

November 15, 2021
Springfield, Missouri

The City Council met in regular session November 15, 2021 in the Council Chambers at Historic City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken McClure. In acknowledgement of Veterans Day, Mayor McClure recognized members of the Armed Forces who are currently serving and have served our country. In addition, he recognized Park Ranger Robert Bridges who was injured in the line of duty. A moment of silence was observed.

Roll Call Present: Abe McGull, Mike Schilling, Matthew Simpson, Craig Hosmer, Richard Ollis, Andrew Lear, Heather Hardinger, Angela Romine, and Ken McClure. Absent: None.

Minutes The minutes of October 19, 2021 Special City Council Meeting, November 1, 2021 City Council Meeting, November 2, 2021 Special City Council Meeting and November 9, 2021 Special City Council Meeting were approved as presented.

Consent Agenda The Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

Councilwoman Romine asked for clarification about the disposal of property mentioned in Council Bill 2021-295. Brenden Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development noted City Utilities needed an easement. He further noted City Utilities acquired the entire property and needed to request disposal of the area through the City Council.

With no further questions or comments, the consent agenda was approved as presented.

Mayor McClure recognized representatives of the Junior League and thanked them for attending tonight's meeting.

The following item appeared on the agenda under Ceremonial Matters.

Anita Cotter, City Clerk swore-in Lindsey McDaniel to the Springfield/Greene County Environmental Advisory Board.

City Manager Report Jason Gage, City Manager noted the City of Springfield celebrated Veterans Day last week. He recognized Mayor McClure and Councilwoman Romine, who served in the United States Army and Councilman McGull and Councilman Ollis who served in the United States Navy. He expressed his appreciation and honor to have these members as part of Springfield's governing body.

Mr. Gage noted over the weekend, Park Ranger Robert Bridges was providing backup to the Springfield Police Department officers when he was hit by several shots fired by a suspect. He noted this November 11th officer-involved shooting happened near the intersection of South Glenstone Avenue and East Battlefield Road. He further noted police are currently investigating the incident. Mr. Gage explained Park Rangers are sworn, certified, and trained officer personnel and are used to assist the Springfield

Police Department when necessary. He expressed his sympathies to Mr. Bridges family and those involved in this incident. He wished Park Ranger Bridges a speedy recovery.

Mr. Gage announced the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act has been approved by both Houses of Congress and is expected to be signed by President Biden. He noted the City of Springfield has received some inquiries about the local impact of this bill. Mr. Gage explained the bill provides approximately one trillion dollars in new spending for America's infrastructure including rails, transit, ports, transportation, airports, waterways, power grids, electric vehicles, climate resilience, the environment and broadband. He noted the City of Springfield has not received any formal information from any respective federal agency. He further noted the City does not yet know how much may be allocated to the state for local needs or how these allocations will be addressed.

Mr. Gage noted Fire Chief David Pennington provided councilmembers with the Quarterly Fire Safety Report. He further noted this report included features on the Department of Labor Apprenticeship Program approved earlier this fall, expansion of the partnership with Ozarks Technical College, and divisional updates and departmental services statistics.

Mr. Gage announced the Springfield Police Departments' marketing plan for this fall. He noted the Department of Public Information and Civic Engagement is currently working with the Springfield Police Department and Human Resources on a multi-faceted public relations and outreach campaign with more to come on this initiative.

Mr. Gage noted the Mayor's Tree Lighting Holiday show in Park Central Square for Saturday, November 20th. He noted this year's festivities will begin with several free activities starting at 6:00 p.m. and the holiday show will run from 7:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. He further noted the holiday show will be broadcasted by KY3.

Mayor McClure expressed his interest in the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. He noted it is too early to know how much money will be received or how Springfield may receive said money.

Councilman Lear acknowledged the Kickapoo High School Boys Cross Country Team for becoming Class 5 District 2 State Champions this year.

