

September 6, 2022
Springfield, Missouri

The City Council met in regular session September 6, 2022, in the Council Chambers at Historic City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken McClure.

Roll Call

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

Minutes

The minutes of the August 22, 2022, City Council Meeting and the August 30, 2022, Special City Council Meeting were considered. Mayor Pro Tem Simpson moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardinger and approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

Consent Agenda

Councilman Hosmer asked if the appropriate time to remove a board recommendation from the Consent Agenda is at the next City Council meeting. Jan Millington, Deputy City Attorney, answered affirmatively.

The consent agenda was approved as presented by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

The following item appeared on the agenda under Ceremonial Matters.

City Manager Report

Jason Gage, City Manager, noted Bill Darr will receive the Key to the City Monday, September 19, 2022, during a ceremony and reception at 5:00 p.m in the Councilman Denny Wayne Conference Room and lobby at the Busch Municipal Building. Mr. Darr is a humanitarian, child advocate, entrepreneur, and higher education champion. Over the years, he has continually given back to his alma mater, Missouri State University, particularly the Darr College of Agriculture, aptly named after him.

Mr. Gage noted the City Clerk's Office and Department of Public Information & Civic Engagement have teamed up for a new initiative to encourage citizens to apply for Boards and Commissions. More information about this be provided in the coming weeks. A Welcome Reception for new members of our boards and commissions will take place at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 22, 2022, in the Councilman Denny Wayne Conference Room.

Mr. Gage noted the City of Springfield is working with the Hatch Foundation and other partners on an initiative created by Erin Danastasio called Celebrate Springfield. For the month of September, Celebrate Springfield is working with area businesses and fellow community members to remove the barriers that exist in our city so that everyone has a chance to experience the attractions, amenities, and resources in Springfield. The focus of this year's Celebrate Springfield is on providing access to the outdoors - to experience Springfield by trail, water, and/or through our parks. The Hatch Foundation is partnering with a few community events during the month of September to help reduce ticket costs while being an easy resource to learn about each activity. For

more information, visit celebratesgf.com. A family friendly party at Jordan Valley Park will conclude this year's Celebrate Springfield. On October 2, 2022, from 12 to 4, attendees can enjoy live music and other fun activities for the whole family.

Mr. Gage noted the Springfield Sister Cities Association, in partnership with the Springfield-Greene County Park Board, will present the 26th Japanese Fall Festival on Friday-Sunday, September 9-11, 2022, in the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden located within the Springfield Botanical Gardens at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park, 2400 South Scenic Avenue. For more information, visit peacethroughpeople.org.

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

**Employee
Positions:
Department of
Workforce
Development**

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2022-212

A general ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget of the City of Springfield to adjust the authorized employee positions in the Department of Workforce Development to add six full-time equivalent positions.

Council Bill 2022-212. General Ordinance 6747 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

**Schedule of
Equipment No. 5**

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2022-213

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into Schedule of Equipment No. 5, 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 and installing equipment for the City's Parks Department 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 2022-2023 in the amount of \$645,000.

Council Bill 2022-213. Special Ordinance 27749 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

**Donation
Agreement: Nestle
Purina : Paper and
roll-off Truck**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2022-214

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into Donation Agreements with Nestle Purina Petcare Company to accept a donation of 15 paper recycling bins and a 2012 Freightliner roll-off truck, valued in total at \$130,000, to be used by the Environmental Services Department to provide paper and other recycling services in the community.

Council Bill 2022-214. Special Ordinance 27750 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

**Municipal and
Cost Agreement:
Battlefield Road
and US Route 65**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2022-215

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager or his designee to enter into a Municipal and Cost Apportionment Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission to share costs associated with pavement resurfacing of Battlefield Road near the US Route 65 interchange.

Council Bill 2022-215. Special Ordinance 27751 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

**Olsson: Cooper
Park and Sports
Complex**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2022-216

A special ordinance approving Olsson as the consultant to provide professional services for improvements at City's Cooper Park and Sports Complex (also known as Cooper Soccer Complex), in the amount of \$915,660, as an approved project for use of American Rescue Plan Act Funds received by City; and authorizing the Park Board Chair, or their designee, to enter into a contract with Olsson for these purposes.

