



City of Springfield

Minutes

City Council Meeting

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

March 24, 2025

6:30 PM

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

1. ROLL CALL.

Mayor McClure acknowledged a tragic accident had occurred at the Springfield City Landfill. He noted a member of the employee family was fatally injured and asked all to keep Larry Flett and his family in their prayers. Mayor McClure expressed thanks for Larry's service and sacrifice.

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

2.1. Approval of Minutes. March 10, 2025, City Council Meeting, and March 11, 2025, March 12, 2025, and March 18, 2025, Special City Council Meetings.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson moved to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2025, City Council Meeting, and March 11, 2025, March 12, 2025, and March 18, 2025, Special City Council Meetings as presented. Councilmember Hosmer seconded the motion, and it 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.

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 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.

4. CEREMONIAL MATTERS.

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

Collin Quigley, Interim City Manager, acknowledged his appreciation for the moment of reflection for Larry Flett. He noted the City was deeply saddened by the loss. Mr. Quigley further noted Mr. Flett was a dedicated public servant, having served with the Police Department and Environmental Services.

6. SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE.

Citizens Have Spoken. May Be Voted On.

6.1. Council Bill 2025-044 (Horton)

A general ordinance amending Section 1-9 of the Springfield City Code, 'City Limits,' and Section 46-1 of the Springfield City Code, 'Boundaries of wards, precincts and council zones,' for the purpose of annexing approximately 429.04 acres of City-owned property generally located at 3825 West Farm Road 146; 1103 and 1108 South Icicle Lane; 1210 South Farm Road 123; 3521 North Farm Road 115; 5703 West Farm Road 104; property north of the 5500 through 5800 blocks of West Farm Road 104; the n/s 5900 block of West Farm Road 104; 3007 South Kauffman Road; 2815 South State Highway FF; the s/s 4400 block of West Brookline Road; and portions of right-of-way for Farm Road 104 and Farm Road 115 into the City of Springfield as Annexation A-1-2025.

Ordinance 6915. Council Bill 2025-044 (Horton) 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, Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

6.2. Council Bill 2025-045 (Carroll)

A general ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, "Land Development Code," by deleting Article I, "Administration and Enforcement of Codes," Article IV, "Building Trades Examination and Certification Board," Article V, "Building Code," Article VI, "Electrical Code," Article VII, "International Property Maintenance Code," Article VIII, "Plumbing Code," Article IX, "Mechanical Code," Article X, "Uniform Enforcement Procedures," Article XI, "Child Day Care," Article XII, "Preservation of Structures in Certain Areas of the City," Article XIII, "International Residential Code," Article XIV, "Fuel Gas Code," Article XV, "Private Sewage Disposal Code," Article XVI, "Existing Building Code," Article XVII, "Floodplain Management," Article XVIII, "Swimming Pool and Spa Code," and Article XIX, "2018 International Energy Conservation Code"; and enacting a new Chapter 38, "Building Development Codes," Article I, "Administration and Enforcement of Codes," Article II, "Building Trades examination and Certification Board," Article III, "Building Code," Article IV, "Electrical Code," Article V, "International Property Maintenance Code," Article VI, "Plumbing Code," Article VII, "Mechanical Code," Article VIII, "Uniform Enforcement Procedures," Article IX, "Child Day Care," Article X, "Preservation of Structures in Certain Areas of the City," Article XI, "International Residential Code," Article XII, "Fuel Gas Code," Article XIII, "Private Sewage Disposal Code," Article XIV, "Existing Building Code," Article XV, "Floodplain Management," Article XVI, "Swimming Pool and Spa Code," and Article XVII, "2018 International Energy Conservation Code."

Councilmember Lee expressed his opposition to the proposed. He noted a similar proposal introduced multifamily design guidelines which resulted in significantly less housing and growth in the city.

Councilmember Hosmer asked if the proposed was a recodification of Chapter 36. Steve Childers, Director of Planning and Development, responded affirmatively. Mr. Childers noted Chapter 36 would be for Planning and Development, and Chapter 38 would apply to Building Development Services. He added there were substantive changes to processes and procedures.

Councilmember Jenson expressed his support for the proposed. He noted the Neighborhood Advisory Council was in support of the proposed and expressed his excitement to hear the Economic Vitality Department would be meeting with neighborhoods to identify areas for economic opportunity. Councilmember Jenson noted he would like to see a consideration of an incentives package and the potential for innovative incentives come before the Finance and Administration Committee. He added he would be interested in opportunities to offer relaxed design requirements when properties were offering housing at an attainable rate.