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

**Annexation at 3284
North Mulroy
Road**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-271.

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 approximately 2 acres of private property, generally located at 3284 North Mulroy Road, and referenced as Annexation A-5-2021, into the City of Springfield. (Vivian McKenzie, 3284 N. Mulroy Rd., A-5-2021)

Council Bill 2021-271. General Ordinance 6690 was approved with the following vote:
Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure.
Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Rezoning; 3280
and 3284 North
Mulroy Road;
COD No. 203**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-272.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 32 acres of property generally located at 3280 and 3284 North Mulroy Road from County R-1, Suburban Residence District, and County PAD 933, to HC, Highway Commercial District; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 203; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (Vivian L. McKinzie & Childress Family LP, 3284 N. Mulroy Rd., Z-19-2021 w/COD #203)

Councilwoman Romine asked if the flooding concerns related to the development of this property had been taken care of. Jason Gage, City Manager noted once the area is rezoned the developer works to solve these types of issues during the process of developing the property. Brenden Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development responded the developer is required to adhere to all the city storm water regulations.

Council Bill 2021-272. General Ordinance 6691 was approved with the following vote:
Ayes: Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, and McClure.
Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Conditional Use
Permit No. 454;
Automobile
Washing Business;
3015 East
Sunshine Street**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-273.

A special ordinance granting Conditional Use Permit No. 454 for the purpose of authorizing an automobile washing business to operate as a conditional use within the GR, General Retail District, generally located at 3015 East Sunshine Street. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.) (Ozark Motors & Supply Co., 3015 East Sunshine Street, CUP 454)

Council Bill 2021-273. Special Ordinance 27595 was approved with the following vote:
Ayes: Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, and McClure.
Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Conditional Use
Permit No. 455;
Walnut Street
Urban
Conservation
District;
307 South National
Avenue**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-274.

A special ordinance granting Conditional Use Permit No. 455 for the purpose of permitting a restaurant to operate as a conditional use within the Walnut Street Urban Conservation District No. 1, Area West, generally located at 307 South National Avenue. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.) (Kirk A. Heyle Trust, 307 South National Avenue, CUP 455)

Council Bill 2021-274. Special Ordinance 27596 was approved with the following vote:
Ayes: Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Petition to
Establish the SGF
Sports Community
Improvement
District**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-275.

A special ordinance approving a Petition to Establish the SGF Sports Community Improvement District; authorizing the City Manager to execute a Cooperative Agreement between the City of Springfield, the SGF Sports Community Improvement District, and SGF Sports, LLC; and directing the City Clerk to notify the Missouri Department of Economic Development of the creation of the District. (Staff recommends approval.)

Councilmember Romine asked for clarification about the 1% sales tax and who votes on this item. Sarah Kerner, Director of Economic Development noted once City Council approves a Community Improvement District, tax usage for the area goes to a vote by those within the District. She further noted this area does not have residents within the district so it will be a voted on by the property owners.

Council Bill 2021-275. Special Ordinance 27597 was approved with the following vote:
Ayes: McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, and McClure. Nays: Romine. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Amending the
General Fund; FY
2021-2022; Costco
Wholesale
Corporation**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-276.

A special ordinance amending the budgets of the General Fund, the 2019-2024 1/4-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax Fund, and the 2021-2025 1/8-Cent Transportation Sales Tax Fund for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 to appropriate funds in the amount of \$611,000 to reimburse Costco Wholesale Corporation for total payments due in Fiscal Year 2021- 2022 pursuant to the City's Infrastructure Reimbursement Agreement.

Council Bill 2021-276. Special Ordinance 27598 was approved with the following vote:
Ayes: McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**HOME- American
Rescue Plan;
Amendment to
HUD; FY 2021-
2022**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2021-277.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept the City of Springfield's allocation of \$3,805,703 of HOME-American Rescue Plan grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the grant agreement as an amendment to the Housing and Urban Development Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Action Plan; and amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget in the amount of \$3,805,703 for the purpose of appropriating these funds.

Council Bill 2021-277. Special Ordinance 27599 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, McGull, and McClure. Nays: Romine. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Agreement to
Update Advanced
Traffic
Management
System software**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-278.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into an agreement with Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission and Parsons Transportation Group, Inc., for the development, implementation and maintenance of updated Advanced Traffic Management System software and hardware to be operated by the Missouri Department of Transportation and the City of Springfield at the Transportation Management Center of the Ozarks for traffic management and traveler information services throughout the regional roadway network.

