



City of Springfield

Minutes

City Council

Ken McClure, Mayor

Zone Councilmembers	General Councilmembers
Monica Horton, Zone 1	Heather Hardinger, General A
Abe McGull, Zone 2	Craig Hosmer, General B
Mike Schilling, Zone 3	Andrew Lear, General C
Matthew Simpson, Zone 4	Richard Ollis, General D

March 6, 2023

6:30 PM

**City Council Chambers
Historic City Hall
830 Boonville Avenue**

1. ROLL CALL.

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

Mayor McClure welcomed the Evangel News Reporting Class to the City Council Meeting this evening.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. (APPROVED AS PRESENTED)

2.1. Approval of Minutes. February 21, 2023, City Council Meeting and February 28, 2023, Special City Council Meeting.

Approval of Minutes. February 21, 2023, City Council Meeting and February 28, 2023, Special City Council Meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Horton and approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

3. FINALIZATION AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDAS. (APPROVED AS AMENDED) CITIZENS WISHING TO SPEAK TO OR REMOVE ITEMS FROM THE CONSENT AGENDAS MUST DO SO AT THIS TIME.

FINALIZATION AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDAS.

Ms. Cotter noted a request was made to speak to Item 18.1, Council Bill 2023-057. This item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will become Item 13.1 under First Reading Bills.

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

4. CEREMONIAL MATTERS.

5. CITY MANAGER REPORT AND RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

Jason Gage, City Manager, provided an update.

Mr. Gage noted, in addition to the City Council races, the City of Springfield will have three measures on the April 4, 2023, municipal ballot. The first measure will ask Springfield voters whether to repeal the existing 5% hotel, motel, and tourist courts tax, and replace it with a licensing tax at the same 5% rate for hotels, motels, and tourist courts, with the addition of short-term rentals (Airbnbs, Vrbos). The remaining two measures on the ballot will be amendments to Springfield's City Charter: One for contracts and bidding, and the other for human resources and hiring. Details can be reviewed at springfieldmo.gov/election.

Mr. Gage noted Fire Station 13 at 1900 West College Street was placed into service this week. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be scheduled at a later date.

Mr. Gage noted the 76th Police Academy will graduate at 7:00 p.m. on March 17, 2023, at the East Sunshine Church of Christ.

Mr. Gage noted Chief Paul Williams provided City Council with a copy of the 2022 Springfield Police Annual Report.

Mr. Gage noted the City will announce plans for the 2023 Clean Green Springfield Initiative on Wednesday, March 15, 2023. This initiative offers clean-up and beautification opportunities throughout the city. In 2021, nearly 1,000 people joined the effort for litter pick up, planting, and stream cleaning. Details can be found at cleangreensgf.com and on KY3.

Mr. Gage noted the City is set to begin the final phase of Republic Road Widening beginning March 13, 2023. The widening will provide traffic capacity and safety improvements along one of the busiest retail corridors in Springfield. The project is designed to improve traffic flow on Campbell Avenue, Republic Road, and James River Freeway. The Republic Road widening Phases 4 & 5 will expand the roadway to five lanes between the traffic signal at Chase (Fairview Avenue) and the intersection of Campbell Avenue and Republic Road. He added improvements will include Americans with Disabilities Act compliant sidewalk upgrades, bike lanes, and traffic signal upgrades. Construction will also extend north on Campbell Street to improve stormwater and utility infrastructure. Mr. Gage further noted various lane closures will

be limited to overnight hours in an effort to minimize traffic impacts during the day. At least one lane of traffic flow in all directions is expected to be maintained at all times.

Mayor McClure acknowledged his support for the Clean Green effort.

Councilman Ollis asked if there is an update from MoDOT regarding work being done on Sunshine Street from Highway 65 to Glenstone Avenue. Mr. Gage responded a meeting is forthcoming and information will be provided to City Council after that meeting. Councilman Ollis expressed his belief the proposed median may harm businesses because it will block any left-hand turns.

Councilman Hosmer asked if the City is still a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Gage responded affirmatively. Councilman Hosmer asked if the City has any input regarding endorsements from the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Gage responded that the City does not get involved in these activities. Councilman Hosmer expressed his belief it is important to understand the criteria for endorsement to make sure it aligns with the values of the City. Councilman Hosmer asked for copies of the Chamber of Commerce Agendas from the Growth and Development meetings the City attends. Mr. Gage responded that copies of the agendas could be obtained from staff.

6. SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE.

Citizens Have Spoken. May Be Voted On.

6.1. Council Bill 2023-048 (Simpson) **ORDINANCE 27810**

A special ordinance amending the budget of the Springfield Art Museum for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$200,000 to appropriate funds from the Art Museum Special Project Fund for the acquisition of an outdoor sculpture.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed his support for the proposed. He commended the Art Museum for the improvements which are in line with the Master Plan.