Councilmember McGull asked if the codes would be immediately enforced or abated for a year for study. Mr. Childers responded there would be a period of time the code would be used to work with customers to evaluate the projects they submit under the new guidelines. He added this period would show how the codes would affect the business community.

Ordinance 6916. Council Bill 2025-045 (Carroll) was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, and Mayor McClure. Nays: Councilmember Lee. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

6.3. Council Bill 2025-046 (Hosmer)

A general ordinance amending Chapter 36 of the Springfield City Code, "Land Development Code," by deleting Article II "Subdivision Regulations" and Article III "Zoning Regulations," and enacting a new Chapter 36, "Land Development Code," Article 1, "General Provisions," Article 2, "Procedures," Article 3, "Subdivision & Community Design," Article 4, "District & uses," Article 5, "Residential Development & Design," Article 6, "Nonresidential Development & Design," Article 7, "Access & Parking," Article 8, "Landscape & Site Design," Article 9, "Signs," Article 10, "Supplemental Districts & Standards," and Article 11, "Definitions," in lieu thereof.

Councilmember Horton noted she was fully aligned with City Council's priority of Quality of Place. Councilmember Horton expressed her belief there were tradeoffs on both sides regarding the need to improve standards. Councilmember Horton asked if the Quality of Place Director had any comments. She asked what his role had been in the code updates.

Tim Rosenbury, Director of Quality of Place Initiatives, noted the work was led and managed mostly by staff in Planning and Development, and he was involved in approximately half of the internal staff meetings. Mr. Rosenbury further noted he met with various staff and directors to ensure the Comprehensive Plan, and the new code had the desirable outcome. He expressed his belief professionals who use the code would find it to be different. Mr. Rosenbury expressed what he liked about the code was that it aligned closely with the Quality of Place description and asks users to think through things in order from the corridor, through the neighborhood and on to the site. He added the Comprehensive Plan set forth a vision of the City to be carried out primarily by the private sector and the new code would allow that to be done. Mr. Rosenbury expressed his belief the changes would make Springfield a more attractive place, not only visually but also attracting future prosperity.

Councilmember Horton asked if the changes were anticipated to accomplish the desired outcome for housing. Mr. Rosenbury responded he had not heard stakeholders view the changes as not achieving desired housing.

Councilmember Lee asked Mr. Rosenbury if he had looked at the numbers before multi-family design guidelines were implemented versus after, to determine if housing increased or decreased. Mr. Rosenbury responded he had concerns regarding the multi-family matrix and noted there may be a correlation between that and a housing shortage, although it may not be the cause. Councilmember Lee noted he had listed several reasons including interest rates, tariffs, and redevelopment in the city. He further noted these could not be changed, but the city could affect how expensive development was made to be. Councilmember Lee noted one way to reduce overall housing was to increase the quality and design costs.

Ordinance 6917. Council Bill 2025-046 (Hosmer) was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, and Mayor McClure. Nays: Councilmember Lee. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

6.4. Council Bill 2025-048 (McClure, Hosmer)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Chapter 106, Traffic and Vehicles, Article V, Operation, Division 1, Generally, Section 106-190, Passing Other Vehicles Traveling in the Same Direction, for the purpose of prohibiting the practice of lane splitting or lane filtering by motorcycles, bicycles, and micromobility devices.

Ordinance 6918. Council Bill 2025-048 (McClure, Hosmer) 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.

6.5. Council Bill 2025-049 (Carroll)

A special ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget for the Department of Environmental Services in the amount of \$352,000 to appropriate retained earnings from the Clean Water Fund for the design of the Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant Process Enhancements Project.

Ordinance 28117. Council Bill 2025-049 (Carroll) 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.

6.6. Council Bill 2025-050 (Hosmer)

A special ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget for the Department of Environmental Services in the amount of \$990,000 to appropriate retained earnings from the Clean Water Fund for the design of the Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant Centrifuge Replacement Project.

Ordinance 28118. Council Bill 2025-050 (Hosmer) 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.

6.7. Council Bill 2025-051 (Hardinger)

A special ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget for the Department of Environmental Services in the amount of \$707,000 to appropriate retained earnings from the Clean Water Fund for the design of the Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant Foam Fractionation Project.

Ordinance 28119. Council Bill 2025-051 (Hardinger) 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.

