Improvements project; accepting the bid of D&E Plumbing & Heating, LLC, in the amount of \$2,168,223.80 for said project; and authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a contract with such bidder.

Council Bill 2021-122. Special Ordinance 27504 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None.

**Historical Site
Designation - Fairbanks
House**

The following bill appeared on the agenda under Resolutions.

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-128.

A resolution designating the Fairbanks House, located at 1125 South Delaware Avenue, as a Historic Site on the Springfield Historic Register.

Bob Hosmer, Planning Manager, gave an overview of the proposed. Mr. Hosmer noted the proposed will designate the Fairbanks House as a historical site on the Springfield Historic Register. He further noted the Landmarks Board initiated the nomination. He added the property designation as a historical site requires review by the Landmarks Board for any exterior alterations requiring a building permit. Mr. Hosmer noted a permit shall not be issued unless the Landmarks Board approves a Certificate of Appropriateness. He further noted if the Landmarks Board denies an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness, the Building Development Services Department shall not grant a building permit until the expiration of 60 days from the date of the application for the certificate. He added on May 5, 2021, the Landmarks Board determined that 1125 South Delaware Avenue meets the criteria for being designated as a historical site.

Laura McCaskill, Owner and Applicant of the Fairbanks House, expressed her support for the proposed. Ms. McCaskill noted she purchased the property in question in November 2019. She outlined the history of the Fairbanks House with Council. She noted the Fairbanks House was built by relatives of Jonathan Fairbanks, who was Superintendent of Springfield Public Schools from 1875 until 1913. She expressed her opinion the Fairbanks House has historical significance. Ms. McCaskill expressed her belief many of the sourcing materials from various Springfield landmarks, which none remain standing, helped provide building materials for the Fairbanks House. She noted she recently won the gold certification for yard ethic for the City of Springfield in which the yard has been planted in fescue and native plants.

Councilman McGull expressed his appreciation and support for the proposed.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Paden Chambers, Chairman of the Landmarks Board, spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Chambers noted the proposed is consistent with the Landmark's Board's effort of nominating sites that exemplify a period of historical development in Springfield.

There being no additional speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

Councilman Hosmer noted the Thompson family, who were former occupants of the Fairbanks House, are family descendants as cousins. He expressed his support for the proposed.

Council Bill 2021-128. Resolution 10583 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None.

EMERGENCY BILLS

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

The following bill appeared on the agenda under Grants.

Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission – Vehicle Detection Systems for Traffic Signals

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-129.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Surface Transportation Program-Urban Program Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the purpose of appropriating federal funds to partially reimburse the purchase of vehicle detection systems for traffic signals; amending the budget of the Department of Public Works for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, in the amount of \$620,000; and declaring that this council bill qualifies for approval in one reading.

Tom Dancey, Traffic Engineer, gave an overview of the proposed. Mr. Dancey noted the proposed is for the purchase of vehicle detection systems for traffic signals. He further noted the proposed system would be installed along arterial corridors at City-maintained signalized intersections with sensors mounted on signal poles or mast arms to detect approaching vehicles hundreds of feet in advance of the intersection. He added there is currently a traffic signal advance detection unit being utilized at the National and Bennett intersection. Mr. Dancey noted the implementation of advance detection will provide for continuous collection of volume and speed data for creating a variety of performance metrics to evaluate and improve signal programming more effectively within the community. He further noted the additional information could be utilized by traffic engineers to help improve signal timing to reduce delay to motorists, enhance intersection safety, and improve overall arterial traffic flow. He added while advance detection has already been installed at some locations as part of recent projects, approval of the proposed authorizes the City Manager to enter into a Surface Transportation Program Urban Program Agreement to utilize federal Surface Transportation Block Grant funds to purchase equipment to be installed at over 50 signalized intersections maintained by the City. Mr. Dancey noted the proposed would help enhance traffic safety, improve traffic mobility and flow, and maintain reliability for the City's traffic signal operations. He further noted the proposed would not be utilized for enforcement purposes. He added the equipment would be installed by Public Works staff or by contract in conjunction with other signal improvement projects. Mr. Dancey noted the required minimum local match of 20% or approximately \$155,000 would be funded from the 1/8-Cent Transportation Sales Tax – Traffic Flow and Safety Program and is already budgeted.

