



City of Springfield

Minutes

City Council

Ken McClure, Mayor

Zone Councilmembers

Monica Horton, Zone 1
Abe McGull, Zone 2
Brandon Jenson, Zone 3
Matthew Simpson, Zone 4

General Councilmembers

Heather Hardinger, General A
Craig Hosmer, General B
Callie Carroll, General C
Derek Lee, General D

February 12, 2024

6:30 PM

**Regional Police-Fire
Training Center
2620 West Battlefield Road
Room 101, 102, and 103**

1. ROLL CALL.

Present: Councilmember Lee, Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, and Mayor McClure. Absent: None.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

2.1. Approval of Minutes. January 22, 2024, City Council Meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Simson moved to approve the January 22, 2024, minutes as presented. Councilmember McGull seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

3. FINALIZATION AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDAS.

CITIZENS WISHING TO SPEAK TO OR REMOVE ITEMS FROM THE CONSENT AGENDAS MUST DO SO AT THIS TIME.

The Consent Agenda was approved as presented by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

4. CEREMONIAL MATTERS.

4.1. Council Bill 2024-021 (Lee)

A resolution recognizing Jim Burks for forty-five years of exemplary, dedicated service as an employee of the City of Springfield.

Councilmember Lee read the resolution in its entirety.

Jason Gage, City Manager, noted the accomplishments of Mr. Burk during his forty-five-year career. He acknowledged Mr. Burk for his dedication and expressed his respect for the amount of time Mr. Burk dedicated to his career with the City.

Mayor McClure expressed his appreciation for Mr. Burk's long tenure and dedication to the Environmental Services Department.

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

Council Bill 2024-021 (Lee). Resolution 10742 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Mayor McClure presented Mr. Burks with the resolution.

Mr. Burks noted he has had great leadership over the years and expressed his appreciation for the support and for the opportunity to advance his career with the City of Springfield.

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

Mr. Gage noted the Springfield Police Department announced the launch of "Lights On," an innovative community-driven program that replaces tickets with no-cost repair vouchers. He added the program would allow a Springfield Police Officer to provide a voucher for free repair at a participating local auto repair shop when the traffic stop involves a mechanical violation (e.g., burned out light bulb, broken turn signal), instead of issuing a ticket for the violation. Mr. Gage further noted bringing the program to Springfield was an idea first discussed with the Police Chief's Citizen Advisory Group, which unanimously agreed to support the initiative.

Mr. Gage noted the next Forward SGF public engagement opportunity will be February 29, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Springfield Art Museum. Speaker Joe Minicozzi will return for a continuation of his discussion regarding the economics of community design. Mr. Gage noted the next City Council Retreat would be held on April 2 from noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Springfield Lake Boathouse located at 2312 Lake Springfield Park Road.

6. SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE.

Citizens Have Spoken. May Be Voted On.

6.1. Council Bill 2024-017 (Horton)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 0.11 acres of property generally located at 1530 North Broadway Avenue from HC, Highway Commercial to R-TH, Residential Townhouse; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (By: KDR Real Estate LLC; 1530 North Broadway Avenue; Z-32-2023).

Council Bill 2024-017 (Horton). Ordinance 6833 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

6.2. Council Bill 2024-018 (Jenson)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 1.26 acres of property generally located at 221, 225, and 227 East Sunshine Street from O-1, Office District to GR, General Retail with Conditional Overlay District No. 245, and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (By: Sanders Prop LLC; 221, 225, and 227 East Sunshine Street; Z-33-2023 w/Conditional Overlay District No. 245).

Councilman Jenson asked if landscaping requirements along Sunshine Street would be triggered if there were an administrative subdivision or development on the property. Steve Childers, Director of Planning and Development, responded affirmatively. Councilman Jenson asked if the developer had expressed any interest in pursuing incentives to pay for their private parking lot. Mr. Childers responded he did not believe so.

Council Bill 2024-018 (Jenson). Ordinance 6834 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

6.3. Council Bill 2024-019 (Simpson, Horton)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Chapter 78, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article I, In General, by adding a new Section 78-10, Monetary Prizes.