6.8. Council Bill 2025-052 (Hardinger)

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 Classifications of the Professional, Administrative and Technical Non-Union Schedule by adding two new job titles; and the Classifications of the Crafts, Trades, and Labor Union Schedule by adding one new job title; and amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget of Parks to reallocate one Full-Time Equivalent position; and the budget of the Airport to add two new Full-Time Equivalent positions and to appropriate \$39,377.86 in funds for such Airport positions.

Ordinance 6919. Council Bill 2025-052 (Hardinger) 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.

6.9. Council Bill 2025-053 (Hardinger)

A special ordinance authorizing the General Manager of City Utilities of Springfield, Missouri ("City Utilities") or designee, on behalf of City Utilities, to enter into a change order agreement with Forvis Mazars LLP, in the amount of \$100,000, to provide professional auditing services to City Utilities for fiscal year 2025.

Ordinance 28120. Council Bill 2025-053 (Hardinger) 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.

6.10. Council Bill 2025-054 (Carroll)

A general ordinance adopting revisions to the City Utilities Service Rules and Regulations which provide for the terms and conditions by which customers accept service from City Utilities.

Councilmember Horton asked if a clause in the service rules protected property owners from unauthorized utility services being initiated on their property by someone other than the owner. Drew Hilpert, City Utilities Interim Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, responded the red line would not change the current practices. He added the current practice would allow a tenant with some form of authorization to sign up for services. He noted they were examining that to attempt to obtain some communication with the landlord as well. He added customer service, as he understood, would request a copy of the lease agreement.

Councilmember Jenson asked for clarification on the section related to transformer installations and transformer vaults. He asked if the changes prevented City Utilities from having to make improvements. Mr. Hilpert responded the purpose was to eliminate the specific reference to the 122 40-volt service connection and make it broader. He added the red lines would not change that situation.

Councilmember Jenson asked why the City Utilities Service Rules were required to come before City Council. Mr. Hilpert responded when they were initially drafted, they were applicable to all customers and had some effects on the rates they might pay. Councilmember Jenson asked if the addition on page seven allowed City Utilities to enact rules and regulations that were reasonable and necessary and not inconsistent with the policy. He expressed his belief that seemed to shift some of the scope out of the rules and regulations and broaden the ability of City Utilities to make changes without coming before City Council. Mr. Hilpert responded the goal was to fill gaps in processes and procedures.

Ordinance 6920. Council Bill 2025-054 (Carroll) 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.

6.11. Council Bill 2025-055 (Hosmer)

A special ordinance authorizing and directing the issuance, sale and delivery by the City of Springfield, Missouri, of Public Utility Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2025; prescribing the form and details of said Public Utility Refunding Revenue Bonds and the covenants and agreements made by the City to facilitate and protect the payment and security thereof; 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 pursuant to Section 2.12(3) of the City Charter.

Ordinance 28121. Council Bill 2025-055 (Hosmer) 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.

6.12. Council Bill 2025-056 (Carroll)

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to accept Business Services grant funding from the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development in the amount of \$80,000; and amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget of the Department of Economic Vitality and Workforce Development in the amount of \$80,000.

Ordinance 28122. Council Bill 2025-056 (Carroll) 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.

6.13. Council Bill 2025-057 (Simpson)

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Chapter 2, "Administration," Article VI, "Finances," Division 4, "Police Officers' and Fire Fighters' Retirement System," by amending Section 2-461(c) and enacting a new Section 2-485, "Permissive Service Credit."

Ordinance 6921. Council Bill 2025-057 (Simpson) 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.

6.14. Council Bill 2025-062 (Lee)

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to accept a donation in the amount of \$4,600 from Kingdom Crafters, LLC to purchase ballistic vests for police service canines.

Mayor McClure noted Council Bill 2025-062 was first read on March 10, 2025, as a Consent Agenda item. He further noted the proposed was removed from the Consent Agenda to thank Kingdom Crafters, LLC, for providing the ballistic vests for the City's canine service animals. He added the individual responsible with Kingdom Crafters was Mr. Landon Brumley. Mayor McClure publicly thanked Mr. Brumley for the vests.

Ordinance 28123. Council Bill 2025-062 (Lee) 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 2025-063 (Committee of the Whole)

A resolution appointing the Citizens' Advisory Board for the 3/4-cent sales tax approved by the qualified voters of the City of Springfield, Missouri, on November 5, 2024, and providing direction in the discharge of its duties.

Jordan Paul, City Attorney, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Paul noted the proposed would allow for creation of a Citizens' Advisory Board, to be responsible for reviewing and making recommendations for the portion of the tax dedicated to funding projects consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Paul further noted the proposed would finalize the selections and expectations.