Council Bill 2021-278. Special Ordinance 27600 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Amending the
Salary Ordinance;
Supplemental Pay
Program;
Occupational
Series Market Pay**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-279.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Chapter 2, Article III, Division 1, Section 2.92, known as the 'Salary Ordinance,' relating to salary grades for various job titles within the City service as contained in the Professional, Administrative and Technical Non-Union Schedule and the Crafts, Trades and Labor Non-Union Schedule by making provision for nine new job titles and deleting one existing job title; authorizing the City Manager, in connection with the Director of Human Resources, to administratively establish and implement a commission-based supplemental pay program for specific designated positions; establishing a new Occupational Series market pay adjustment for specific golf pro positions; and amending the Salary Ordinance to clarify the City Manager's authority to increase the Occupational Series market pay adjustments for all occupational series groups.

Council Bill 2021-279. General Ordinance 6692 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Amending
Springfield City
Code "Elections";
Candidates for
City Council
Sworn Affidavit**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-280.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code Chapter 46, 'Elections,' to add a new Section 46-9, 'Statement of candidacy - candidate affidavits,' for the purpose of requiring candidates for City Council to make a sworn affidavit they possess the qualifications for office required by the City's Charter, the Springfield City Code, and state law.

Council Bill 2021-280. General Ordinance 6693 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Springfield Art
Museum Budget
2021-2022; Art
Museum North
Parking
Improvements
Project**

Sponsor: Romine. Council Bill 2021-281.

A special ordinance amending the budget of the Springfield Art Museum for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$121,000 to appropriate fund balance reserves from the Art Museum Special Project Fund; and amending the budget of the Department of Public Works for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$200,000 to appropriate fund balance reserves from the 1/4-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax to support construction of the Art Museum North Parking Improvements Project at the Springfield Art Museum.

Council Bill 2021-281. Special Ordinance 27601 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

The following bills appeared on the agenda under Resolutions.

**ARPA Review
Committee
Recommendation;
Retention Pay**

Sponsor: Simpson, Hardinger, Lear, and McGull Council Bill 2021-285.

A resolution affirming City Council's support for the Council American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Review Committee's recommendation for retention pay for all full-time employees of the City's Departments of Police, Fire, and Health; and authorizing City staff to take all preliminary action necessary to carry out the recommendation.

Jason Gage, City Manager provided an overview of the proposed. He noted the proposed was a recommendation from Councils' American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Review Committee and relates to full time employees in the Police, Fire and Health Departments.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson noted the Committee has looked at all the potential funding categories within ARPA. He noted the Committee discussed the best way to utilize these funds to maximize a positive community impact. He noted through citizen input and surveys it was found that public safety was listed as a number two priority with community health and wellness being the top priority. He noted these funds would be spread across three years, which is the duration of time needed to spend this money per the ARPA guidelines. He noted to have the best impact on the community the Committee is working on putting together a comprehensive plan for the remainder of this money to place before City Council. He further noted while considering all factors, the Committee is looking at retaining those first responders who are providing public safety now. He further noted this recognizes and retains the existing first responders while the new recruits finish the Police and Fire Academies.

Councilman Schilling asked for the estimated total cost of the proposed. Mr. Gage noted the net cost is estimated around four million dollars. He explained cost factors vary depending on those who are eligible, timing (new hires, retirements, transfers etc.), social security, and benefits over the three-year period within each department. He further noted the total cost when figuring all cost aspects could add up to roughly six million dollars.

Councilman Hosmer inquired about the process the ARPA Review Committee is planning to utilize going forward. He noted when this Committee was first formed it was expressed that a comprehensive plan of recommendations would be presented for the utilization of all funding versus bringing one item to City Council at a time. He explained the current process does not allow for a full view of funding used for other projects nor specifies additional suggestions in the works. Mr. Gage noted the proposed was a direct recommendation from the ARPA Review Committee. Councilman Hosmer asked about the payment schedule for usage of these funds and whether the money should be presented at the end of the year to encourage retention for those who are eligible. Mr. Gage explained the ARPA Review Committee recommendation to offer a lump sum of retention pay during the first year and then an incremental paycheck over the next two years. He noted the proposed is for the preliminary action to carry out the recommendations. He further noted negotiations would then take place with collective bargaining units.

Mayor McClure asked if this resolution would authorize three lump sum payments as opposed to payments that are spread out. Mr. Gage noted if this is the direction that City Council provides, it would be sufficient for them to move forward.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed his support for lump sum payments, believing this provides the greatest impact. He noted, the information will not be provided one piece at a time going forward.