Mayor McClure asked Mr. Gage for any comments. Mr. Gage introduced Chris Hoeman, Chief Litigator, to provide clarification. Mr. Hoeman noted under City Code there was a requirement that operators of any coin-operated machines obtain a business license. He further noted knowing of one "no-chance" game operator that had obtained a license since 2019.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson complimented Mr. Hoeman and Mr. Paul, City Attorney, for their work on the issue.

He asked for clarification the ordinance would not affect establishments that offer non-monetary prizes for games. Mr. Hoeman responded affirmatively, broadly speaking. Mr. Hoeman noted any gift cards issued as a prize that have a monetary value may have to be discontinued. Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked if the ordinance would affect E-Sports games. Mr. Hoeman responded it would not as the prizes exist outside the games themselves, and they are based on competition.

Councilmember McGull asked if only one business obtained a license for the machines. Mr. Hoeman responded he was only aware of one and that was an annual license subject to renewal.

Councilmember Jenson asked who would enforce the ordinance. Mr. Hoeman responded the plan, if passed, was for the Police Department to provide education regarding the ordinance on the first day, and to begin issuing citations on the second day.

Councilmember Hosmer asked if monetary prize tickets that could be converted to store credit would be included and if there was a definition of store credit. Mr. Hoeman responded store credit is not specifically defined. He added the arcades were not a typical retail store as you cannot buy merchandise. Mr. Hoeman noted the record of the meeting is permanent and the legal interpretation was recorded. Mr. Hoeman noted E-Sports differ in that the prizes do not come from the machine. Councilmember Hosmer asked how the ordinance would allow the City to stop targeted gaming facilities. Mr. Hoeman responded the ordinance would affect games with monetary prizes, and this would be enforced under the ordinance. Illegal gambling would be prosecuted under State Law by the County Prosecutor. Mr. Hoeman noted the Police Department would investigate the machines. Councilmember Hosmer asked if activity at the gaming facilities could be prosecuted under the nuisance ordinance. Mr. Hoeman responded this had been looked at for the Plaza Shopping Center.

Mayor McClure noted the growth of entertainment devices which offer monetary prizes in the City over the past few years. He further noted the public comments from a diverse group of citizens showed overwhelming support. Mayor McClure noted what has been witnessed was the harm to public health, safety, and welfare caused by the devices. He added the proliferation of the entertainment devices have contributed to blight and crime, devalued properties, and had an overall negative impact. Mayor McClure noted no positive impact of the devices had been suggested. Mayor McClure expressed his strong support for the proposed.

Councilmember Horton expressed her support for the proposed and noted this would also be a benefit for the north side of Springfield as this area has waited far too long for improvement.

Councilmember Jenson thanked staff for their work on the ordinance. He expressed his belief that when personal choices have an overflow impact that negatively affects others, it is the responsibility of City Council to take action. Councilmember Jenson acknowledged the veterans' operations that would be impacted. Councilmember Jenson expressed his support for the proposed.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson thanked the Mayor for his words of support and Councilmember Horton for co-sponsoring the proposed. He thanked Mr. Hoeman for his work in drafting the

Council Bill. Mayor Pro Tem Simpson noted the impact the gaming businesses have on citizens. He noted the support that has been received via email. Mayor Pro Tem Simpson further noted the negative impact the issue has on addiction, poverty, and overall quality of place. He added many comments have been received from neighborhood associations and Police in support of the proposed. Mayor Pro Tem Simpson noted comments received in opposition to the proposed almost overwhelmingly support the overall goal of the bill. Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed his belief a more limited approach would not be effective and expressed his support for the proposed.

Council Bill 2024-019 (Simpson, Horton). Ordinance 6835 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

6.4. Council Bill 2024-020 (Lee)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Section 2-91, known as the 'Merit System Rules and Regulations,' by amending Merit Rule 8.12 "Reinstatement," to expand reinstatement options.

Council Bill 2024-020 (Lee). Ordinance 6836 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

7. **RESOLUTIONS.**

Citizens May Speak. May Be Voted On.

7.1. Council Bill 2024-022 (McGull)

A resolution granting a Short-Term Rental Type 2 permit for the property generally located at 1412 South Luster Avenue, for the purpose of allowing the establishment of a Short-Term Rental Type 2 pursuant to Section 36-473 of the Land Development Code.