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

Resolution 10817. Council Bill 2025-063 (Committee of the Whole) 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.

7.2. Council Bill 2025-064 (Hardinger, Horton, McClure)

A resolution encouraging development in food deserts to improve community health and accessibility.

Councilmember Horton provided a brief overview of the proposed. She expressed her belief it was important to raise awareness about food deserts in Springfield and determine how that was ultimately correlated with life expectancy. Councilmember Horton added community gardens and other non-profits often picked up the slack with donor and philanthropy-driven revenue sources and public grant dollars. Councilmember Horton added understanding where the food deserts were located and the effects on adjacent neighborhoods was important. She expressed her hope the proposed would provide good guidance to City staff in terms of how businesses were solicited, encouraged, and incentivized to address food deserts.

Councilmember Hardinger expressed her support for the proposed. She noted the resolution underscored City Council's commitment to addressing food deserts in the City. Councilmember Hardinger further noted neighborhoods within the City struggled with ready access to healthy, affordable food within walking distance from home. She expressed her belief it was a matter of health equity and economic stability for all residents, and a meaningful step toward alleviating gaps. Councilmember Hardinger noted by encouraging grocery store development, farmers' markets, urban farming, and community gardens, they were taking intentional steps to expand access to essential components of a healthy diet.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Dan Shaul, Executive State Director for the Missouri Grocers Association, spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Shaul noted the Missouri Grocers Association represented the grocery industry throughout Missouri. He further noted they were the stores that gave back to the community. Mr. Shaul expressed his appreciation for the food desert issue being brought forward and noted they were committed to helping with the issue.

Councilmember Hardinger asked if there were any planned developments in the future for Springfield. Mr. Shaul responded retailers in the city were always looking for more opportunities to service their consumers, and working together could assist in that.

Mayor McClure thanked Mr. Shaul for his service in the General Assembly.

Maile Auterson, Founding Director of Springfield Community Gardens, spoke in support of the proposed. Ms. Auterson expressed her belief it was important to speak about the history behind a food desert. She noted there were currently 15 community gardens, two urban farms, and food hubs. She added last year they moved over a million dollars in food with neighbors and 432 volunteers. Ms. Auterson encouraged City Council to continue to help the city have a community where everyone had access to healthy local food.

Councilmember Jenson thanked Ms. Auterson for the work she had done with the community garden and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to engage with the West Central Community Garden and learn the importance of local food. He asked Ms. Auterson what challenges she was seeing while moving forward. Ms. Auterson responded they were developing small micro-food hubs in each neighborhood, and they had lost approximately \$2.2 million in funding over the last three years. She added those funds were used to support local farmers and distribute food to food pantries across Greene County.

Councilmember Horton thanked Ms. Auterson for speaking and asked her to elaborate on some of the key points that were included in Forward SGF. Ms. Auterson responded this was in the neighborhood part of the plan because they wanted quality of life in neighborhoods and also for children to know where their food came from. She noted they had graduated 36 interns for small farms, and it was important to add the educational aspect to food in neighborhoods. Ms. Auterson added they were working on adding two small grocery stores, one at the Blue Heron on Commercial Street and one at the Fairbanks. Councilmember Horton asked if Ms. Auterson would be willing to partner with the previous speaker who was in the grocery business. Ms. Auterson responded they would be a good advisory source.

Councilmember Carroll asked if Ms. Auterson would be open to working with the fairgrounds for a weekly farmer's market. Ms. Auterson expressed her belief that every neighborhood could benefit from a farmer's market.

Brian Paschall spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Paschall noted there used to be several small grocery stores in his area. He expressed his belief a good family restaurant would be beneficial to the area. Mr. Paschall noted several locations that could be used for grocery stores or farmer's markets.

Christina Ryder, Missouri State University Sociology Instructor, spoke in support of the proposed. Ms. Ryder noted she had worked with Springfield Community Gardens for approximately 15 years in procurement of some federal and foundation funding. She further noted 1-in-5 individuals in the city were food insecure and food insecurity remained significant in the community. Ms. Ryder added cuts in federal funds would greatly impact the availability and accessibility of fresh and affordable foods.

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

Mayor McClure noted he was pleased to join his colleagues as a co-sponsor of the proposed. He expressed his belief that underdeveloped areas needed to have access to good quality food.

Councilmember McGull expressed his support for the proposed.

Resolution 10818. Council Bill 2025-064 (Hardinger, Horton, McClure) 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.

Citizens May Speak. May Be Voted On.