Council Bill 2022-216. Special Ordinance 27752 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

**Salary Ordinance:
Professional,
Administrative,
and Technical
Schedule**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2022-217

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, 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 Schedule by making provision for three new job titles and deleting one job title; and amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget of certain City departments to transition five temporary positions to four regular part-time positions (each a .5 Full-Time Equivalent) and one regular full-time position (a 1.0 Full-Time Equivalent) and adjusting the authorized employee positions.

Council Bill 2022-217. General Ordinance 6748 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

The following items appeared on the agenda under Resolutions.

**Short-Term Rental
Type 2 Permit:
1951 South
Roanoke**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2022-158 (Tabled at the June 27, 2022, meeting)

A resolution granting a Short-Term Rental Type 2 Permit for the property located at 1951 South Roanoke Street for the purpose of allowing the establishment of a Short-Term Rental Type 2 pursuant to Section 36-473 of the Land Development Code.

Susan Istenes, Director of Planning and Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Istenes noted the proposed is for a short-term rental type 2 located at 1951 South Roanoke. The proposed failed to obtain all signatures necessary to be granted a short-term rental so the

matter is before City Council for appeal. Ms. Istenes further noted no protest petitions were submitted, and the property is non-owner occupied.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked if the neighbors were sent a form for consent. Ms. Istenes answered affirmatively.

Councilman McGull expressed his belief citizens should participate and voice their opinion if not in favor of short-term rentals.

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

Council Bill 2022-158. Resolution 10652 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Horton, Simpson, Ollis, and Hardinger. Nays: Hosmer, Schilling, and McClure. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

**Jefferson Avenue
Footbridge
Rehabilitation
Project**

Sponsor: Horton. Council Bill 2022-224

A resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee, to apply for up to \$5,600,000 in grant funds from the United States Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration to support construction of the Jefferson Avenue Footbridge Rehabilitation Project.

Dan Smith, Director of Public Works, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Smith noted the department continues to look for grant opportunities. He explained the proposed is a grant to improve rail crossing safety for pedestrians. Mr. Smith noted the grant is an 80/20 grant with 80% covered by federal funds and 20% by local funds.

Councilman Schilling asked if the last grant applied for was not received. Mr. Smith responded the Raise grant was a competitive grant, and the City did not receive that grant.

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

Council Bill 2022-224. Resolution 10653 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

EMERGENCY BILLS.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

The following items appeared on the agenda under Grants.

**Show-Me Heroes
MDHE grant**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2022-225

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept grant funds from the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development Show-Me Heroes program, in the amount of \$10,000, to provide job support services for veterans and to enter into

necessary agreements to carry out the grant; amending the budget of the Department of Workforce Development for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$10,000 to appropriate the grant funds; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval in one reading.

Sally Payne, Director of Workforce Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Payne noted the Show-Me Heroes fund was currently in the budget, and the proposed is for additional funds available. Ms. Payne further noted the proposed would provide additional funding for veterans and includes transportation services.

Councilman Hosmer asked if Workforce Development works with local agencies to assist homeless veterans. Ms. Payne responded affirmatively and added the department has staff at the O'Reilly Center for Hope to assist the homeless population.

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

Council Bill 2022-225. Special Ordinance 27754 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2022-226

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept grant funds from the United States Department of Agriculture Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Food and Nutrition Service SkillUP program, through the Missouri Department of Social Services, in the amount of \$40,000 to be utilized to provide job support services for program participants and to enter into necessary agreements to carry out the grant; amending the budget of the Department of Workforce Development for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$40,000 to appropriate the grant funds; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval in one reading.

Sally Payne, Director of Workforce Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Payne noted the funding provides support to individuals that receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Food and Nutrition Services.

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

Council Bill 2022-226. Special Ordinance 27755 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2022-227

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept grant funds from the Office of Workforce Development of the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development in the amount of \$10,000 to be utilized to provide employment and training services to individuals residing in the Ozark Workforce Development Region, and to enter into necessary agreements to carry out the grant; amending the budget of the Department of Workforce

**SkillUP program:
TANF Missouri
Department of
Social Services
grant**

**Department of
Higher Education
and Workforce
Development
grant**

Development for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$10,000 to appropriate the grant funds; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval in one reading.

