President of Council Marjorie Harlow called Council to order on April 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

The governmental body and those in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

Mrs. McNear took roll call. Present were Council members Diehl, Emerson, Hawkins, Knox, Squires, Vanover and Harlow.

The minutes of March 20, 2012 were approved with seven affirmative votes after the following corrections were made: Mr. Knox said on page 9297 under the heading of Redistricting on the fifth line it states that we were 22.3% out. It should be 23.3%. Eight lines below it starts off needed “vote-wide”. I believe it should be “vote-wise”. On the sixteenth line where it says Maple Knoll… District 3 “does not include”, should say “does include”. The word “not” should be deleted. The third line from the bottom again, the percentage is 23.3.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. McNear said we have a letter from the Ohio Public Works Department dated March 18. It is a close out letter recapping the payments that were made to Adletta Construction on our behalf for a total of $239,458.97.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE - none

Mayor Webster said it’s one of those red letter days in the history of the City of Springdale. At the end of September last year Chief Dan Shroyer retired from the Fire Department. The Assistant Chief, Mike Hoffman, is the Acting Chief and he has served in that capacity for the past six or seven months. This year we engaged the services of a company to do a fire chief assessment center for us. These folks create scenarios and ask the candidates to react to those very real life things. Acting Chief Hoffman can explain in more detail than I what they go through but it’s a pretty intense exercise and it lasts about six or seven hours on a Saturday. We had four external candidates that sat for that exam along with four internal candidates. Out of those candidates we interviewed the top three. I’m very pleased to announce that two of those three were internal candidates. Mr. Parham, Mr. Thamann and I interviewed those three candidates and it’s with a great deal of pleasure that I announce to you this evening the fifth full-time fire chief in the history of the City of Springdale, the eighth overall. Three were part-time. This department goes back to 1939. Chris Uetrecht was the chief of the Fire Department. He happened to be the father-in-law of one of our former mayors, Ray Norrish. He was succeeded in 1942 by Edward Stratman who served for a couple of years. Then Bob Thomas took over and led the department from 1943 to 1949. Frank Smith served from 1949 to 1981, the last few years as full-time chief. He was succeeded by Dean Humphrey from 1981 to 1982. Bob Posega led the department from 1982 to 2001 and then Dan Shroyer led the department until last September. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to introduce you folks to the fifth full-time Chief of the Springdale Fire Department, Mike Hoffman. I’d like to ask Mr. Parham to add a few words.

Mr. Parham said it was a really challenging process for the candidates that went through the assessment. I think the assessment bodes well for the organization, the department and it does give us an opportunity to have these individuals measure their skill sets and abilities. As the Mayor said, we are extremely proud to have two of our internal candidates finish in the top three. We did the very same thing for the Police Chief position. As we would go through this process, I had to make sure that everyone understood that even though there are external candidates, it is my hope and desire that the person who steps up and takes this opportunity is one of our internal employees. I think Mike has done an outstanding job, not only going through that process but ever since he was appointed as the Acting Chief in September 2012. He has done a remarkable job. He has had the support of the men and women of the Fire Department. I can see in the short period of time since being appointed as Acting Chief, he has made a number of operational changes surrounding the development of other employees as well as allowing them to participate in the decision making process. I have a meeting with the Chief twice a month. When Mike comes to the meeting, he brings some of the folks over to sit-in on
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the meeting. That employee can now have a better understanding of some issues facing the department. I believe this goes a long way in trying to prepare some of those folks that are sitting in our audience right now that serve our citizens and residents to take over these jobs when Mike moves on and some of the others who are serving in a supervisory capacity. We are very proud to have Chief Hoffman take over the reins on a full-time basis. First thing in the morning, he’ll need to eliminate the “Acting” title from his outgoing voice mail. Congratulations to Mike and thank you for a job well done in the interim period and I know he’s going to do wonderful things for the community going forward.

Mayor Webster said I know Mike has some good news he wants to share with you folks. Before we let you talk I should swear you in.

Mayor Webster swore in Mike Hoffman as Fire Chief.