10.1. Council Bill 2025-065 (Horton)

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to enter into a Transportation Enhancements Funds Supplemental Agreement #2 with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the purpose of constructing the Mt. Vernon and Miller Sidewalks Project; amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget in the amount of \$841,236 to appropriate the federal Transportation Alternatives Program funds; and declaring that this Ordinance qualifies for approval in one reading pursuant to City Charter Section 2.16(25).

Evan Bergmann, Engineer II, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Bergmann noted the proposed would allow acceptance of grant funding for the construction of the Mount Vernon and Miller Sidewalks Project. Mr. Bergmann further noted the project would fill sidewalk gaps for locations in close proximity to a school and a church. He added the funding was through the Transportation Alternatives Grant Program and was 80 percent funded with a 20 percent local match.

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

Ordinance 28124. Council Bill 2025-065 (Horton) 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.

10.2. Council Bill 2025-066 (Simpson)

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to enter into a Transportation Enhancements Funds Supplemental Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the purpose of constructing the South Creek Greenway (Fremont to Glenstone) Project; amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget in the amount of \$644,270 to appropriate the federal Carbon Reduction Program funds; and declaring that this Ordinance qualifies for approval in one reading pursuant to City Charter Section 2.16(25).

Evan Bergmann, Engineer II, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Bergmann noted the proposed would allow acceptance of grant funding for the construction of the South Creek Greenway Fremont to Glenstone Project. Mr. Bergmann further noted the proposed would involve constructing a multi-use path on the south side of Sunset Street from Fremont Avenue to Glenstone Avenue. He added it would traverse along the north side of Meador Park and along the north side of the Battlefield Mall property. Mr. Bergmann noted the funding was through the Carbon Reduction Program grant and was 80 percent grant funded with a 20 percent local match.

Councilmember Hosmer asked if there were plans for a pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Fremont and Sunset. Mr. Bergmann responded there would be a traditional pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Fremont Avenue and Sunset Street, and a north-to-south pedestrian crossing on the west side of Sunset Street and Glenstone Avenue. He added there would be a west-to-east crossing across Glenstone Avenue to access the Brentwood Shopping Center. Mr. Bergmann noted the crossing would be traditional pedestrian signals with push buttons.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson thanked Mr. Bergmann for his work on the project. He noted that in addition to the improvements, there was an existing elevated pedestrian walkway just west of Delaware crossing Sunset Street that would connect to the new path.

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

Ordinance 28125. Council Bill 2025-066 (Simpson) 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.

11. AMENDED BILLS.

12. COUNCIL BILLS FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

13. FIRST READING BILLS. Requiring One Reading.

14. FIRST READING BILLS. Requiring Two Readings.

Citizens May Speak. Not Anticipated To Be Voted On.

14.1. Council Bill 2025-067 (Carroll)

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to accept funding from the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development's Missouri Strategies for Training and Apprentice Readiness grant in the amount of \$150,000, to be utilized for the creation and support of pre-apprenticeship programs; enter into necessary agreements to carry out the purpose of the grant funds; and amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget of the Department of Economic Vitality and Workforce Development in the amount of \$150,000.

Amanda Ohlensehlen, Director of Economic Vitality and Workforce Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Ohlensehlen noted the funding was part of the Apprenticeship Building America grant the State was awarded by the Department of Labor. She further noted the sub-award from the State was \$150,000 and granted through a competitive application process. Ms. Ohlensehlen added the award would allow continuation of work with registered apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs. Ms. Ohlensehlen noted in 2023 they were awarded a \$3 million grant and had made great strides by enrolling more than 500 individuals into registered apprenticeships. She further noted they were ahead of schedule, and this award would allow the creation of pre-apprenticeship pathways that could lead to registered apprenticeships. Ms. Ohlensehlen added they would be working with community partners such as Missouri State University, Mercy, local trade unions, and 24 public school systems to support pre-apprenticeships in the arenas of education, healthcare,

and construction.

Mayor McClure noted the new facility in the center of the City and expressed his belief it had been warmly received. Ms. Ohlensehlen responded there had been a positive response to the location in Center City, and there was an approximately 4-percent increase in individuals utilizing the facility compared to the same time last year. She noted they were dedicated to outreach efforts and anticipated the trend would continue to increase. Mayor McClure asked how much of the increase was attributed to the accessibility of the new location. Ms. Ohlensehlen expressed her belief accessibility was an important component to allow the department to meet individuals in their community and to allow those individuals better connectivity with transportation.