Sally Payne, Director of Workforce Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Payne noted the funds from the Office of Workforce Development are the result of acceptance of a challenge to enroll participants in free online training. Ms. Payne further noted 206 individuals were enrolled. The grant provides an additional \$10,000 in funding to provide employment and training services to individuals in the Ozark Workforce Development Region.

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

Council Bill 2022-227. Special Ordinance 27756 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

AMENDED BILLS.

The following items appeared on the agenda under Public Hearing.

Amending the Springfield Land Development Code: 817 West El Camino Alto Drive

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2022-228

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 5.4 acres of property generally located at 817 West El Camino Alto Drive from R-LD, Low-density Multifamily Residential District, with Conditional Overlay District No. 200, to R-LD, Low-density Multifamily Residential District, with Conditional Overlay District No. 214; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 214; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.) (By: The Ridge HZ 55+ LLC; 817 W. El Camino Alto Drive; Z-12-2022 w/ Conditional Overlay District No. 214.)

Susan Istenes, Director of Planning and Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Istenes noted the proposed is for approximately 5.4 acres to be rezoned from Low density MF Residential to R-LD with COD No. 214. The property has a height limit of three stories, must provide an entrance on ground level, and no unit can be located over another unit.

Mayor McClure noted the neighborhood is in agreement with the conditions of the development.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Derek Lee, a representative of the developer, spoke in support of the proposed.

Mayor McClure asked if the developer and the neighborhood were in agreement. Mr. Lee answered affirmatively.

Councilwoman Horton asked what steps were taken to settle issues between the neighborhood and the developer. Mr. Lee responded the first meeting with the neighborhood had forty participants and the meeting was primarily negative. He noted the developer decided to then work with the

committee for the homeowner's association who would address the neighborhood. He further noted the neighborhood made suggestions, and the developer implemented these suggestions. Ms. Horton asked if the privacy concerns were resolved. Mr. Lee answered affirmatively.

With no further appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2022-229

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 8 acres of property generally located at 2801 West Bennett Street from GM, General Manufacturing District, to R-LD, Low-density Multifamily Residential District, with Conditional Overlay District No. 215; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 215; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.) (By: Wood Irrevocable Trust; 2801 West Bennett Street; Z-15-2022 w/COD #215.)

Susan Istenes, Director of Planning & Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Istenes noted the proposed is to rezone to develop a multi-family apartment complex with approximately eleven units per acre. Staff finds the location to be appropriate despite the conflicting land use designation. Ms. Istenes further noted Bennett Street is a collector roadway, and the property is located near recreational opportunities.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Joe Carmichael, a representative of the owner, spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Carmichael noted he has an option to buy the property. He expressed his appreciation for City Council's consideration. Mr. Carmichael noted he is a joint owner of the adjoining property. He expressed his belief the proposed would be a beneficial add-on to the adjoining property.

With no further appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2022-230

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 0.19 acres of property generally located at 610 North Prospect Avenue from Planned Development District No. 292 to HC, Highway Commercial District, with Conditional Overlay District No. 217; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 217; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.) (By: The Sisters, LLC; 610 N. Prospect Avenue; Z-17-2022 w/COD #217.)

Susan Istenes, Director of Planning & Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Istenes noted the proposed would rezone property located at 610 North Prospect Avenue. She further noted the property has existing abandoned mills and silos. The property is near a major intersection and is appropriate for retail.

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

**Amending the
Springfield Land
Development
Code: 2801 West
Bennett Street**

**Amending the
Springfield Land
Development
Code: 610 North
Prospect**

**Amending the
Springfield Land
Development
Code: 2645 West
Kearney Street**

Sponsor: Horton. Council Bill 2022-231

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, ‘Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,’ by rezoning approximately 6.8 acres of property generally located at 2645 West Kearney Street from R-TH, Residential Townhouse District, and HC, Highway Commercial District, to HC, Highway Commercial District, with Conditional Overlay District No. 218; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 218; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.) (By: EM & KM Investments LLC; 2645 West Kearney Street; Z-19-2022 w/COD #218.)

Susan Istenes, Director of Planning & Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Istenes noted the proposed would allow rezoning for property at 2645 West Kearney to allow for commercial zoning which is consistent with the existing commercial zoning adjacent to the property. She further noted a conditional overlay district was submitted to mitigate potential negative impacts to nearby residential.