Councilman Ollis asked for clarification whether the proposed would be able to detect bicycles approaching an intersection. Mr. Dancey answered affirmatively.

Councilman McGull asked for clarification whether the proposed would be an inferred system for detection. Mr. Dancey noted the detection is a radar-based system.

Councilman Lear asked for clarification whether the proposed would be utilized for traffic enforcement purposes. Mr. Dancey reiterated the proposed would not be utilized for traffic enforcement and does not read license plates.

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

Council Bill 2021-129. Special Ordinance 27505 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None.

**Grants from the United
States Department of
Transportation –
Springfield-Branson
National Airport Board**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2021-130.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to apply for and accept two grants from the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Improvement Program to the City, by and through the Springfield-Branson National Airport Board, in the amounts of \$313,291 and \$670,230, for certain purposes specified in the grant agreements; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval in one reading.

Kristy Bork, Assistant Director of the Springfield-Branson National Airport, gave an overview of the proposed. Ms. Bork noted the Airport receives annual entitlement funding from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on a yearly basis, which has been utilized for the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). She further noted the monies being received for the AIP since 2006 has been going towards offsetting the costs of the building the Midfield Terminal, which was opened in 2009. Ms. Bork added some of the terminal debt is now being paid off by the Airports fees and charges for services. She noted the Airport received notification from the FAA that the Airport is eligible for approximately \$313,291 for the purpose of designing the reconstruction of Taxiway Bravo, Reconstruction of Taxiway November from Taxiway Alpha to the Approach End of Runway 20, Rehabilitation General Aviation Apron, and approximately \$670,230 for the rehabilitation of Cargo Apron and construction of Runway 2-20 Blast Pad. She further noted the proposed agreements state that the grant will cover 100% of allowable costs incurred by the Airport with no local match required. Ms. Bork added the AIP grant funds were included within the 2020-2021 proposed budget, so no budget adjustment is necessary. She noted the Airport expects to receive additional AIP funds, which are also included in the current budget and would be included in future budgets. She further noted the Airport Board and staff are asking Council to give authority to the City Manager to approve these AIP entitlement grants and any future AIP entitlement grants when those grant funds are included within the Airport's annual budget.

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

Council Bill 2021-130. Special Ordinance 27506 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None.

AMENDED BILLS

The following bills appeared on the agenda under Council Bills for Public Hearing.

**Conditional Use Permit
No. 451 – 303 West
Plainview Road**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-131.

A special ordinance granting Conditional Use Permit No. 451 for the purpose of authorizing a self-service storage facility to operate as a conditional use within the GR, General Retail District, generally located at 303 West Plainview Road. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, gave an overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the proposed is for a new self-service storage facility at 303 West Plainview Road. He further noted the City's Comprehensive Plan identifies the property in question as medium intensity retail, office or housing. He added a public sewer extension is not feasible for this property due to a nearby sinkhole within the area. Mr. Griesemer noted the proposed self-service storage facility is one of the few uses that may be developed on the property in question. He further noted the conditional use permit will limit access to the existing driveways along Plainview Road and a bufferyard of 5 feet with fence provided between residential county zoning and general retail would be required. He added the application meets the approval standards for a conditional use permit.

Councilman Schilling asked for clarification regarding the number of storage facilities currently within the city limits. Mr. Griesemer noted he does not have data currently available but would provide information to the Council. He further noted the City has been receiving several applications for storage facilities.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Billy Kimmons spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Kimmons noted he is a principal architect with Hood Rich and is representing the applicant. He further noted the proposed is the best and only use for the property in question due to there being no sewer service available. He expressed his belief the property in question is unique. Mr. Kimmons noted approximately 30 years ago, construction was started on a structure so an existing foundation is present, which they can utilize for the proposed. He further noted he is available to respond to any questions posed by Council.