Mayor McClure noted the Office of Workforce Development had been involved for decades in the effort and had been recognized for its success, particularly in the receipt of grants and in provision of services. He asked for Ms. Ohlensehlen to describe the role of Workforce Development over the years. Ms. Ohlensehlen responded the Department of Workforce Development had served as a central hub for workforce development initiatives, primarily as a service provider. Ms. Ohlensehlen noted they have a talented and passionate team and an additional role they serve was as a convener and collaborator to bring together diverse stakeholders to meet specific needs of the region. Ms. Ohlensehlen further noted they administered a variety of federal grant programs to leverage federal dollars to meet local needs throughout the region. She added they would oversee and ensure compliance for a number of grants with various programs. Ms. Ohlensehlen noted they had a deep understanding of the labor market and a commitment to sustained economic growth. She added they also served as a resource center for the community and surrounding region through a variety of workshops, job search assistance, hiring events, resume writing, and various other comprehensive services.

Mayor McClure asked how the office was monitoring the impact of receipt of federal funds. Ms. Ohlensehlen responded they were closely tracking the federal funding landscape. She added their strength was as a quality service provider that had met or exceeded their goals, and performance was a key component.

Mayor McClure thanked Ms. Ohlensehlen for continued work on procedures including legally prescribed procurement and bidding processes, annual audits, and transparency.

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

14.2. Council Bill 2025-068 (Hosmer, McClure)

A general ordinance amending Chapter 70 of the Springfield City Code, 'Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations,' Article II, "Business and Occupational Licenses in General," Division 1, 'Generally,' Sections 70-36, 'Application for license,' and 70-44, 'Payment of other taxes and special charges prerequisite to issuance of license,' for the purpose of requiring proof of payment of all personal property taxes as a prerequisite of obtaining an occupational license.

Jordan Paul, City Attorney, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Paul noted Councilmember Hosmer requested research regarding what would be lawful to require proof of payment of personal property taxes as a condition of City business licensure. He further noted it would be a lawful requirement, and the proposed was prepared to be sponsored by Councilmember Hosmer and Mayor McClure. Mr. Paul added Kansas City and St. Louis had this requirement. Mr. Paul noted the issue was not only for law enforcement purposes, but also tax equity, so businesses would be responsible for paying personal property tax just as individuals were. Mr. Paul further noted he had a discussion with the Greene County Assessor who noted several businesses licensed in the city did not pay their personal property taxes.

Councilmember McGull noted there was a process which City Council agreed upon regarding how ordinances should be brought to the respective committees, so issues could be reviewed before they came to City Council for a vote. He expressed his belief all scenarios may not have been considered. He further expressed his belief it was better to have legislation pass through a committee for review and so citizens could provide feedback.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Brent Johnson, Greene County Assessor, spoke about how businesses were assessed. Mr. Johnson noted his job was driven by statutes. He further noted one of his biggest hurdles was business assessments. He added this included anything the business used that was not attached to the property, such as laptops, furniture, phone systems, and other business-related property. Mr. Johnson noted out of 11,000 licensed businesses, only approximately 4,000 submitted personal property assessments. Mr. Johnson further noted he placed the assessed value but did not set taxes. That was set by the taxing entity.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked for clarification on property associated with an individual and if that only applied to business personal property, or if it would apply to any personal property held by the applicant in the prior calendar year. Mr. Paul noted the enforcement would have to match the business license. He added if an individual did not have an LLC and applied as an individual, they would have personal property under their name and that would apply.

Councilmember McGull asked for clarification on business property and personal property. Mr. Johnson responded in the State there was personal property as individuals and business personal property. Councilmember McGull expressed his belief the proposed read as if there was no distinction between the two. Mr. Quigley responded the only language added to Section 70-44 was the word property. He added the proposed would require a paid receipt as one of the aspects of being issued an annual business license. Councilmember McGull asked who the paid receipt would be given to. Mr. Quigley responded the Licensing Division in the Finance Department. He added, if approved, the division would review the requirements and make sure the personal property tax receipt was shown. Councilmember McGull asked if individuals were allowed to apply for an occupational license online. Mr. Quigley responded he would provide the information.

Councilmember Hosmer asked clarified that only 4,000 of the 11,000 businesses in the city had registered with the Greene County Assessor's Office. Mr. Johnson responded affirmatively. Councilmember Hosmer noted 7,000 businesses were not currently filling out the assessment and expressed his belief this put the burden on the taxpayer. Councilmember Hosmer asked where the personal property taxes were used. Mr. Johnson responded approximately 75 to 78 percent went to schools, with the remaining taxes going to libraries, senior services, disability services, and some to the individuals fire district. Councilmember Hosmer asked what enforcement mechanisms there were to make sure businesses paid their share of taxes. Mr. Johnson responded his mechanism for assessment purposes was to send notifications to businesses and investigate businesses that had not turned in their assessment forms and provide education to businesses.