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

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

**Amend the
budget:
Department of
Environmental
Services: Chestnut
South Lift Station
Relief Sewer**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2022-232

A special ordinance authorizing a budget adjustment to amend the budget of the Department of Environmental Services for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$900,000 to appropriate retained earnings of the Clean Water Fund for construction of the Chestnut South Lift Station Relief Sewer capital improvement project.

Ron Petering, Assistant Director of Environmental Services, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Petering noted the proposed would authorize a budget adjustment to appropriate retained earnings of the Clean Water Fund for construction of the Chestnut South Lift Station project. He further noted the proposed would construct gravity sewer to the south and allow the lift station to be de-commissioned. Mr. Petering added a branch off the north-south main would add sewer availability to previously un-sewered areas.

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

**Animal Shelter
Agreement**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2022-233

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Greene County, Missouri, to outline use parameters and accept \$1,450,000 for construction of the City's animal shelter; and amending the Springfield-Greene County Health Department's Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget in the amount of \$1,450,000 to appropriate the funds.

Collin Quigley, Deputy City Manager, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Quigley noted the proposed would allow funds to be accepted to construct a new City animal shelter. He further noted the funding is out of the City's Level Property Tax Fund, and construction would begin by approximately next summer.

Councilman McGull expressed his opinion the new shelter would be an improvement. He noted the range behind the old property may want to expand and would be a use for that property.

Katie Towns, Director of Public Health and Welfare, welcomed and introduced Animal Control Officers and staff in attendance. Ms. Towns introduced Kit Baumgartner, Heather Kellough, Josh Doss, Angel Foster, Luran Layne, Carson Howald, Dax Dye, Arika Jurgle, and Colby Jones. Ms. Towns recognized the team and expressed her appreciation for their willingness to work through difficult situations. She noted the team reunited 360 dogs and 200 cats with their owners last year and worked with the community to make more than 500 animals available for adoption.

Mayor McClure thanked the team members for their attendance and for the work they do on behalf of the community.

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

**City Utilities: Park
and Recreation
Regulations**

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2022-234

A general ordinance adopting Park and Recreation Regulations pertaining to the governing and operation of park and recreation areas and facilities by City Utilities and the use thereof by the public.

Jennifer Wilson, Board Chair for the Board of Public Utilities, provided a brief overview of the City Utilities proposed bills for the evening. Ms. Wilson noted a comprehensive review of park rules was conducted.

Steve Stodden, Vice President and Chief Natural Gas and Water Operations Officer for City Utilities, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Stodden noted the lake rules and regulations govern all water bodies which include Lake Springfield, Fellows Lake, McDaniel Lake, and Valley Water Mill. Mr. Stodden added there is an increase in silent sports. The proposed changes to the rules are to allow paddleboarding with a non-motorized permit, remove the ability to water ski on Fellows Lake, modify hunting regulations to follow Missouri Department of Conservation rules, and to ban alcohol in the rule book except for permitted events. They would also remove the firearms ban to be consistent with state law, continue a ban on overnight camping, follow trail rules established by City Utilities and Ozark Greenways, and allow the Park Board to establish rules at Lake Springfield and Valley Water Mill.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson thanked Mr. Stodden and noted the Fellows Lake Fun Day which occurs September 25, 2022. He asked if education will be provided for paddleboarding and other water sports. Mr. Stodden responded the Watershed Committee handles that resource.

Councilman Schilling asked why the firearms regulation was removed. Mr. Stodden responded the rule was changed to be consistent with state law, and hunting is offered through the conservation department.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Christina Angle, a board member of Ozark Greenways, spoke in support of the proposed. Ms. Angle expressed her favor for silent sports and connecting individuals with the outdoors. She thanked City Council for their consideration.

Mike Kromrey, Director of the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Kromrey noted their focus is on education and water safety. He further noted the committee is a community partner that supports the proposed changes.

With no further appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

City Utilities: 2023 Operating Budget

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2022-235

A general ordinance approving the City Utilities' Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget for its Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023.