There were no questions posed by Council.

There being no additional speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

**Rezoning at 309 and 327
West Lakewood Street**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-132.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 1.5 acres of property generally located at 309 and 327 West Lakewood Street from GR, General Retail District, to R-MD, Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 199; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (By: Moon City, LLC; 309 & 327 W. Lakewood Street; Z-10-2021 w/Conditional Overlay District No. 199.)

Bob Hosmer, Planning Manager, gave an overview of the proposed. Mr. Hosmer noted the applicant is proposing to rezone approximately 1.5 acres from a general retail district to medium density multi-family residential district and establish a conditional overlay district No. 199. He further noted the applicant would like to construct a new multi-family apartment building. He added the proposed is within the James River Freeway and Campbell Avenue Activity Center as designated within the Growth Management and Land Use Plan Element of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Hosmer noted the transportation plan classifies Lakewood street as a collector roadway. He further noted a traffic impact study would not be required, and the proposed is consistent with the multi-family zoning to the northeast, east and south east which is outside the City limits in unincorporated Greene County. Mr. Hosmer further noted the proposed fits within the criteria for being located within an activity center area. He added the conditional overlay district would limit the residential density to 28 dwelling units per acre. He noted the applicant is only proposing 40 dwelling units versus an available total of 42. He further noted the property in question is not located in a Federal Emergency Management Agency designated floodplain or a stream buffer area. He added a fee-in-lieu-of on-site stormwater detention will not be allowed. Mr. Hosmer noted the site plan meets the multi-family location and design guidelines.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

James Hanson spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Hanson noted he works for Anderson Engineering and is representing the applicant. He further noted he is available to respond to any questions posed by Council.

There were no questions posed by Council.

There being no additional speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

**Annexing Private
Property at 5505 West
Sunshine Street**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-133.

A general ordinance amending Section 1-9 of the Springfield City Code, 'City Limits;' and amending Section 46-1 of the Springfield City Code, 'Boundaries of wards, precincts and council zones;' for the purpose of annexing 25 acres of private property generally located at 5505 West Sunshine Street into the City of Springfield, referenced as Annexation A-2-2021. (By: West Sunshine Development, LLC; 5505 W. Sunshine Street; Annexation A-2-2021.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, gave an overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted a request to initiate annexation for the proposed was approved at the May 3, 2021 Council meeting. He further noted the owner of the private property is requesting annexation into the city limits. He added the property in question is located within the City's urban service area near James River Freeway and Sunshine Street and is immediately adjacent to the city limits. Mr. Griesemer noted the property in question is currently vacant but was previously utilized as a manufactured home community. He further noted the applicant intends on developing the property in question and eastern 3 acres, which is already currently located within the city limits, into a commercial subdivision with multiple commercial lots. He added the City's services, such as for utilities, police, and fire, can serve the property in question. Mr. Griesemer noted there is also an automatic aid agreement with the City of Republic for fire response service.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification regarding the City's urban service area boundaries. Mr. Griesemer noted the City's urban service area encompasses the unincorporated area outside the city limits. He further noted some cities, such as Republic, are located next to the City's urban service area. He added City staff is reviewing the City's urban service area boundaries in relations to the City's Forward SGF plan and future annexation possibilities. Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification whether the City has boundary agreements with the surrounding cities. Mr. Griesemer noted the City has boundary agreements with the cities of Battlefield, Republic, Willard, and Rogersville. Mr. Gage and Mr. Griesemer noted City staff will work with the various surrounding cities regarding possible annexations in the future. Mr. Gage expressed his belief planning for the future is important for the growth of the community, as well as to plan for necessary services for those possible areas for potential future annexations.