Bob Hosmer, Planning Manager, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Hosmer noted the proposed would allow establishment of a short-term rental type 2 located at 1412 South Luster Avenue. He further noted the applicant was required to obtain signatures from fifty- five percent or more of the adjacent property owners, and the applicant received no signatures. Mr. Hosmer added property owners within 500 feet of the proposed were notified by regular mail.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Phil Williams, the property owner, spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Williams noted all adjacent properties were rentals except for one. He further noted the properties across the street were duplex type rentals.

Councilmember Hardinger asked Mr. Williams about the intended use for the property. Mr. Williams noted the desired clients are individuals traveling for business and families. He added they have lawncare and take care of the properties.

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

Council Bill 2024-022 (McGull). Resolution 10743 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, and Councilmember Hosmer. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

7.2. Council Bill 2024-023 (Hosmer)

A resolution authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to apply for up to \$25,000,000 in grant funds from the United States Department of Transportation Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Grant Program to fund the expansion and closing of gaps in the City's trail network and related infrastructure upgrades.

Amanda Ohlensehlen, Director of Economic Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Ohlensehlen noted the proposed would allow the City to apply for up to \$25 million in grant funds to upgrade and close gaps in the City's trail network. She added the improvements would occur on three miles of trail, resulting in a total of twenty-five miles of trail and increase trail connectivity. Ms. Ohlensehlen noted matching funds would not be required as the trail gaps are primarily in areas of persistent poverty or historically disadvantaged communities. Ms. Ohlensehlen further noted the trails provide a viable transportation network for all residents of Springfield.

Councilmember McGull asked if the amount applied for could include improving existing trails. Ms. Ohlensehlen noted the grant is targeted and would apply to the gaps in the trails but does enhance the trail network.

Councilmember Jenson commended City staff for their work on the proposed. He expressed his belief staff and City Council should be mindful of the maintenance of the trails.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Mary Kromrey, a representative of Ozark Greenways, addressed City Council in support of the proposed. Ms. Kromrey applauded the efforts of City staff and noted the history of the trail alignments.

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

Council Bill 2024-023 (Hosmer). Resolution 10744 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

7.3. Council Bill 2024-024 (Hardinger)

A resolution authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to submit a proposal to provide Administration and Grant Coordination Services to the Ozarks Headwaters Recycling and Materials Management District, also known as Missouri Solid Waste Management District O, for a five-year period, which expenses will be reimbursed to the City through Missouri Department of Natural Resources Waste Management Program Grant funds.

Errin Kemper, Director of Environmental Services, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Kemper noted the proposed would allow the City to submit a proposal to provide administration and grant coordination services to the Ozarks Headwaters Recycling and Materials Management District for a five-year period. He noted the expenses would be reimbursed to the City through the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Waste Management Program Grant funds. He further noted each district typically employs a planner and has regular board meetings. If approved the City would hire a full-time employee to serve as the City's Planner, and the City would recover any costs through the State's Waste Management Program.

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

Council Bill 2024-024 (Hardinger). Resolution 10745 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

7.4. Council Bill 2024-025 (Hardinger)

A resolution authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to apply for a State Revolving Fund loan of up to \$5,700,000, a Water Quality Incentive Grant, and an Affordability Grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, for the purpose of funding wastewater infrastructure projects required by the 2nd Amended Consent Judgment and approved Supplemental Overflow Control Plan.

Ron Petering, Assistant Director of Environmental Services, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Petering noted the proposed would allow the City to apply for a State Revolving Fund loan of up to \$5,700,000 for a Water Quality Incentive Grant and an Affordability Grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. He further noted the purpose of the funding would be for wastewater infrastructure projects required by the 2nd Amended Consent Judgment and approved Supplemental Overflow Control Plan. He added part of the plan includes pipe renewal. Mr. Petering noted the Water Quality Incentive Grant would be up to \$1 million.

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

Council Bill 2024-025 (Hardinger). Resolution 10746 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

7.5. Council Bill 2024-026 (Hosmer)

A resolution authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to apply for up to \$2,500,000 from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources State Revolving Fund Emerging Contaminants Grant for the purpose of funding a wastewater treatment technology project.

Errin Kemper, Director of Environmental Services, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Kemper noted the proposed would allow the City to apply for up to \$2,500,000 from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources State Revolving Fund Emerging Contaminants Grant to fund a wastewater treatment technology project. Mr. Kemper noted the Environmental Protection Agency is working towards new regulations on a number of contaminants. In anticipation of the regulations, the State is offering grants to cover 100 percent up to \$2.5 million for treatment plant improvements to remove the pollutants.