Amy Derald, Vice President - Chief Financial Officer for City Utilities, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Derald noted the energy sources that serve the City Utilities (CU) load as 43.2% coal, 42.2% renewable energy, 4% natural gas, and 10.6% market purchases. Ms. Derald gave examples of active energy services programs including heating tune-up, smart thermostat rebate, residential insulation rebate, high efficiency toilet rebate, HVAC rebates, Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation, commercial energy audits, Electric Vehicle charging rebates, and commercial lighting rebate. The electric rate comparison showed CU as having lower rates than the overall state or national averages. Ms. Derald noted natural gas rates have been increasing, and the costs are a direct pass-through. Ms. Derald further noted receipts totaled approximately \$607 million with approximately half of that coming from electric. She added the infrastructure initiatives for the year are natural gas main renewals, water main renewals, pole replacements, and substation transformers. The cycle is a 100-year replacement. \$604 million is budgeted for expenditures in fiscal year 2023 which is lower due to the fiber expansion project being primarily completed in 2022.

Ms. Derald noted the total amount being requested is \$656,398,687, which includes a \$55,000,000 business volatility and fuels contingency. Community Services provided total approximately \$46 million.

Mayor McClure noted City Utilities Fiscal Year begins October 1, 2022. He asked how the 42.2% renewable energy use of CU compares to other municipalities in the state. Ms. Derald responded investor-owned utilities in the state of Missouri are mandated to have 15% in renewable energy and most adhere closely to this requirement. Mayor McClure asked how reliable renewable energy is. Ms. Derald responded they have proven to be reliable.

Mayor McClure noted the importance of infrastructure improvements and asked what the community needs to know in concerning water. Ms. Derald responded the focus is on infrastructure to ensure water is safe and reliable.

Councilman Hosmer asked how the rebates are refunded. Ms. Derald responded dollars were initially set aside for the rebates. Mr. Hosmer asked the demographics for rebates noting people living in poverty have issues with higher rates. Ms. Derald responded she would have to get the information regarding demographics. She noted funds are provided each year to OACAC for weatherization.

Councilman Hosmer asked about changing the rate structure for bus services. Ms. Derald responded they are currently conducting a transit study which will review this issue.

Councilman Schilling asked if use of rebate programs has increased over time. Ms. Derald responded the use of technology has increased and older programs do taper over time. The heating system tune-up rebate is a new item on the City Utilities homepage to encourage individuals to tune-up their furnaces.

Councilman Schilling asked how the metering system works. Ms. Derald responded the automatic metering which was installed communicates electronically for readings. If customers choose to have their meter manually read, there is a charge to cover costs.

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

Anita Cotter, City Clerk, read Council Bills 2022-236, 2022-237, and 2022-238 together.

**City Utilities:
Water Rates**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2022-236

A general ordinance authorizing revisions to water rates charged by City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri and related terms and conditions.

**City Utilities:
Curtable Gas
Service Rate**

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2022-237

A general ordinance authorizing revisions to the Curtable Gas Service Rate (Gas Rates Sheet No. 3 of General Ordinance 6319) of City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri.

**City Utilities:
Private Outdoor
Lighting Service
Rate**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2022-238

A general ordinance authorizing revisions to the Private Outdoor Lighting Service Rate of City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri.

Krista Shurtz, Director of Rates and Fuels for City Utilities, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Shurtz noted the water rate increase proposal rates should be simple and feasible to implement and customers should cover their own costs to discourage wasteful use of natural resources. She further noted water usage is seasonal, being higher in the summer months. Ms. Shurtz explained the rate increase proposal would increase rates by approximately \$5.25 over three years and provide \$8.2 million dollars in revenue to support the water system. Ms. Shurtz noted the

focus for water renewals is on infrastructure. The last water rate increase was in 2020. She added contingency projects are not included in the water rate increases.

Councilman Ollis asked how contingency projects are funded. Ms. Shurtz responded other funding options are sought out, including grants. Councilman Ollis expressed his appreciation for the focus on aging infrastructure.

Ms. Shurtz provided an overview of revisions to the Curtailable Gas Service Rate. She noted customers on curtailable service use backup fuel when required, and a fee is charged if they use gas during the unauthorized use period. The proposed change would allow a one-time variance with a minimum cost of \$60 per Dth. The charge would be tied to the City Utilities highest market gas cost during the curtailment period.

Councilman Hosmer asked what the motivation is for a customer to use curtailable gas. Ms. Shurtz responded curtailable gas customers use a large volume, have a lower rate, do not use transportation or storage, and have a back-up system.