Councilman Lear noted his agreement that there is an immediate need for employee retention. He expressed his support for lump sum payments.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Chad Davis, President of IFF 152, a representative of the Springfield Firefighters, expressed his support of the resolution and his thanks for the work City Council and the Committee have put in on this issue.

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

Council Bill 2021-285. Resolution 10605 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**City Managers
Recommendation
for Mid-Year Pay
Increase**

Sponsor: McClure. Council Bill 2021-286.

A resolution affirming City Council's support for the City Manager to proceed with plans to recommend a mid-year pay increase for City employees, including any preliminary steps necessary to prepare a formal recommendation to City Council.

Darla Morrison, Director of Human Resources provided an overview of the proposed. She noted this proposed resolution is for the City Manager to proceed with plans to recommend a midyear pay increase for City employees and authorize staff to proceed

with preliminary actions necessary to prepare the recommendation for mid-year pay increases. She noted City employees continued to demonstrate significant dedication and resilience in delivering public services to the citizens of Springfield during the pandemic.

Ms. Morrison noted a review of the City's current finances was conducted. The City's financial position after the first quarter of this fiscal year allows the City Manager to recommend funding for a mid-year pay increase for City employees. She noted approval of this resolution will not adopt the recommended pay increase but would express City Council's support for City staff to negotiate the proposed with the collective bargaining unit representatives and prepare mid-year pay increase recommendation for non-union employees. She further noted this would allow City employees to prepare appropriate ordinances to bring to the City Council for review and consideration. She explained in order to implement the necessary steps required to execute the mid-year pay increase, negotiations would need to conclude by December 15, 2021 so the mid-year pay increase can occur in mid to late January of 2022.

Councilwoman Romine asked how much the proposed would cost to implement. Ms. Morrison noted the cost is currently unknown as the proposed requires negotiation with the unions. Councilwoman Romine expressed her wishes for a way that all citizens affected by the pandemic could be represented financially.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson noted his support of the proposed. He expressed his thoughts about the economic growth seen through the City. He mentioned the proposed is a step that will allow for much deserved raises. He expressed his appreciation for the City employee's hard work.

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

Council Bill 2021-286. Resolution 10606 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Adopting the City
of Springfield's
Legislative
Priorities for 2022**

Sponsor: McClure. Council Bill 2021-287.

A resolution adopting the City of Springfield's Legislative Priorities for 2022.

Jason Gage, City Manager provided an overview of the proposed. He explained Legislative Priorities are presented each year to City Council and why these priorities are used to communicate changes for the City in the upcoming year. He explained the general priorities section which included avoiding unfunded mandates, promotion of public safety, economic vitality, fiscal sustainability, and quality of place. Mr. Gage noted the specific priorities for the upcoming year.

Councilman Hosmer articulated his thoughts on mental health, treatment services, and public safety. He noted the Springfield community is being hit hard in these fields and mentioned the stress imposed on law enforcement when mental health services are

unavailable. He emphasized the importance of funding for mental health and treatment services. He noted how nuisance properties relate to crime and public safety. He expressed his hopes the changes within the legislation will allow for expedited procedures to alleviate these issues within the community.

Mayor McClure expressed his thoughts on mental health. He noted funding for mental health is the key to starting the road to recovery. He noted mental health funding has changed over the years, but Springfield has strong behavioral health services within the community. He noted mental health funding is a top priority for upcoming year.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed his opinion on behavioral health and mental health access. He mentioned this access is a way to start addressing some of the systemic causes behind public safety. He expressed his thoughts about nuisance properties and how it is connected to the public safety concerns in the City.

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

Council Bill 2021-287. Resolution 10607 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

EMERGENCY BILLS

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

GRANTS

AMENDED BILLS

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

**Approving the
Second
Amendment to the
Redevelopment
Plan for Beverly
Lofts
Redevelopment
Area**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-288.

A special ordinance approving the Second Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan for the Beverly Lofts Redevelopment Area, generally located along the north side of East Cherry Street near the intersection of Cherry Street and Kimbrough Avenue; authorizing certain tax abatements within the Redevelopment Area; and authorizing the City Manager to execute a Second Amended and Restated 353 Redevelopment Agreement with the Redevelopment Corporation, relating to the implementation of the Second Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan. (The Planning and Zoning Commission and City Staff recommend approval.)