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

Council Bill 2024-026 (Hosmer). Resolution 10747 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

8. EMERGENCY BILLS.

9. PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

10. GRANTS.

11. AMENDED BILLS.

12. COUNCIL BILLS FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

Citizens May Speak. Not Anticipated To Be Voted On.

12.1. Council Bill 2024-027 (Simpson)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 38.5 acres of property generally located at 2730 East Farm Road 188 from Planned Development No. 288 to R-SF, Residential Single Family; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (By: Center Court, LLC; 2730 E. Farm Road 188; Z-3-2024).

Councilmember Lee recused himself from Council Bill 2024-027 and Council Bill 2024-028. Councilmember Lee left the dais.

Daniel Neal, Senior City Planner, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Neal noted the proposed would allow rezoning of approximately 38.5 acres of property located at 2730 East Farm Road 188 to Residential Single Family. Mr. Neal added the proposed use of the property would be a church. Mr. Neal noted a traffic study may be required at the time of development.

Mayor McClure asked if the property was currently vacant. Mr. Neal responded affirmatively.

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

12.2. Council Bill 2024-028 (Jenson)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 0.4 acres of property generally located at 3961 South Campbell Avenue from GR, General Retail to HC, Highway Commercial with Conditional Overlay District No. 248, and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (By: CONSPO, LLC; 3961 S. Campbell Avenue; Z-4-2024 w/ Conditional Overlay District No. 248).

Daniel Neal, Senior City Planner, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Neal noted the proposed would allow rezoning of approximately .4 acres of property located at 3961 South Campbell Avenue to Highway Commercial with Conditional Overlay District No. 248. Mr. Neal added the proposed use would be a car rental business. He noted the property is located next to a post office, and a traffic study would not be required.

Councilmember McGull asked what business would be at the location. Daniel Richards, a representative of the building owner, responded he believed the business would be a Hertz rental car establishment.

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

Councilmember Lee returned to the dais.

12.3. Council Bill 2024-029 (Horton)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 1 acre of property generally located at 701 West Wall Street from HM, Heavy Manufacturing to CC, Center City District; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (By: City of Springfield; 701 W. Wall Street; Z-5-2024).

Daniel Neal, Senior City Planner, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Neal noted the proposed would allow rezoning of 1 acre located at 701 West Wall Street to Center City District. Mr. Neal further noted the rezoning is to accommodate commercial amusement use and facilitate relocation of the Hotel of Terror. He added the rezoning would allow for a mix of uses and would better suit the property. A traffic study would not be required.

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

12.4. Council Bill 2024-030 (McGull)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 0.36 acres of property generally located at 1137 and 1141 East Delmar Street from R-SF, Residential Single-family district, within Phelps Grove Urban Conservation District No. 4, to Planned Development No. 387; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (By: MSU Housing, LLC & Faucett & Bates Properties, LLC; 1137 and 1141 East Delmar Street; Planned Development No. 387).

Anita Cotter, City Clerk, read Council Bill 2024-030 and 2024-031 together. Please see Council Bill 2024-031 for the summary.

12.5. Council Bill 2024-031 (McGull)

A general ordinance vacating a portion of public right-of-way located in the 1000 block of South Florence Avenue upon the occurrence of certain conditions. (By: Faucett & Bates Properties, LLC; 1000 block of South Florence Avenue, directly east of 1141 E. Delmar Street; Vacation No. 833).

Michael Sparlin, Senior City Planner, provided a brief overview of Council Bills 2024-030 and 2024-031 together. Mr. Sparlin noted the proposed would allow rezoning of 0.36 acres of property located at 1137 and 1141 East Delmar to Planned Development No. 387. Mr. Sparlin further noted the request would allow Bambino's restaurant to improve the site, including the kitchen and storage areas. He added the application includes the property to the west which is currently a single-family rental. Mr. Sparlin noted the restaurant intends to add a second story and design guidelines to increase compatibility with surrounding single-family homes. The plan would maximize allowed parking and sidewalks would be re-aligned to maximize pedestrian access.