Mayor McClure asked for clarification whether the proposed would have a negative impact on the City's ISO Fire Insurance rating. David Pennington, Fire Chief, expressed his belief the proposed will negatively impact the City's ISO Fire Insurance rating. He noted the proposed is currently outside the recommended ISO 1.5-mile response distance by 3.4 miles for the 1st due unit. He further noted there are also concerns with the water supply for this proposed annexation. He added all new developments must meet conditions of the Fire Code. Chief Pennington noted prior to issuance of any building permit, plans must be in place to develop sufficient fire flow for the proposed structures.

Councilman Schilling asked for clarification whether the property in question would be constructed for commercial development. Mr. Griesemer answered affirmatively and noted a possible rezoning request and preliminary plat may be presented to Council for consideration at a future meeting dependent upon the proposed.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Ryan Schweissguth spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Schweissguth noted he is with Conklin Engineers and is available to respond to any questions posed by Council.

There were no questions posed by Council.

There being no additional speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

**Rezoning at 329 and 331
South Oak Grove
Avenue**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-134.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 10.67 acres of property generally located at 329 and 331 South Oak Grove Avenue from R-SF, Residential Single-family, to HM, Heavy Manufacturing; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 196; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (By: KKJ Wholesale LLC & Amaleki Robinson; 329 & 331 South Oak Grove Avenue; Z-5-2021 w/COD #196.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, gave an overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the applicant is requesting to rezone approximately 10.67 acres generally located at 329 and 331 South Oak Grove from residential single-family to heavy manufacturing and establishing conditional overlay district No. 196. He further noted the applicant intends to combine the property in question with the existing warehouse lot directly to the west located at 340 South Patterson Avenue. He added the applicant also intends to construct access through the 340 South Patterson property to access the rear of the existing building which would be located on the property in question. Mr. Griesemer noted per City's Comprehensive Plan, the proposed is appropriate for general industry, transportation, and utilities. He further noted Oak Grove is classified as a local street and Patterson Avenue is a collector roadway. He added a traffic impact study is not required and a fee in lieu of on-site stormwater detention will not be allowed. Mr. Griesemer outlined the conditional overlay district requirements with Council, such as a 6-foot solid wood fence along all adjacent residential single-family properties would be required. He noted the conditional overlay district prohibits industrial truck access to Oak Grove Avenue and only allow employee and emergency vehicular access and must be signed as such.

Councilman McGull asked for clarification regarding number of allowed employees that would have vehicular access for Oak Grove Avenue for the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted he does not know, but the applicant may be able to address this question during tonight's discussion.

Councilman Ollis asked for clarification regarding the location of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the proposed is near the headquarters of O'Reilly, and the Convoy of Hope warehouse properties. He further noted there were stormwater improvements recently conducted by the City near this area.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification regarding possibly implementing heavy manufacturing near single-family residential housing. Mr. Griesemer noted City staff tries not to support heavy manufacturing zoning near single-family residential zoning. He further noted a six-foot solid wood fence shall be required along all adjacent residential single-family zoned properties and a tree survey shall be conducted at the time of development to identify significant trees for preservation within the bufferyard. Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification whether the City enforces property owners to maintain bufferyards between commercial and single-family residential developments. Mr. Griesemer noted City staff initially inspects the development to make sure the bufferyard has been implemented. He further noted if plantings or fencing is not being maintained, citizens may file a request or complaint so City staff can review their request for follow-up.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Teresa Davison spoke in support of the proposed. Ms. Davison noted she is an engineer for Heithaus Engineering & Associates, Inc. She further noted a neighborhood meeting summary was conducted virtually on Friday, April 16, 2021, as well as approximately 98 mailers were sent to residents within a 500-foot radius. She outlined the proposed with Council. She added the property in question is located and addressed on Oak Grove Avenue, but the applicant intends to combine lots with the property to the west.