Sarah Kerner, Director of Economic Development provided an overview of the proposed. She noted the proposed encourages redevelopment of blighted areas by providing partial real property tax abatement. She explained the applicant must demonstrate the redevelopment area is blighted, and the proposed redevelopment

project will provide a measurable public benefit. She noted the proposed area is near East Cherry Street and South Kimbrough Avenue. She further noted this area is under one acre and is zoned for high-density multi-family residential. She explained phase one of this plan was completed in 2018 and included the rehabilitation and conversion of the existing structure. Ms. Kerner noted phase two of the redevelopment plan was left undefined so an amendment could be completed prior to construction of the eighteen-unit, three story multi-family residential apartment building. She explained the twenty-five-year partial property tax abatement incentive and the impact to taxing jurisdictions. She noted for the first ten years the developer would receive 100% abatement on increased property values and years 11-25 the developer would receive 50% abatement on increased property values. She further noted the proposed is to request the approval of the Amendment to Beverly Lofts Redevelopment Plan which defines Phase 2 of the project and analyzes the developer's financial need for the incentive.

Councilman Hosmer asked how long the tax abatement would be. Ms. Kerner noted this abatement is twenty-five years. Councilman Hosmer inquired if the developer would have increased property taxes over the next twenty-five years. Ms. Kerner reiterated for the first ten years this would be true and years 11-25 the developer would pay half. Councilman Hosmer noted Ms. Kerner's calculation of the benefits to the jurisdiction is based on if there is an appreciation of the value of the property. Ms. Kerner noted this is correct and there would be approximately a 2% increase during each reassessment. Councilman Hosmer asked if this was a reasonable expectation for this property to increase in value over the course of twenty-five years. Ms. Kerner noted this is a standard property appreciation value. Councilman Hosmer asked for more information regarding rental properties and single-family homes percentages from the past eight years. Ms. Kerner noted she would gather the requested information.

Matthew Wine, representative for the developer, spoke in support of the proposed.

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

**Amending
Springfield City
Code, Land
Development
Code**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-289.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Chapter 36, 'Land Development Code,' Article III, 'Zoning Regulations,' Division 5, 'Supplemental District Regulations,' Section 36-454 - 'Signs,' Subsection (19), 'Interstate Highway Commercial Sign District' to rename the subsection, add a new area to the subsection, and reorganize the subsection to provide clarity regarding the application of subsection.

Bob Hosmer, Principal City Planner provided an overview of the proposed. He noted the Planning and Zoning Commission initiated amendments to the existing Interstate Highway Commercial Sign District on October 7, 2021. He noted there are 6 locations in the City that are in this district. He noted the purpose of the Interstate Highways Commercial Sign District is to permit larger and taller detached signs in proximity to

the intersection of qualifying major commercial streets due to the commercial activity located at these intersections. He noted the current code allows for a 70-foot-tall sign in this area with a maximum effective area of 600 square feet based on street frontage and street classifications. He noted the proposed is for changes to this section which include adding one new area (Mulroy Road and Interstate 44), renaming the section to Freeway Commercial Sign District, and reorganizing the section to provide clarity for implementation.

Councilman Schilling asked about the density of these signs. Mr. Hosmer noted the density depends on the property and the frontage along the placement area.

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

The following bills appeared on the agenda under First Reading Bills.

**Amending
Springfield City
Code, Chapter 2;
Electronic Votes**

Sponsor Ollis. Council Bill 2021-290.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Chapter 2, 'Administration,' Article VI, "Finances," Division 4, "Police Officers' and Fire Fighters' Retirement System," Section 2-444, "Board of trustees established; membership; election of members" to allow for electronic elections.

Janelle Manley, Police & Fire Pension Board Administrative Director provided an overview of the proposed. She explained the goal of the proposed is to have more people involved with voting for representatives. She noted the proposed would update the system and make voting easier and convenient for people to vote.

Councilwoman Romine asked about the voting app security. Ms. Manley explained this would adapt the same system that Missouri LAGERS Retirement use. She noted the system has things in place that prevent multiple votes and individual who receive the link will be the only ones that are able to vote

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

**Schedule of
Equipment No. 3**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-291.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into Schedule of Equipment No. 3, which will become a part of its existing Master Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement, the proceeds of which will be used to pay the costs of acquiring equipment for the City and to do all things necessary to carry out the lease-purchase transaction, including the execution of certain documents in connection therewith; and amending the budget of the City for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$705,755.