Michael Sparlin noted the applicant is requesting vacation of an area of eight feet to the east to allow parking on the full width of the private property. The proposed would only extend to the curb.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Billy Kimmons, a representative of Hood-Rich Architecture, addressed City Council in support of the proposed. Mr. Kimmons noted the proposed would allow improvements to be made to the property. He commended City staff for their work on the project.

Councilmember McGull expressed his belief it is desirable to have a walkable restaurant in a neighborhood. He asked if the structure would be a new two-story structure. Mr. Kimmons responded the west side of the area would provide better seating and storage space, with some seating moved to the second floor. He added the kitchen would be rebuilt and improved. Mr. Kimmons noted the project would take approximately six months to complete.

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

13. FIRST READING BILLS.

Citizens May Speak. Not Anticipated To Be Voted On.

13.1. Council Bill 2024-032 (Hardinger)

A special ordinance amending the General Fund budget for the City of Springfield, Missouri, for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, by appropriating the remaining, accumulated carryover funds from Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and increasing expenses in the amount of \$6,485,810.

David Holtmann, Director of Finance, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Holtmann noted the proposed would allow approximately \$6.5 million in carryover funds from Fiscal Year 2022-2023 to be utilized for the following recommended items: \$1.35 million for Firefighter Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Sustainment; \$4,465,810 to Public Works for the Historic City Hall Project; \$188,000 to Parks for Cooper/Killian Project Improvements; \$200,000 to Public Works for an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transitional Plan Assessment; \$100,000 for Crisis Cold Weather Shelter Funding; and \$182,000 for the South Creek Greenway Trail.

Councilmember Hosmer asked how much of the \$6.5 million in funds was carryover versus additional revenue. Mr. Holtmann responded the total revenue was in excess of \$7 million. Councilmember Hosmer asked if \$2 million in carryover funds were from the Police Department. Mr. Holtmann responded affirmatively. Councilmember Hosmer asked if any funds had been received from the marijuana tax. Mr. Holtmann responded the tax is being collected, and no funds have been received to date. Councilmember Hosmer asked if any funds had been collected from the short-term rental additions to the Hotel-Motel tax. Mr. Holtmann responded numbers have not been finalized, but taxes have been collected from some entities. Councilmember Hosmer asked if any resources would be available for Police Officers who wish to be reinstated. Mr. Gage responded recommendations and a timeline are being reviewed.

Councilmember McGull asked if incentive pay could be offered for Police Officers who are ready to retire. Mr. Gage responded Federal ARPA dollars were approved for this use. A review would be conducted to determine the impact of this use.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Ashley Quinn spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Quinn noted the work that goes into crisis cold weather shelters. Mr. Quinn noted they have opened extra shelters and the peak capacity was 314 individuals. Mr. Quinn expressed his belief it would be optimal to obtain regular funding.

Councilmember Horton asked how Mr. Quinn would describe the current status of crisis cold weather shelter. Mr. Quinn responded current the current state is maxed to capacity and the system is stressed. He added the shelters are mostly volunteer ran and cannot open if there are no volunteers. Councilmember Horton asked if there is security in the areas. Mr. Quinn responded there is not a formal security and no manpower to secure outside areas. He expressed his belief it would be beneficial to have a paid staff for the shelters and for employers to provide incentives for individuals to volunteer.

Katrin Scott-Herd spoke in support of the proposed. Ms. Scott-Herd spoke in support of using funds for crisis cold weather shelter. She noted her experience and noted there is one meal site and approximately five cold weather shelters. Ms. Scott-Herd noted they do not have accommodations for elderly or handicapped individuals, and none for families. She added there is a lack of volunteers available. Ms. Scott-Herd noted the amount of work to be done by volunteers leaves no time for them to develop relationships with sheltered individuals.

Emily Bowen-Marler spoke in support of the proposed. Ms. Bowen-Marler asked the City of Springfield to consider contributing more funds to crisis cold weather shelters. She added expressed her belief this type of work should be done by paid staff. Ms. Bowen-Marler noted resources are spread among various locations and a great deal of time is needed to complete necessary tasks.

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

13.2. Council Bill 2024-033 (Lee)

A special ordinance authorizing a budget adjustment amending the budget of the Police Department for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 in the amount of \$1,802,250 to appropriate reserves from the Law Enforcement Sales Tax Fund for replacement of the roof of the Police annex, replacement of windows at the Police headquarters, and providing additional funding for the Police firing range.