Mike Hoffman said thank you Mayor Webster, City Administration, Council for having faith in me to carry out the rank of Fire Chief. I have no doubts that we’re going to move on the fast track and move forward in a positive manner. I would be remiss, as Mr. Parham mentioned, if I didn’t have the support of the men and women of our Fire Department, I wouldn’t be what I am today. They have been awesome in the seven months that I served as Acting Fire Chief. We have a very talented group of men and women in the Fire Department. I’m very happy to be here. I wanted to hit on the assessments a little bit. On both a Thursday and Friday, four of us (candidates) went through the assessment center. It was seven and a half to eight hours of stress, but it was well meant stress and it was a good measure of everybody’s capabilities. We went into the conference room and they gave us a list of questions that we hand wrote on a legal pad. We had the entire day to do that and it took the entire day. We also participated in three different assessment exercises. We went to a counseling session with a guy who was supposed to be a firefighter but he was actually an actor. We ran into a situation there. Then we went through an oral presentation as if we were giving a presentation to a group of high school students. Then they had a formal interview. All three of those were very valuable. It was a very good experience. I was a little leery in the beginning on whether or not I was going to like that type of thing but the process was great and I was really glad that I participated in it. It really showed me where my strong points were and where I need to work on things. The process was valuable. I just want to thank everybody for giving me the chance to be Fire Chief. While I am up here I want to bring the really good news of the day. About a month ago we had Firehouse Subs in here. I talked about how our guys and girls are working on different grants to get us some extra revenue. One of our firefighters, Scott Williams, applied for a grant through FEMA in June of last year. They have a program called “Assistance for Firefighters Grant”. They give a lot of money but you have to wait your turn. He applied for a grant to get funds to replace our four heart monitors. (Heath Waxman brought one tonight for your review). It’s called a Physio Lifepak 12. They have a new version out called a Lifepak 15 that has very up-to-date technology. It’s incredible. These (our current ones) have about seen their life. Scott filled out this extensive grant and we found out this afternoon that the grant was successful. FEMA is going to give us $114,000. We’re going to match it with $6,000 and that will buy us four brand new Lifepak 15s for our Fire Department.

Mr. Diehl said congratulations. Good guys do finish first.

Mr. Hawkins said congratulations again. Continue to do the great job that you have been doing since you’ve been Acting Chief. I ask on behalf of my three year old daughter that you continue the Open House.

Chief Hoffman said we will. It’s a fabulous public education event that we have the first Saturday of October. We use that to kick off Fire Prevention Week and every year the attendance grows. Our inspector, Tom Lindsey, does a great job with the program. He brings in new agencies to educate the public and we have a good time.

Mr. Vanover offered congratulations. It reflects and bodes well on the depth of the department we have. I know you do the battery changing on your smoke detectors. People do not understand that these things need to be replaced.
Chief Hoffman said one of the things I talked about in my interview was smoke detector maintenance/replacement. Manufacturers recommend that you replace these on a ten-year basis. We’re coming full cycle with our program. We have detectors in the community that have reached this age. Now we are going back in and replacing them. The sensors and detectors lose sensitivity over time.

Mrs. Emerson said, Mr. Hoffman, congratulations, a position well deserved. Mr. Hawkins, I will assure you that he will continue to interact with the young kids. I believe you came over to our house when we adopted our first child. You did the fire inspection and even hooked up another fire detector down the hall. When we walked by the Fire Department you always let the kids look at the fire trucks.

Mr. Knox said as someone who can personally attest to the efficiency and professionalism of the Fire Department when I found myself upside down in my car just off I-275 ten years ago, I think it is well deserved. I believe you were the man in charge of the group that came out and took care of me.

Mr. Squires said I know you know who we are. Our house at 150 Ruskin is well known to all of you because Mrs. Squires is unique in that she has a new LVAD (left ventricular assist device). We have been to your establishment several times so that your paramedics can not only see this but work with it. Anything we can do to help you because you certainly have helped us, please don’t hesitate to let us know because we will definitely be there. You have an outstanding team. They are very efficient and well trained and they’ve served us well.

Mrs. Harlow offered congratulations.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 7–2013
REDISTRICTING OF THE FOUR DISTRICTS FOR COUNCIL ELECTIONS
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt and Mr. Knox seconded.

Mr. Knox said there were two minor changes to the map that was shown two weeks ago. We have changed the line to show that the five houses near Wimbledon Apartments are in District 3 and the wavy line has been removed and we now have a straight line that goes by the end of the street at Ray Norrish and includes all of Springdale Lake Drive. This could change in the future but right now this is the best way to show that to the people downtown so they don’t get confused.

Mr. Parham said the map that was attached to your ordinance has been revised and we have given each of you a copy of the new one. You’ll notice the one attached to your ordinance does not have the distribution numbers. If you approve this ordinance this evening, these are the numbers that are attached to the new revised map.

Ordinance 7-2013 passed with seven affirmative votes.

Mrs. Harlow said we will send this to the Board of Elections and they will go over it and they will be back in touch with Administration if there are any issues. That way we will have time to address those before the deadline that is required.

Mrs. Harlow said our next few ordinances pertain to sidewalk easements.

ORDINANCE NO. 8-2013
ACCEPTING A SIDEWALK EASEMENT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 396 GLENSHARON ROAD RELATED TO THE CAMERON ROAD SIDEWALK EXTENSION PROJECT AND AS A PART OF THE 2013 STREET PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt and Mrs. Emerson seconded.