Councilman McGull asked what back-up systems customers may use. Ms. Shurtz responded they may use propane or oil. She noted customer education has been increased to prepare customers for curtailment periods.

Councilman Horton asked if City Utilities had to use financial reserves in response to the last weather event. Ms. Shurtz responded City Utilities has a fuel contingency that was utilized for the event.

Ms. Shurtz provided an overview of revisions to Private Outdoor Lighting. She noted the rate will be updated to reflect new light-emitting diode (LED) street lighting options for standard and decorative street lighting, and there will be no new high pressure sodium (HPS) installations.

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

Fassnight Creek Greenway Trail improvements

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2022-239

A special ordinance approving the plans and specifications for the Fassnight Creek Greenway Trail improvements; accepting the bid of Radmacher Brothers Excavating Co., Inc., in the amount of \$459,895 for said improvements; and authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a contract with such bidder.

Dan Smith, Director of Public Works, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Smith noted the proposed would allow the department to accept a bid and enter into an agreement with Radmacher Brothers Excavating Co., Inc., for work on the Fassnight Creek Greenway Trail. He further noted there were four bidders, bids continued to be high, and it is difficult to estimate bids. He added funding for the project is a combination of local and federal funds.

Mayor McClure added there was a gap between the engineer's estimate and the bids

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked how the rain event affected the creek near the Art Museum. Mr. Smith responded this area did not come up as an issue.

Councilwoman Horton asked about the local business that was outbid. Mr. Smith responded there is a great deal of work available at this time. Local businesses do often work with the City, and there is not a great concern at this time.

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

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

Michael Jacobson did not appear to address City Council.

Joseph Meierotto did not appear to address City Council.

Sally Hargis expressed her appreciation to City Council for their focus on transportation and infrastructure. Ms. Hargis expressed her support for key investments in traffic improvements and pedestrian improvements. Ms. Hargis encouraged the City to continue to focus on these key issues.

Tim Havens addressed City Council in opposition to the recommendation of Andrew Doolittle for the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Havens expressed his belief Mr. Doolittle has a conflict of interest due to his interest in several properties and developments. He expressed his opinion perception is reality and the recommendation signals a poor ethics environment. Mr. Havens expressed his opinion Mr. Doolittle should decline the recommendation.

The following items appeared on the agenda under New Business.

The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following appointment to the Landmarks Board: Jason Nunn with term to expire November 1, 2022.

The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following appointments to the Personnel Board: Dr. Lance Renner and J. Miles Sweeney with terms to expire March 1, 2023.

The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission: Andrew Doolittle with term to expire January 1, 2024.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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

**Preliminary Plat:
Cherry Glenn**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2022-240
(Susan Istenes, Director of Planning & Development – if needed)

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 Cherry Glen, generally located at 600 South Glenstone 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.)

**Workforce
Development:
Walmart
Community Grant
Program**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2022-241
(Sally Payne, Director of Workforce Development – if needed)

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept grant funds from the Walmart Community Grant Program in the amount of \$5,000 to be utilized to improve the community for the benefit of low-income individuals and families; enter into necessary agreements to carry out the grant; and amend the budget of the Department of Workforce Development for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$5,000 to appropriate the grant funds.

CONSENT AGENDA – ONE READING BILLS.

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

**Joint Funding
Agreement: Water
Resource
Investigations**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2022-218

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Joint Funding Agreement For Water Resource Investigations with the United States Department of the Interior for the purpose of operating and maintaining four streamgages.

Council Bill 2022-218. Special Ordinance 27753 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

Confirm the following appointment to the Springfield-Greene County Park Board: Dr. Dianna Parker with term to expire June 1, 2025.

Confirm the following appointments to the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations: Mike Garton and Jasmine Allen with terms to expire October 1, 2024.

Confirm the following appointment to the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations: Kimberly Pulley with term to expire October 1, 2023.

BOARD CONFIRMATIONS.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA.

Motion to Adjourn Mayor Pro Tem Simpson moved to adjourn. Councilwoman Hardinger seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote. Ayes: Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: Hosmer. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.


Anita J. Cotter, CMC/MRCC
City Clerk

Prepared by
Michelle Brown