David Holtmann, Director of Finance, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Holtmann noted the proposed would allow a budget adjustment in the amount of \$1,802,250 to appropriate reserves from the Law Enforcement Sales Tax Fund for replacement of the Police annex roof, replacement of windows at Police Headquarters, and additional funding for the Police firing range. Mr. Holtman added the tax fund has taken in more money than it had in the past. He noted the funds must be used for Police/Law Enforcement.

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

13.3. Council Bill 2024-034 (Carroll)

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to enter into a Contract of Obligation with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources whereby the City agrees to financially secure the future closure and post-closure care of all currently active and previously completed portions of the City's Noble Hill Sanitary Landfill.

Erick Roberts, Assistant Director of Environmental Services, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Roberts noted the proposed would allow the City to amend the existing Contract of Obligation with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The amendment is a required routine annual process to maintain compliance with State and Federal Solid Waste Regulations. Mr. Roberts noted the regulations require landfill owners to maintain a financial assurance instrument to cover cost associated with proper closure and post-closure care of the facilities. He added costs can change annually. The proposed acts as a mechanism to secure funds to meet long-term needs. The adjustment requested is \$752,527 for a total obligation of \$18,035,343.

Councilmember Hosmer asked if the way the contract is paid is through a contract with the State and if the City of Springfield is obligated to supply the funds if unable to secure closure and post-closure. Mr. Roberts responded there are a long set of details that concern closure and post-closure care. Councilmember Hosmer asked the life expectancy of the current landfill. Mr. Roberts responded between fifty and seventy-five years. A decrease in life expectancy has occurred over the past five years. Councilmember Hosmer asked where another landfill could be sited if necessary. Mr. Roberts responded the City owns 1,000 to 1,100 acres at the facility. Councilmember Hosmer expressed his belief it would be beneficial to take actions which would extend the life of the landfill.

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

13.4. Council Bill 2024-035 (Hosmer)

A general ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to execute utility easement(s) to Southwest Electric Cooperative as needed for expansion and relocation of transmission and distribution systems required for operation of the City's landfill; and to enter into a service agreement with Southwest Electric Cooperative for electric service.

Erick Roberts, Assistant Director of Environmental Services, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Roberts noted the proposed would allow the department to enter into utility easements with Southwest Electric Cooperative for utility services at the landfill. He added the utilities must be expanded and upgraded as necessary as the landfill expands.

Councilmember Hosmer asked what was being done with gas that City Utilities used for power generation. Mr. Roberts responded landfill gas extraction is currently being expanded, and it is hoped the updated collection system would be online this summer.

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

13.5. Council Bill 2024-036 (Simpson, Carroll, McGull, Hardinger)

A special ordinance amending Special Ordinance 27834 to revise funding appropriated for continuing COVID-19 services; amending the budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 to appropriate funds from the City's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, for the Council of Churches of the Ozarks, Inc., congregate shelter proposal in the amount of \$1,100,000 as recommended by the City Council American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Review Committee; authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to enter into a funding agreement with the Council of Churches of the Ozarks, Inc; and authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to enter into an amended agreement with Forvis, LLP, for the purpose of providing grant compliance services and subrecipient monitoring services.

Mayor McClure recused himself from Council Bill 2024-036.

Councilmember Carroll disclosed she was a former board member for the Council of Churches.

Collin Quigley, Deputy City Manager, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Quigley noted the proposed would amend the previous American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds ordinance by reducing it by \$1.1 million, amend the current budget for Safe to Sleep Emergency Shelter in the amount of \$1.1 million, authorize the City Manager to enter into a funding agreement with the Council of Churches, and authorize the City Manager to enter into an amended agreement with Forvis, LLP, to provide grant compliance services and subrecipient monitoring services. Mr. Quigley further noted the ARPA Review Committee met on January 11, 2024, and recommended funding for Council of Churches of the Ozarks congregate shelter proposal in the amount of \$1.1 million. He added the Council of Churches is proposing to purchase and renovate a property for the Safe to Sleep Women's Emergency Shelter.