David Holtmann, Director of Finance provided an overview of the proposed. He noted the proposed is for the City to enter into a 3rd lease agreement with Central Bank

to finance equipment and improvements needed within the Parks Department and the Information Systems Department. He noted the proceeds from financing will be used to purchase parks equipment and information services security protocols equipment. He noted the City has entered into these lease agreements for ten years. He further noted it is a valuable tool in acquiring much needed capital equipment at a favorable interest rate. Mr. Holtmann noted the lease schedule totals over \$705,000 and will require the City to make payments for five years. He further noted at the end of five years, the City will own the equipment.

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

**Special Obligation
Refunding Bonds;
Refund the City's
Special Obligation
Bonds**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-292.

A special ordinance authorizing and directing the issuance, sale and delivery by the City of Springfield, Missouri, of Special Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2022, in a principal amount not to exceed \$16,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds to refund the City's Special Obligation Bonds (Sewer System Improvements Project) Series 2012; authorizing and approving certain documents in connection with the issuance of the Bonds; authorizing certain other documents and actions in connection therewith; and declaring an emergency.

David Holtmann, Director of Finance provided an overview of the proposed. He noted this is the second series of bonds brought forward to City Council. He noted the proposed is for issuance of refunding bonds up to \$16,000,000 to refund the City of Springfield's 2012 Special Obligation Bond. He further noted after refinancing there is about an eleven and half percent savings on the issuance and about \$2,000,000 savings on the sanitary and sewer fund.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed his excitement for the proposed saving taxpayer money.

Councilwoman Romine expressed her support for saving taxpayer money.

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

**Amending City
Code, Chapter 2;
Establishing a new
Section 2-484**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-294.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Chapter 2, "Administration," Article VI, "Finances," Division 4, "Police Officers' and Fire Fighters' Retirement System," by establishing a new Section 2-484, "In Service Distributions After Retirement and Rehire," and revising certain other sections to authorize in-service distributions to certain retirees.

Lance Roskens, Assistant City Attorney provided an overview of the proposed. He explained the proposed would amend City ordinances regarding the Police and Fire Pension Plan. He noted the goal of the proposed would allow those individuals who

have twenty-five years of service, whether in Police or Fire Departments, to be able to retire and receive pension, then come back and work for the City if they desire. He currently noted the City pension plan does not have a provision that allows for these types of specific in-service distributions. He further noted the Police and Fire Pension Board is scheduled to vote on recommending this through the Council.

Councilman Ollis complemented the staff on their work to put this together. He asked if the person can retire and then return to the same position. Mr. Roskens noted the individual can retire and reapply to any position within the City. He noted some details to the proposed are in the process of being worked out. He further noted some details will involve negotiations with the Springfield Police Officers Association Bargaining Unit. Councilman Ollis asked how long the process for a person is to be rehired once they have retired. Mr. Roskens noted it depends on the position. He further noted those details are still in the works. Councilman Ollis expressed his concern the City could lose those retired individuals willing to work if the rehiring process takes too long.

Jason Gage, City Manager clarified that some positions may have a promotional list. He explained the various factors and details that may complicate the rehiring process. He noted these details are still being worked out amongst the department.

Councilman Lear noted the proposed is something Council has asked for over a period of time. He further noted the proposed will allow the Council to talk more about policies that will allow the City to retain officers.

Councilman McGull expressed his belief the process will be flawless once the details are more concrete.

Councilman Hosmer expressed his hope the proposed will bring back those officers who were disincentive to stay with the City because of pension issues.

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.

Appeared

Susan Carter addressed City Council. She expressed her opinions on health freedoms. She noted information provided by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention regarding natural immunity and herd immunity. She expressed her concerns about the mandates put into place for those who are not vaccinated.

Appeared

Duane Keys addressed City Council. He voiced his excitement for the investment coming to the Grant Street Corridor. He expressed his frustrations about a nuisance property within his neighborhood and the issues faced when reporting violations to the City. Mr. Keys referenced City Council's priorities for the upcoming year and how he feels regulations and building safety codes should be handled.

Councilman Ollis inquired about the property referenced by Mr. Keys. He asked if this property follows the guidelines for buildings which have boarded windows and if this was the same property referenced during previous council meetings. Jason Gage, City Manager noted nuisance properties have been an issue through the City. He explains there are certain legal actions that must be considered when approaching these types of properties. He mentioned there are certain criteria a property must fall under before the City can act against the property owners. He explained this certain property does not meet that criteria. Dwayne Shmel, Director of Building Development Services noted the current condition of the mentioned property does not require any of the extremities to be boarded. He further noted this building is secure and follows the City Building Codes.