Council Bill 2023-048 (Simpson) was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

6.2. Council Bill 2023-049 (Hosmer) **ORDINANCE 6780**

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Section 2-92, known as the 'Salary Ordinance,' relating to classifications and salary grades for various job titles within the City service as contained in the Professional, Administrative, and Technical Non-Union Schedule by adding seven (7) new job titles and deleting four (4) job titles; and the Professional, Administrative, and Technical IBEW Union Schedule by adding two (2) job titles; amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget to adjust the authorized employee positions by adding seven (7) new Full Time Equivalent positions to the Environmental Services Department; and establishing two new Occupational Series Groups, one for the Veterinarian position and one for Labor and Employee Relations positions, both with associated Occupational Series market pay adjustments.

Council Bill 2023-049 (Hosmer) was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

6.3. Council Bill 2023-050 (Lear) **ORDINANCE 27811**

A special ordinance authorizing and directing the issuance, sale and delivery by the City of Springfield, Missouri, of Special Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2023, in a principal amount not to exceed \$15,500,000 for the purpose of providing funds to pay costs related to improvements to Historic City Hall, the City's animal shelter and Public Works operations building, and certain fire stations; amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget of the City in the amount of \$15,500,000; 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.

Council Bill 2023-050 (Lear) was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

7. **RESOLUTIONS. Citizens May Speak. May Be Voted On.**

7.1. Council Bill 2023-052 (Schilling) **RESOLUTION 10690**

A resolution declaring the intent of the City of Springfield to annex approximately 9.2 acres of private property generally located at 3444 West Sunshine Street and 3503 West Washita Street, and approximately 0.14 acre of Greene County right-of-way generally located at 1900 South Farm Road 133 (Moore Road), referenced as Annexation A-2-2023, into the City. (Staff recommends approval.)

Susan Istenes, Director of Planning and Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Istenes noted the owners have requested voluntary annexation. The proposed is the first step which declares the intent to annex. Ms. Istenes further noted the proposed is within the City's service boundary and is contiguous and compact to the City, and the applicant will seek rezoning to Highway Commercial District with conditional overlay.

Councilman Schilling asked the intention of the developer. Ms. Istenes noted the intention is to use the property for retail use.

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

Council Bill 2023-052 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

7.2. Council Bill 2023-053 (McGull) **RESOLUTION 10691**

A resolution declaring the intent of the City of Springfield to annex approximately 1 acre of private property generally located at 3710 and 3742 East Cherry Street, and approximately 0.1 acre of Greene County right-of-way generally located at the 600 block of South Hickory Avenue, referenced as Annexation A-3-2023, into the City. (Staff recommends approval.)

Susan Istenes, Director of Planning and Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Istenes noted the proposed would declare the intent to annex approximately 0.1 acre of property. The owners have requested voluntary annexation.

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

Councilman Hosmer asked where the county line is in regards to the proposed annexation. Ms. Istenes responded that the location is an isolated area which is surrounded by property that is already in the City.

Councilman Ollis asked why the proposed area is not already within the city boundary. Ms. Istenes responded the proposed area was a leftover piece of property from a Greene County right-of-way project. Mr. Gage acknowledged the proposed area is a hold over item.

Council Bill 2023-053 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

7.3. Council Bill 2023-054 (Hardinger) **RESOLUTION 10692**

A resolution initiating amendments to the Springfield Land Development Code, Article III, 'Zoning Regulations,' for the purpose of authorizing City Council to add, modify, or delete conditions to a Conditional Use Permit.

Susan Istenes, Director of Planning and Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Istenes noted the proposed would allow City Council to add, delete, or modify conditions to a Conditional Use Permit when it comes before City Council. The proposed is the first step and would initiate the process to create the Code change. She further noted the proposed change would then be presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission and, ultimately return to City Council for a final vote.

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

Council Bill 2023-054 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

7.4. Council Bill 2023-055 (Schilling) **RESOLUTION 10693**

A resolution approving the use of funds from the 1/4-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax Minor Neighborhood Improvement Program in the amount of \$87,389 for improvements to enhance pedestrian safety, sight distance for vehicles, and provide traffic calming at the intersection of Mount Vernon and Broadway (Zone 3).

Brett Foster, Professional Engineer, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Foster noted concerns were received from citizens in the area stating that buildings are in the line-of-sight creating issues, and a number of accidents have occurred at the site on Mount Vernon Street. There is also a history of speeding on this stretch of road. He further noted sidewalk connections, lane narrowing, and new striping would be implemented to improve the area.

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

Councilman Schilling noted a concern he received from a citizen in the area. He expressed his belief the proposed will help the area.

Council Bill 2023-055 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Hardinger, Horton, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: Lear. Abstain: None.

8. EMERGENCY BILLS.

9. PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

10. GRANTS.

11. AMENDED BILLS.

12. COUNCIL BILLS FOR PUBLIC HEARING. It is anticipated that City Council will vote on this bill at the March 20, 2023, City Council Meeting.

Citizens May Speak. Not Anticipated To Be Voted On.