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

14. PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES AND COMMUNICATIONS.

14.1. David Sanzone wishes to address City Council. Did Not Appear.

14.2. Don Harkey wishes to address City Council.

Don Harkey expressed his belief there would be opportunity to have entrepreneurs involved and interested in the Springfield community through the removal of barriers. Mr. Harkey expressed his belief it is necessary to make the City of Springfield easier to work with. He added he has worked with the City and described his experience. Mr. Harkey noted he speaks with businesses which have given up due to difficulty in working with the City. Mr. Harkey asked the City to become an ally with business owners.

Councilmember Lee thanked Mr. Harkey for speaking. He asked if Mr. Harkey believes the culture could be changed through Code updates. Mr. Harkey responded they are a good first step but do not change culture. Councilmember Lee expressed his belief there could be more flexibility. He noted he would appreciate Mr. Harkey's involvement.

Councilmember McGull thanked Mr. Harkey for bringing the matter to City Council's attention. He asked if performance is periodically evaluated. Mr. Gage responded affirmatively. Councilmember McGull asked if there was a liaison to act between developers and City staff. Mr. Gage responded the Project Facilities Coordinator fills this role.

Councilmember Carroll asked if Mr. Harkey has worked with cities in the past and asked what solutions he noticed in other cities. Mr. Harkey noted a shift in culture would be needed to enact change.

Councilmember Horton noted an individual does not have to wait for an item to be on the agenda before they come and speak to City Council.

14.3. Jordan Gladys Hensley wishes to address City Council.

Jordan Hensley addressed City Council. Ms. Hensley, a Personal Care Assistant (PCA) worker for the last three years, who works at Jenny Lind Apartments, expressed her belief there is a need to report findings of abuse and neglect. Ms. Hensley noted reporting these findings to Building Development Services, Adult Protective Services, Jenny Lind Management, the Department of Health and Senior Services, and the Springfield Fire Department. Ms. Hensley expressed her belief the establishment is not safe or sanitary. She added there is mold, no central elevators, bedbugs, roaches, and no working air.

Councilmember Hardinger asked the location of Jenny Lind Hall. Ms. Hensley responded 711 South Jefferson.

Councilmember Hosmer asked where Ms. Hensley reported to. Ms. Hensley reiterated the above agencies. She reported receiving no feedback to her reporting.

14.4. Elvester Kennedy wishes to address City Council. Did Not Appear.

14.5. Sarah Hines wishes to address City Council.

Sarah Hines addressed City Council. Ms. Hines shared her experience with renting in Springfield. She noted living seven years in the same building and each year the air goes out, taking a week to fix the unit. Ms. Hines expressed her belief the landlord collects enough rent to maintain equipment and safety standards while remaining profitable. She expressed her belief property management companies take advantage of renters. Ms. Hines noted she would like to see licensing for rental units with background checks and inspections.

Councilman McGull asked the rent Ms. Hines pays and the size of the unit. Ms. Hines responded \$860 per month for a two-bedroom unit.

14.6. Michael Rodrigues wishes to address City Council.

Michael Rodrigues addressed City Council. Mr. Rodrigues expressed his belief landlords only meet the bare minimum requirements for individuals with accessibility issues. He noted finding accessible and affordable homes is a challenge. Mr. Rodrigues expressed his belief individuals should be able to age at home with dignity, and safe and affordable housing should be available. He noted the risks that can be encountered as a renter, including risk of eviction. He noted a right to counsel should be available.

Councilmember Jenson asked if Mr. Rodrigues had heard of Home Team. Mr. Rodrigues responded he had. Councilman Jenson noted the Code updates would include some universal design.

14.7. Adam Edwards wishes to address City Council.

Adam Edwards addressed City Council. He noted standing in support with tenants at Jenny Lind Apartments and Springfield Tenants Unite. Mr. Edwards encouraged everyone to do their part to assist the community, as each member of the community is essential. He noted the importance of safe and affordable housing.

14.8. Jai Byrd wishes to address City Council.

Jai Byrd addressed City Council. Mr. Byrd expressed his belief urgency in addressing housing issues is lacking in the City. Mr. Byrd noted the countless number of citizens that are without homes or unstably housed due to a lack of housing rights. He expressed his belief there is a lack of action from the top. Mr. Byrd noted the challenges of moving forward and the importance of implementing a housing solution. He expressed his belief every individual should be able to live with dignity and hope.