Appeared

Julie Bloodworth addressed City Council. She expressed her frustration about a nuisance property in her neighborhood. She explains this property has a history of complaints against it on file with the City. She noted the recent process this property has gone through with the City and how progress has not been made to address the issues. She further noted the need for change to policies and procedures to address nuisance properties and maintenance code violations.

Councilman Ollis asked City staff about past discussions on vacant property registration, rental registration, and inspections programs and if those talks are still in process. Brenden Griesemer, Assistant Director of Planning and Development noted these items are in discussion amongst the Neighborhoods Advisory Committee and will bring forward proposals once more information has been gathered.

Councilman Hosmer inquired if there has been criminal activity at the mentioned property. Jason Gage, City Manager noted at this time he not aware of any police activity at this location. Councilman Hosmer asked if the condition of the property could invite criminal activity. Mr. Gage noted this property is secured and follows City Code. He explained the legal actions that must be utilized in the approached to nuisance properties. Councilman Hosmer expressed his concerns about nuisance properties and criminal conduct within the City. Mr. Gage ensured changes are on the way as policies and procedures are being evaluated within the Building Development Code.

Mayor McClure noted he would work with Mr. Gage on a City Council study session for this topic.

Councilman McGull expressed his support for a study session to take a comprehensive look at the issues throughout the city to better understand the changes that are needed.

Appeared

Lisa Meeks addressed City Council. She noted the process for picking a new city flag. She expressed her disapproval of the process utilized to collect public opinion on the subject matter. She voiced her opinion on the old city flag and what it meant to her.

Appeared

Don Underwood addressed City Council. He noted recent conversations amongst his church group about climate change. He expressed his opinion about the importance of

working to improve heat trapping pollution from the use of fossil fuels and promoting efficient uses of water and energy. He expressed his belief now is the time for the City to take action toward climate change for the sake of the communities, businesses and future generations.

Appeared

Sharon Taylor Gullett addressed City Council. She shared her thoughts about recent incidents which have affected public safety in her neighborhood. She expressed her neighborhood associations thoughts about partnering with the City to create safer places. She expressed her concerns about the vacancies within the Springfield Police Department and the overall safety in Springfield.

Councilman McGull thanked Ms. Gullett for her comments. He noted his thoughts on the issues reported by his constituents. He expressed his expectations from the recent retreat councilmembers attended which addressed the issue of crime and safety.

Appeared

Susan Brummell Belcher addressed City Council. She expressed her concern about crime in her neighborhood. She explained her residency in Springfield, why she chose her neighborhood and how it has changed over the years. She noted different ways to make her area safer and explained barriers which have prevented implementation of neighborhood plans. She further noted solutions to these barriers and ways the neighborhood is willing to help.

Appeared

Mike Brother addressed City Council. He spoke on the safety issues seen in his neighborhood. He noted there is an increase of various types of crimes and threats within his area. He expressed his understanding that City Council is working on these issues. He noted the neighborhood association will be working with Springfield Police Department to help improve lighting on his street. He expressed his feelings about the ability of the community to work against these crimes.

Did Not Appear

John Hawkins did not appear to address City Council.

Appeared

Summer Massey addressed City Council. She noted next week many will take a moment to focus on things they are thankful for. She expressed her thankfulness and appreciation for the City Councilmembers for their time and talents to help the community become better.

Geoffrey Butler submitted comments to the City Council. He expressed his concern for the “Fee in Lieu of building sidewalks”. He noted his opinion about the fee increase limit and his suggestions about what the owner should be billed.

David Stoke submitted comments to the City Council. He submitted his ideas regarding community improvement districts and other taxing-districts subsidies.

NEW BUSINESS

Recommended

The City Manager recommends the following appointment to the Board of Adjustment: Jin Chang as an alternate with term to expire January 1, 2026.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MISCELLANEOUS

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

**City Utilities to
Dispose of
Property; 614 West
Division Street**

Sponsor: Romine. Council Bill 2021-295.