Councilman McGull asked for clarification regarding the conditional overlay district prohibiting industrial truck access to Oak Grove Avenue and only allow employee and emergency vehicular access. Ms. Davison noted the conditional overlay district would prohibit industrial truck access to Oak Grove Avenue and only allow employee parking and emergency access to Oak Grove Avenue with appropriate signage would be allowed. She further noted there are no current plans for this at this time. Councilman McGull asked for clarification regarding the recent stormwater improvements made near the property in question. Ms. Davison noted the recent stormwater improvements seem to be working appropriately in the neighborhood area.

Councilman Ollis asked for clarification whether the proposed is for the Queen City Warehouse property. Ms. Davison answered affirmatively. Councilman Ollis asked for clarification whether the proposed is congruent with the other manufactured zoning within the area. Mr. Griesemer answered affirmatively.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked for clarification whether a fire station is near the proposed. Ms. Davison answered affirmatively.

Councilman Lear asked for clarification regarding the current zoning near the proposed and what types of businesses would be allowed in a heavy manufacturing district. Mr. Griesemer noted the areas to the north and east of the proposed is zoned heavy manufacturing. He further noted there are several types of business uses, such as auto repair, that may cause a higher level of noise that would be allowed within a heavy manufacturing zoning district, but there are bufferyard requirements to help lower the noise levels for the surrounding area.

There being no additional speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

The following appeared on the agenda under First Reading Bills.

Preliminary Tax Levy

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2021-135.

A special ordinance setting a preliminary tax levy on real and personal property for current expenses and debt retirement of the City of Springfield, Missouri, and its boards and agencies, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022; and declaring an emergency.

David Holtmann, Director of Finance, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Holtmann noted the proposed is a companion bill to the adoption of the City's annual operating budget and sets the preliminary tax levy on real and personal property. He further noted the tax levy is assessed on all property within the city limits on the tax rolls as of January 1, 2021. He added the projected levy for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 will be \$0.6196 per \$100 assessed valuation in the City's proposed budget. Mr. Holtmann noted the actual levy may be adjusted in August 2021 based upon the tax levies provided by the State Auditor because tax levies established by ordinance are based upon State law. He further noted City staff would be coming back before Council for consideration in approximately August 2021 to set the actual levy. He added the proposed would generate approximately \$542,000 tax dollars for the City, which will help provide funding for the Art Museum, Springfield-Greene County Parks Department, Springfield-Greene County Health Department, and the City's level property tax program.

Mayor McClure asked for clarification regarding the date for the State Auditor to certify the tax levies. Mr. Holtmann noted the tax levies must be certified by the State Auditor before September 1, 2021, which is why City staff would be presenting the actual finalized tax levy figures to Council for consideration in August 2021.

Councilman Lear expressed many individuals have received their tax assessments from Greene County and have been upset due to the significant increase in property assessments. He asked for clarification whether Council has any authority regarding the property tax assessments from Greene County. Mr. Holtmann noted City staff nor Council has any authority regarding the tax assessments from Greene County. He further noted the State Auditor is required to review and approve all levies and determine that they meet the statutory test and constitutional test, known as the "Hancock Amendment". He added these tests factor in growth regarding assessed value and the Consumer Price Index.

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

2021-2022 City Budget

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-136.

A special ordinance adopting a budget for the City of Springfield, Missouri, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022; providing that certain amounts shown in the budget document are appropriated for the various departments specified in said budget; and declaring an emergency.

David Holtmann, Director of Finance, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Holtmann noted Council received a copy of the City's proposed budget on April 30, 2021 for review. He further noted City staff conducted several budget workshop meetings with Council, which were held on May 4, 2021, May 11, 2021, May 18, 2021, and May 25, 2021. Mr. Holtmann outlined the budget process, appropriations, and budget highlights or takeaways with Council. He noted the proposed is a balanced budget per the City's Charter requirements. He further noted the City has a light debt load and maintains an excellent Aa1 bond rating. He added the City's fund balance for the general fund, which contains the City's rainy-day fund, remains within Council's established reserve goal of 20% of the operating revenue. Mr. Holtmann noted the proposed does not include the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 monies, which will be presented to Council for consideration at a later date. He further noted City staff is currently meeting with the collective bargaining union groups, and on-going funding has been set-aside for pay plan improvements.