Councilmember Hosmer asked if there was an impact on their office from the passage of the vehicle legislation recently passed. Mr. Johnson responded there was a major increase in traffic in their office. Councilmember Hosmer asked how that money was passed from the Greene County office to the schools. Mr. Johnson responded the assessments were sent to the clerk, who applied the levies and once applied, the bills were sent to the Greene County Collector's Office to be collected and distributed to the different jurisdictions.

Allen Icet, Greene County Collector of Revenue, noted the tax collection process was a multi-step process that began with the Greene County Assessor's Office, moved through the Clerk's Office, and was finalized within the Greene County Collector's Office. Mr. Icet further noted his Office collected taxes every day and by the 15th of the following month most funds had been distributed to the political subdivisions. Mr. Icet noted in every county the textbook shows what an individual taxpayer owned in real estate or personal property, and with the textbook information, physical statements were generated and mailed to taxpayers. Mr. Icet further noted approximately 70 to 72 percent of taxes collected went to school districts within Greene County. He added that he was required to distribute funds by the 15th of the following month, and he had to know the exact amount to be distributed.

Councilmember Jenson asked for clarification regarding the timing of personal property tax bills and if Greene County offered payment plans for taxes. Mr. Icet responded there was not a payment plan offered in Greene County. He noted his office collected the exact amount of taxes owed and if there was an overpayment, a refund would have to be issued. Councilmember Jenson expressed his belief that in a community with the poverty Greene County was facing, it would be a better approach to work with individuals to help them be in compliance without significant fees. Mr. Icet responded the interpretation followed State statute. Mr. Icet noted he was happy to follow up with counties that use a payment plan method.

Councilmember Lee asked how payment of business taxes was enforced. Mr. Icet responded for business personal property tax, there was no mechanism to enforce the payment of taxes. He added he would not know if a business owed because that was driven by the assessment process.

Councilmember Hosmer asked how Mr. Icet could collect personal property tax on a vehicle. Mr. Icet responded he would send the taxpayer a letter giving them 30 days before the Department of Revenue (DOR) was notified. Mr. Icet noted the DOR would then suspend their registration. He added if the vehicle was never pulled over in a traffic stop, there would be no downside. Councilmember Hosmer expressed his belief that individuals playing by the rules were at a disadvantage under the current process. He noted this negatively affected Springfield Public Schools and the Library. Mr. Icet responded affirmatively and added there were 43 political subdivisions that had levee authority and would be affected. Councilmember Hosmer noted the increase in taxes paid following the most recent ordinance regarding vehicle registration. Mr. Icet responded personal property taxes collected from late February increased approximately 30 percent from the same time period the previous year.

Mayor McClure thanked Mr. Icet and Mr. Johnson for speaking.

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

Councilmember McGull expressed his agreement that individuals should pay their fair share. He noted the importance of making sure the City had the mechanism to enforce this type of legislation. Councilmember McGull further expressed his belief details could be reviewed through committee, and the community could be made aware of the changes.

Councilmember McGull moved to refer Council Bill 2025-068 (Hosmer, McClure) to the Plans and Policies Committee. Councilmember Horton seconded the motion, and there was further discussion.

Councilmember Hosmer expressed his belief there was no discussion of sending the vehicle licensing topic to committee. He further expressed his belief the proposed would require businesses to pay their fair share and provide proof of payment prior to being issued a business license. Councilmember Hosmer expressed his belief the committee process would delay the process. Councilmember McGull noted an individual could contest an assessment and whether the individual would be able to obtain a business license while the issue was contested would need to be known. Councilmember Hosmer expressed his belief the proposed would simply require a business owner to provide proof of payment for their tax obligation. He further expressed his belief businesses should be held to the same standard as individual taxpayers.

Councilmember Horton expressed her belief there were some issues that could be reviewed with the proposed going through the committee process.

Councilmember Jenson asked if there were any other text amendments anticipated to be brought forward related to personal property tax enforcement. Councilmember Hosmer responded not that he knew of. Councilmember Jenson noted no ordinance or text amendment should come before City Council unless it first passed through a committee.