A special ordinance authorizing City Utilities to dispose of approximately 0.17 acres of property generally located at 614 West Division Street (Planning and Zoning Commission and staff recommend approval)

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

**Accepting Grant
Funds; Missouri
Department of
Public Safety
Officer of
Homeland
Security**

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2021-296.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to apply for and accept grant funds in the amount of \$12,817 from the Missouri Department of Public Safety Office of Homeland Security, funded through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Fiscal Year 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program, for qualifying expenditures from September 1, 2021, through August 31, 2023; authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter a subaward agreement with the Missouri Department of Public Safety Office of Homeland Security accepting the award conditions; amending the budget of the Information Systems Department for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$12,817 to appropriate the grant funds; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval in one reading.

Council Bill 2021-296. Special Ordinance 27602 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Purple Burrito
Liquor License**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-297.

A resolution granting a new liquor license to sell liquor by the drink at retail, including Sunday sales, to Juan Carlos Lopez-Ruvalcaba, Sr. and Elena Lopez, d/b/a Purple Burrito #1, for their location at 1700 South Campbell Avenue, Suites A and B, Springfield, Missouri.

Council Bill 2021-297. Resolution 10608 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

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

Preliminary Plat of Cottle's Range Subdivision; 3280 and 3284 North Mulroy Road

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-282.

A special ordinance authorizing the Director of Planning and Development to accept the dedication of public streets and easements to the City of Springfield, as shown on the Preliminary Plat of Cottle's Range Subdivision, generally located at 3280 and 3284 North Mulroy Road, upon the applicant filing and recording a final plat that substantially conforms to the preliminary plat; and authorizing the City Clerk to sign the final plat upon compliance with all the terms of this Ordinance. (Staff recommends that City Council accept the public streets and easements.) (Childress Family LP & Vivian L. McKinzie, 3280 N Mulroy Road, Preliminary Plat of Cottle's Range Subdivision)

Council Bill 2021-282. Special Ordinance 27603 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Preliminary Plat of Mercy Villa; 1100 East Montclair Street

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-283.

A special ordinance authorizing the Director of Planning and Development to accept the dedication of public streets and easements to the City of Springfield, as shown on the Preliminary Plat of Mercy Villa, generally located at 1100 East Montclair Street, upon the applicant filing and recording a final plat that substantially conforms to the preliminary plat; and authorizing the City Clerk to sign the final plat upon compliance with all the terms of this Ordinance. (Staff recommends that City Council accept the public streets and easements.) (St. John's Regional Health Center, 1100 East Montclair Street, Preliminary Plat of Mercy Villa)

Council Bill 2021-283. Special Ordinance 27604 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Preliminary Plat of Murray's Hickory Village Subdivision; 636 South Missouri Avenue

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-284.

A special ordinance authorizing the Director of Planning and Development to accept the dedication of public streets and easements to the City of Springfield, as shown on the Preliminary Plat of Murray's Hickory Village Subdivision, generally located at 636 South Mission Avenue, upon the applicant filing and recording a final plat that substantially conforms to the preliminary plat; and authorizing the City Clerk to sign the final plat upon compliance with all the terms of this Ordinance. (Staff recommends that City Council accept the public streets and easements.) (Hickory Village 55 Plus LLC, 636 South Mission Avenue, Preliminary Plat of Murray's Hickory Village Subdivision)

Council Bill 2021-248. Special Ordinance 20605 was approved with the following vote:
Ayes: Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, and
McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Confirmed Confirm the following reappointment to the Mayor's Commission for Children:
Gerald Lee with term to expire November 29, 2022.

Confirmed Confirm the following appointments to the Mayor's Commission for Children: Dr.
Kaleen Long, Brandy Harris, Chris Jarratt, and Dr. Elizabeth Andrews with terms to
expire November 29, 2024.

Confirmed Confirm the following appointment to the Board of Adjustment: Thomas Kondro
with term to expire January 1, 2024.

Confirmed Confirm the following reappointment to the Board of Adjustment: Steven Jackson
with term to expire January 1, 2026.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA.

Motion to Adjourn Mayor Pro Tem Simspon moved to Adjourn. Councilwoman Romine seconded the
motion, and it was approved by the following vote. Ayes. Schilling, Simpson, Ollis,
Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, and McClure. Nays. Hosmer. Absent. None.
Abstain. None. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



Anita J. Cotter, CMC/MRCC
City Clerk

Prepared by
Lauren M. Fischer