Mayor McClure expressed his appreciation to the City staff for the proposed, as well as their dedicated service to the City.

Councilman Ollis also expressed his appreciation to the City staff for the proposed. He asked for clarification regarding the funding for the blight study pertaining to the Grant Avenue Parkway project. Jason Gage, City Manager, noted City staff would provide information about the funding for the blight study regarding the Grant Avenue Parkway project.

Councilman Lear asked for clarification whether the issue of workers compensation would be included within the actuarial study for Risk Management for Fiscal Year 2022. Mr. Holtmann answered affirmatively and noted the City's liability fund would also be included within the actuarial study for Risk Management. He further noted the upcoming actuarial study will help guide the City's future regarding workers compensation and liability insurance.

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

**Relinquishing Sanitary
Sewer Easement – 3745
South Broadway Avenue**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-137.

A special ordinance relinquishing certain sanitary sewer easements located at 3745 South Broadway Avenue in Springfield, Missouri, for the purpose of accommodating new construction at said location.

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, gave an overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted Springfield Public Schools is the applicant and they are requesting to relinquish a sanitary sewer easement in order to accommodate construction of a new gymnasium and storm shelter at Horace Mann Elementary School. He further noted a replacement sanitary sewer easement is to be dedicated and the Planning and Zoning Commission does not have the authority to approve the proposed due to it contains conditions. He added consideration by Council is required for the proposed.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification regarding the proposed public improvements. Mr. Griesemer noted the proposed is relating to sanitary sewer construction improvements.

Mayor McClure asked for clarification regarding the location of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the proposed would be on the west side of the Horace Mann Elementary School, which is located at the back of the school.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Will Hoey spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Hoey noted he works for Olsson and Associates and is representing the applicant. He noted the easement is being shifted to the west side in order to accommodate construction of a new gymnasium and storm shelter at Horace Mann Elementary School. He added he is available to respond to any questions posed by Council.

There were no questions posed by Council.

There being no additional speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

**Annual Maintenance
Contract for Traffic
Signals – Bid of Ewing
Signal Construction,
LLC.**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-138.

A special ordinance approving the Annual Maintenance Contract for Traffic Signals for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; accepting the bid of Ewing Signal Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$198,959.50; and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with such bidder for the purpose of maintaining the City's traffic signal infrastructure.

Tom Dancey, Traffic Engineer, gave an overview of the proposed. Mr. Dancey noted the proposed awards the City's annual maintenance contract for traffic signals to Ewing Signal Construction, LLC., who was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

Mr. Dancey noted the City annually bids this work for construction of traffic signal infrastructure including, but not limited to, removal, repair, and installation of cabinets, poles and mast arms, signal heads, detectors, etc., which supplements the Transportation Management Division's maintenance responsibilities. He further noted the proposed continues the City's practice of bidding out this type of work for approximately 20 years for securing on-call contractor support for completing timely repairs and installation of traffic signal infrastructure as needed to maintain the traffic signal system in a safe and effective manner.

Mr. Dancey added the total contract expenses will be based on unit prices for actual work orders completed on an on-call basis. Mr. Dancey noted if the proposed is approved, it will be funded from the 1/4-cent Capital Improvements Sales Tax Traffic Signal-Traffic Calming Program and is already budgeted.

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

**Agreement with Cellco
Partnership d/b/a
Verizon Wireless**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-139.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to enter into a Confidentiality and Nondisclosure Agreement with the Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless.

Rhonda Lewsader, City Attorney, provided an overview of the proposed. Ms. Lewsader noted the City has initiated audits to determine the existence or extent of possible underpayment of the gross receipts license tax by certain telecommunications providers operating within the City. She further noted Verizon considers the revenue data requested by the City's special legal counsel in connection with the audits to be proprietary and confidential. She added Verizon is willing to provide the data only if the City agrees to preserve the confidentiality of the requested information in accordance with, and to the extent permitted by, Missouri law. Ms. Lewsader noted the proposed does not prohibit the City from complying with Sunshine Law requirements but requires the City to provide notice to Verizon of any Sunshine Law requests and reasonably cooperate with Verizon to help protect their proprietary and confidential information. She further noted the proposed helps the City prevent any possible litigation for information needed by the City to determine if the City has been receiving appropriate revenue amounts from Verizon.