Councilmember Lee expressed his support for the proposed and his support for the proposed going to the Plans and Policies Committee.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson noted he had no issue with the intent of the proposed, and expressed his belief there were additional questions that needed to be reviewed before enacting something that could take away someone's livelihood. He expressed his support for the proposed being sent through the committee process.

After further discussion, the motion to refer Council Bill 2025-068 (Hosmer, McClure) to the Plans and Policies Committee was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, and Councilmember Lee. Nays: Councilmember Hosmer and Mayor McClure. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

15. PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES AND COMMUNICATIONS.

15.1. Paul Choate wishes to address City Council. Did Not Appear.

16. NEW BUSINESS.

16.1. 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.

16.2. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following reappointments to the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Community Development: O'Brien Daniels, Brennan Pratt, and Mackenzey Teleki, with terms to expire May 1, 2028. Recommended.

16.3. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following reappointment to the Citizens' Tax Oversight Committee: Daniel Furtak with term to expire May 1, 2028. Recommended.

16.4. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following reappointments to the Personnel Board: David Coonis and Amanda Cooper, with terms to expire March 1, 2028. Recommended.

16.5. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following appointment to the Personnel Board: Jade Callaway with term to expire March 1, 2028. Recommended.

16.6. The Public Involvement Committee recommends the following reappointments to the Police Officers' and Fire Fighters' Retirement System Board of Trustees: Jonathan Winn and Ann Young, with terms to expire April 30, 2028. Recommended.

16.7. The Mayor recommends the following appointment to the Public Housing Authority: Isabelle Jimenez Walker, with term to expire April 11, 2029. Recommended.

17. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

18. MISCELLANEOUS.

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

19.1. Council Bill 2025-069 (Horton)

A special ordinance authorizing the sale of a portion of certain real property owned by the City of Springfield, Missouri, commonly known as 2937 North Campbell Avenue, to R.A.L. Property Management, LLC, for the sum of \$20,000; authorizing the Mayor to execute a special warranty deed for said property; and authorizing the Mayor to accept a sanitary sewer easement.

20. CONSENT AGENDA – ONE READING BILLS.

21. CONSENT AGENDA – SECOND READING BILLS. See Item #3.

21.1. Council Bill 2025-059 (Horton)

A special ordinance authorizing the Director of Planning and Development to accept the dedication of public streets and easements to the City of Springfield, Missouri, as shown on the Preliminary Plat of Broadway Cottage Courtyard, generally located at 737, 745, 751, 761, and 801 North Broadway Avenue and 732 and 742 North Weaver 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. (By: Drew Lewis Foundation, Inc.; 737, 745, 751, 761, and 801 North Broadway Avenue and 732 and 742 North Weaver Avenue; Preliminary Plat of Broadway Cottage Courtyard).

Ordinance 28126. Council Bill 2025-059 (Horton) 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.

21.2. Council Bill 2025-060 (McGull)

A special ordinance authorizing the Director of Planning and Development to accept the dedication of public streets and easements to the City of Springfield, Missouri, as shown on the Preliminary Plat of Elevate Subdivision, generally located at 1103 East Smith Street, upon the applicant filing and recording a final plat that substantially conforms to the preliminary plat; and authorizing the City Clerk to sign the final plat upon compliance with all the terms of this Ordinance. (By: Elevate Investments Group, LLC; 1103 East Smith Street; Preliminary Plat of Elevate Subdivision).

Ordinance 28127. Council Bill 2025-060 (McGull) 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.

21.3. Council Bill 2025-061 (McGull)

A special ordinance authorizing the Director of Planning and Development to accept the dedication of public streets and easements to the City of Springfield, Missouri, as shown on the Preliminary Plat of McClernon Springs 1st Addition, generally located at 3156 North National 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. (By: Gerst Properties, LLC; 3156 North National Avenue; Preliminary Plat of McClernon Springs 1st Addition).

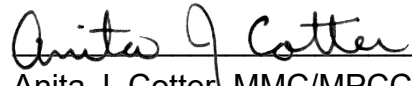
Ordinance 28128. Council Bill 2025-061 (McGull) was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Jenson, Councilmember Horton, Councilmember McGull, Mayor Pro Tem Simpson, Councilmember Hosmer, Councilmember Hardinger, Councilmember Carroll, Councilmember Lee, and Mayor McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

22. END OF CONSENT AGENDA.

23. ADJOURN.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson 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, and Mayor McClure. Nays: Councilmember Hosmer. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Prepared by: Michelle Kaasa


Anita J. Cotter, MMC/MPCC City Clerk