12.1. Council Bill 2023-056 (Horton)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 0.71 acre of property generally located at 1018 North Farmer Avenue and 1622, 1628, and 1634 West Scott Street from R-SF, Single-Family Residential District, to R-TH, Residential Townhouse District, with Conditional Overlay District No. 222; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 222; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.) (By: RAL Property Management, LLC; 1018 North Farmer Avenue and 1622, 1628, and 1634 West Scott Street; Z-1-2023.)

Susan Istenes, Director of Planning and Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Istenes noted the proposed would allow rezoning of approximately .71 acre from Single-Family Residential District to Residential Townhouse District with overlay. The applicant plans to build duplexes and will follow affordable housing guidelines.

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

13. FIRST READING BILLS. It is anticipated that City Council will vote on this bill at the March 20, 2023, City Council Meeting.

13.1. Council Bill 2023-057 (Horton) (Item number 18.1, Council Bill 2023-057, from Consent Agenda First Reading Bills became item number 13.1 under First Reading Bills.)

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 Troy Acres First Addition, generally located at 520 South Troy 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.) (By: Crawford-Mace, LLC; 520 South Troy Avenue; Preliminary Plat of Troy Acres, First Addition.)

Susan Istenes, Director of Planning and Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Istenes noted the proposed is a six-lot residential subdivision with 1.13 acres of vacant land. She further noted the property is zoned for residential single-family land use. Ms. Istenes added the property was first subdivided in 2019, but the request expired in 2020. Ms. Istenes noted the proposed meets the minimum requirements of subdivision regulations. She

further noted the role of City Council is for the acceptance of public streets and easements.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Lee J. Viorel spoke in opposition to the proposed. Mr. Viorel noted he is a representative of Mr. Moore at 421 South Troy Avenue, as well as 33 land owners that had previously provided a memo to City Council. They are asking that further conditions be placed on the proposed streets and easements would have the developer, or the City, install curbs and gutters. He further noted neighbors are asking for no on-street parking due to the narrowness of the street and sidewalks be added. Mr. Viorel added that City Utilities is requesting a ten-foot easement, and a 10% depth has to be used for water detention.

Councilman Hosmer asked the width of a normal city street. Dan Smith, Director of Public Works, responded that a city street has approximately 27 feet from curb-to-curb, or 24 feet of asphalt. Councilman Hosmer asked if developers are required to build sidewalks. Mr. Smith responded he would review the specific question with staff and bring that forward at the next meeting.

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

14. PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES AND COMMUNICATIONS.

14.1. Daryl Baker did not appear to address City Council.

14.2 Jeanie Sullivan addressed City Council regarding trash along the roads from vehicles going to the landfill. She expressed her belief the laws should be more strict regarding loads being tarped properly to prevent trash from coming out of the vehicles along the highway. Ms. Sullivan suggested penalties for loads that are not properly tarped.

Councilman Hosmer thanked Ms. Sullivan for coming to the meeting. He noted it is the responsibility of City Council and the City to ensure laws are in place and enforced.

Mr. Gage responded the City is reviewing the tarp law and wants to ensure the language regarding tarp laws is correct. He agreed it is important to look at the source, which includes commercial and personal vehicles. Mr. Gage noted the contact for concerns would be the City Manager's office.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked if there is a way to capture expenses for tipping fees. Mr. Gage responded this may have to go to a City Council Committee for review.

Councilman Schilling thanked Ms. Sullivan for attending. He responded it is important to enforce the law in regards to the trash problem. Ms. Sullivan noted she speaks to others about the trash and would like the laws to be enforced and expressed her belief that trash along the highways is a safety concern.

Councilman Ollis thanked Ms. Sullivan for speaking. He noted he had noticed an increase in the amount and type of trash. He expressed his belief more should be done to solve the problem and a long-term solution is needed.

Ms. Sullivan suggested having prisoners or those doing community service pick up the trash as part of their service. She also suggested a tax credit for citizens who volunteer to pick up trash.

Councilwoman Horton expressed her belief the requirement for the use and the quality of tarps should be improved.

15. NEW BUSINESS.

16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

17. MISCELLANEOUS.

18. CONSENT AGENDA – FIRST READING BILLS. See Item #3.

- 18.1. Council Bill 2023-057 (Horton) (Item number 18.1, Council Bill 2023-057, became item 13.1 under First Reading Bills.)

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 Troy Acres First Addition, generally located at 520 South Troy 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.) (By: Crawford-Mace, LLC; 520 South Troy Avenue; Preliminary Plat of Troy Acres, First Addition.)

- 18.2. Council Bill 2023-058 (Horton) **It is anticipated that City Council will vote on this bill at the March 20, 2023, City Council Meeting.**

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept a donation of \$45,000 from the Downtown Community Improvement District of Springfield, Missouri, to provide funds for additional on-street parking and improvements at the southeast corner of the intersection of Boonville and East Chestnut Street; and amending the budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 to appropriate the donation funds.

19. CONSENT AGENDA – ONE READING BILLS.

20. CONSENT AGENDA – SECOND READING BILLS.

21. END OF CONSENT AGENDA.

22. ADJOURN.

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