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

**Agreement with Greene
County, Missouri –
Housing Municipal
Prisoners**

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2021-140.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Greene County, Missouri, for housing of Springfield Municipal prisoners.

Paul Williams, Police Chief, provided an overview of the proposed. Chief Williams noted based on the terms of a past settlement agreement, Greene County currently houses up to 48 municipal prisoners in the Greene County Jail. He further noted the City is not charged on a per-prisoner basis for the 48 municipal prisoners. Chief Williams noted the proposed allows the City to house additional municipal prisoners in the Greene County Jail in excess of the current 48 municipal prisoner limit.

Chief Williams further noted under the proposed, if the City exceeds 48 municipal prisoners in the Greene County Jail, additional municipal prisoners may continue to be housed at a rate of \$45.00 per municipal prisoner per day. He added the City would also be responsible for the cost of any medical care required for a municipal prisoner, as is already true for the 48 municipal prisoners covered by the prior agreement.

Councilman Ollis asked for clarification whether the Greene County Jail would be obligated to take additional prisoners over the 48 if needed. Chief Williams noted it would be at Greene County's discretion whether they would take the municipal prisoners over the 48 municipal prisoners, which is dependent upon the capacity at the Greene County Jail. He further noted Greene County is in the process of constructing a new jail, which should have a higher capacity to house prisoners. He added per the proposed it would be the Greene County Sheriff's Department's responsibility to find alternative placement to house the City's municipal prisoners if there is no room within the Greene County Jail.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification whether Greene County would abide by the proposed. Chief Williams answered affirmatively and noted Jim Arnott, Greene County Sheriff, approached him about the proposed. Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification regarding the amount of reimbursement Greene County receives for housing federal prisoners and how many federal prisoners are currently being housed within the Greene County Jail. Chief Williams noted he does not know the current reimbursement amount provided to Greene County for federal prisoners nor does he know how many federal prisoners are currently being housed in the Greene County Jail. Chief Williams further noted he would conduct research and provide the information to Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed his appreciation for the proposed. He further expressed his opinion there has been past capacity issues regarding municipal prisoners at the Greene County Jail and does not want additional issues associated with housing for municipal prisoners. Chief Williams noted he is not aware of Greene County needing to transport prisoners to other jail facilities outside Greene County due to capacity issues since the new auxiliary jail has been implemented. He further noted Greene County reported today they are holding approximately 940 prisoners, which is not exceeding their capacity. He added the new Greene County Jail will be opening in 2022.

Mayor McClure asked for clarification whether the City has exceeded 48 municipal prisoners. Chief Williams answered no.

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

**Agreement with Greene
County, Missouri –
Emergency Response**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-141.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement for Mutual Aid, Police Services, Emergency Aid and Disaster Services with Greene County, Missouri, to allow cooperation between the Springfield Police Department and the Greene County Sheriff's Department for emergency response in their respective jurisdictions.

Paul Williams, Police Chief, provided an overview of the proposed. Chief Williams noted the Police Department and the Greene County Sheriff's Office have a history of working cooperatively as neighboring agencies. He further noted both agencies recognize that there may be times where an emergency situation creates a need for outside assistance. He added in the event of such an emergency, a pre-existing mutual aid agreement helps ensure a clear understanding of the rights and responsibilities for each agency to allow for a rapid and effective response in an emergency. Chief Williams noted the previous agreement expired, so the proposed is being considered. He further noted State law gives law enforcement officers the authority to respond to an emergency situation outside of the boundaries of the political subdivision from which that officer's authority is derived, provided that the involved political subdivisions first authorize such action by ordinance.