14.9. Deanna Bergren wishes to address City Council. Withdrew.

14.10. Correna Jane wishes to address City Council.

Correna Jane addressed City Council. Ms. Jane noted the unsafe conditions of each home she had rented. She expressed her belief licensing and inspections would be beneficial to all citizens. Ms. Jane expressed her belief housing safety and accessibility should be a City Council priority.

14.11. Sarah Barnts wishes to address City Council.

Sarah Barnts addressed City Council. Ms. Barnts expressed her belief Building Development services proposal to use marijuana tax funds, or a housing licensing program should be supported. Ms. Barnts noted having a right to counsel program reduces eviction and homelessness. She expressed her belief such a program would be beneficial to renters.

14.12. Alice Barber wishes to address City Council.

Alice Barber addressed City Council. Ms. Barber expressed her belief housing must be a priority for Springfield to provide safe, accessible, and affordable housing for all citizens. Ms. Barber expressed her belief homeless could be ended in Springfield by providing protection for tenants. Ms. Barber noted everyone in Springfield should have access to safe and affordable housing. Ms. Barber asked that housing be a City Council priority.

Councilmember Horton noted there would be a City Council Retreat on April 2, 2024, at the Lake Springfield Boathouse to continue the discussion on housing.

Councilmember Lee thanked Ms. Barber for speaking. He noted the contrast between rent that is too high and unsafe housing. Councilmember Lee noted he wants change, but as regulations are added, the cost will go up. Councilmember Lee expressed his belief the vast majority of rentals are safe, and he would like change that is tempered in a way that rents do not increase.

Ms. Barber expressed her belief regulations could be enacted without raising rent prices.

Councilmember Hardinger thanked Ms. Barber for speaking. She noted the importance of hearing people's stories and expressed her belief the struggle to find affordable housing is valid.

Councilmember Jenson thanked Ms. Barber for speaking. He recognized the importance of the issue. Councilmember Jenson expressed his belief there are a majority of good people on both sides, and it is important to be targeted in the approach moving forward.

15. NEW BUSINESS.

- 15.1. As per RSMo. 109.230 (4), City records that are on file in the City Clerk's office and have met the retention schedule will be destroyed in compliance with the guidelines established by the Secretary of State's office.
- 15.2. Refer to the Community Involvement Committee consideration of re-establishing the Jail Diversion Program. Referred.
- 15.3. The Mayor recommends the following appointment to the Mayor's Commission for Children: Christen Davis with term to expire November 29, 2025. Recommended.
- 15.4. The Mayor recommends the following appointment to the Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority: Steven Jackson with term to expire March 1, 2027. Recommended.
- 15.5. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following appointment to the Board of Equalization: Kaeli Burkett with term to expire April 1, 2026. Recommended.
- 15.6. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following appointment to the Landmarks Board: Wanda Quintana with term to expire November 1, 2026. Recommended.
- 15.7. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following appointments to the Personnel Board: Robert Brown and Michael Jarvis with terms to expire March 1, 2026. Recommended.
- 15.8. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following appointment to the Personnel Board: David Coonis with term to expire March 1, 2025. Recommended.
- 15.9. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following appointment to the Personnel Board: Lyn McKenzie with term to expire March 1, 2027. Recommended.

15.10. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission: Randall Doennig with term to expire January 1, 2025. Recommended.

16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

17. MISCELLANEOUS.

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

18.1. Council Bill 2024-037 (McClure)

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to accept a grant from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks to cover the costs of decor and furnishings for Santa's House at Park Central Square in the amount of \$2,500.

18.2. Council Bill 2024-038 (Carroll)

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to accept a grant from the Gary Sinise Foundation, in the amount of \$35,000, to be used by the Springfield Police Department for officer wellness initiatives; and amending the budget of the Police Department.

19. CONSENT AGENDA – ONE READING BILLS.

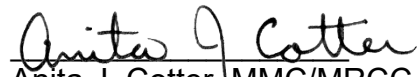
20. CONSENT AGENDA – SECOND READING BILLS.

21. END OF CONSENT AGENDA.

22. ADJOURN.

Councilmember Jenson moved to adjourn. Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee. Nays: Councilmember Hosmer. Absent: Mayor McClure. Abstain: None.

Prepared by: Michelle Brown


Anita J. Cotter, MMC/MRCC
City Clerk