Councilman Lear asked for clarification whether there are similar agreements with other surrounding municipalities. Chief Williams answered affirmatively and noted City staff is working on updating those as they are needed.

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

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

Appeared

Patricia Tursi addressed the issue of COVID-19 vaccinations and the use of public facilities for vaccination events. Ms. Tursi expressed her belief the vaccines for preventing COVID-19 are unsafe, especially for children, and should not be encouraged by the City and Health Department for immunization. She further expressed her belief the use of public facilities for vaccination events should not be utilized. She expressed her opinion there have been more deaths associated with the vaccines for preventing COVID-19 than the past 10 years from other vaccinations

Appeared

Brian McCadney addressed the issue of homelessness. Mr. McCadney expressed his opinion we need the “old America” back with more trust, transparency, and accountability towards each other. He further expressed his opinion taxpayer money should be spent on more education to help promote self-worth, more career days, and more take children to work-days, as well as prayer in schools. Mr. McCadney expressed his belief everyone needs to take responsibility for themselves and should step-up their efforts to better the community and country. He further expressed his belief change is needed because the local community has significant issues that need to be addressed.

Appeared

Cindy Slimp addressed the issue of Gun Violence Awareness Day. Ms. Slimp noted she is a volunteer with Moms Demand Action and is a gun violence survivor. She further noted Moms Demand Action is a grassroots movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that can protect people from gun violence. She asked Council to please consider proclaiming the first Friday in June 2021 as Gun Violence Awareness Day. She encouraged everyone to wear orange on June 4, 2021 to remember and honor the individuals who have been affected or killed due to gun violence in the United States. Ms. Slimp expressed her belief more Americans are killed with guns than are killed in other high-income countries in an entire calendar year. She noted Missouri is ranked 5th highest in gun deaths in the country. Mayor McClure noted he will be issuing an upcoming proclamation regarding Gun Violence Awareness Day later this week.

Appeared

Michael Hasty addressed the issue of crime within the community. He expressed his belief violent crime and property crime are on the rise and should be the focus of police, not loud or excessive vehicle noise. Mr. Hasty noted the city had a record number of homicides last year. He expressed his opinion more police officers are needed to help fight crime. He further expressed Council should do whatever they can to help reduce crime and save lives.

Appeared

Seth Brooks addressed the issue of crime within the community. Mr. Brooks expressed his opinion crime is getting worse. He further expressed his opinion crimes, such as rape, murder, vehicle theft, and property crimes, continue to increase. Mr. Brooks expressed his opinion the City has an upper management issue that should be reviewed and addressed since crime continues to be on the rise the past several years.

The following appeared on the agenda under New Business.

Recommended

The Mayor recommends the following appointment to the Mayor’s Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations: Dr. Edna Smith, who is filling the unexpired term of Heather Hardinger, with term to expire October 1, 2023.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MISCELLANEOUS

CONSENT AGENDA FIRST READING BILLS

CONSENT AGENDA ONE READING BILLS

The following bills appeared on the agenda under Consent Agenda Second Reading Bills.

**Agreement with the
Missouri Highways and
Transportation
Commission – Lone
Pine Avenue**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-123.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Road Relinquishment Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the purpose of accepting a portion of the state highway system along Lone Pine Avenue by quit-claim deed.

Council Bill 2021-123. Special Ordinance 27507 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None.

**Donation of F150
Pickup Truck to
Downtown Springfield
Association**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2021-124.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to donate a 1998 Ford F150 pickup truck, #4004, to the Downtown Springfield Association for the purpose of picking up glass from Springfield businesses for recycling.

Council Bill 2021-124. Special Ordinance 27508 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA.

Motion to Adjourn

Councilman McGull moved to Adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Simpson seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote. Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: Hosmer. Absent: Romine. Abstain: None. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:28 p.m.



Anita J. Cotter, CMC/MRCC
City Clerk

Prepared by
Anita Baker