Mayor Webster said for the benefit of the audience and TV audience we have four ordinances all dealing with the same thing, acquiring easements along Cameron and Glen CB Road. This is to extend the sidewalk that now ends at the park down to GlenCBaron and provide access into the park. This all came about last year when we had some residents in concerned about the speeding on Cameron Road so we made it clear at that point that we would try to facilitate keeping kids and pedestrians off the street and onto the sidewalk. Once this project is totally completed this will give all the people in the Glenview Subdivision access to the park. They will have to cross a couple of streets but they will not be walking in any of the streets. It’s a real safety upgrade for that whole southern end of the City.

Mrs. Harlow said and the costs for these easements is $1.

Mayor Webster said these people have all donated these easements and we’d like to thank those residents for doing so.

Mrs. Harlow asked do you want to name the names later?

Mayor Webster said this one is Mr. and Mrs. Glasmeier at 396 GlenCBaron Road.

Ordinance 8-2013 passed with seven affirmative votes.

Mrs. Harlow said Ordinance 9 is also an easement and the owners are Damon P. Winters and Lisa Winters.

Mrs. Emerson made a motion to read the next three ordinances by title only. Mr. Squires seconded. The motion passed with seven affirmative votes.

Mrs. McNear read Ordinance 9-2013 by title only.

ORDINANCE NO. 9-2013
ACCEPTING A SIDEWALK EASEMENT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 389 CAMERON ROAD RELATED TO CAMERON ROAD SIDEWALK EXTENSION PROJECT AND AS A PART OF THE 2013 STREET PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt and Mr. Knox seconded.

Mrs. Harlow said the language is the same as Ordinance 8 and the names on it are Mr. and Mrs. Winters and the fee is $1.

Ordinance 9-2013 passed with seven affirmative votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 10-2013
ACCEPTING A SIDEWALK EASEMENT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 387 CAMERON ROAD RELATED TO THE CAMERON ROAD SIDEWALK EXTENSION PROJECT AND AS A PART OF THE 2013 STREET PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Harlow said this property is Mr. Harold Bradley Randolph.

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt and Mr. Squires seconded.

Ordinance 10-2013 passed with seven affirmative votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-2013
ACCEPTING A SIDEWALK EASEMENT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 393 CAMERON ROAD RELATED TO THE CAMERON ROAD SIDEWALK

Mrs. Harlow said this property is Mr. Harold Bradley Randolph.

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt and Mr. Squires seconded.

Ordinance 11-2013 passed with seven affirmative votes.
EXTENSION PROJECT AND AS A PART OF THE 2013 STREET PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Harlow said this property is Mrs. Kay Oaks’ who has given the City this easement.

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt and Mr. Knox seconded.

Ordinance 11-2013 passed with seven affirmative votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2013

First reading.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Parham said at the last Council meeting we talked about the street program. We also shared with you the need to repair a couple of culverts under SR 4. It really is amazing what these contractors can do. The most northern culvert work was performed by Ford Development Company. They began the work on this Monday and they finished the project today. We thought it would take at least a week or week and a half. Talking with Mr. Agricola earlier today, he indicated that the contractor simply brought a full work force out and desired to get it done quickly. Our inspector was out on the project the entire time and he said there were no issues. The southern culvert will be constructed by Brunk Excavation. They are scheduled to begin the work on April 15 which is a Monday. Hopefully they will dedicate the same kind of work force and get the work done in a timely manner.

Mr. Parham stated I received an announcement from the Ohio Department of Transportation that indicates that their litter pickup program on the interstates has begun. The program started on March 2. It is a really big issue for the State. They’ve indicated that they pay out over $4 million each year just to clean up the litter along the highways. In 2012 alone they picked up 305,000 bags of litter. They are trying to establish some relationships. Hopefully some volunteer groups can come out and maybe focus on helping with the clean up. Right now they are using their labor forces.

Mr. Parham said the Police Department was contacted by the Department of Health and Human Services indicating that a random survey is being performed by the National Center for Health Statistics. The purpose of the survey is to gather data to assess the health and nutrition status of children and adults and their needs for health care. Hamilton County has been designated as a community that is being targeted. We don’t know whether any of Springdale’s residents will be contacted because it is on a random basis. If, for instance, they contact Mr. Vanover and he doesn’t want to participate but his neighbor wishes to participate, the neighbor can’t participate because it has to be on a random basis. They are just notifying all jurisdictions so if their folks are out in the community, the Police Department will be aware of there existence. The survey takers will also have an identification badge.

Mr. Vanover said backing up to the litter collection, one of my pet peeves, when we moved from paper bags to those God forsaken polyethylene plastic bags we compounded that issue. They’re even hard on equipment. They will wrap around bearings and spindles and create issues. Is there anything on the horizon, any move to do away with these and go back to the less green but less intrusive?

Mr. Parham replied I’ve heard the complaints before. I’ve not heard of any solution to move it back to paper, only. I know that many stores and other organizations encourage you to use other types of bags. I know at the Farmers Market they have provided the green bags sponsored by Tri County Mall. I think the County tries to
encourage residents to use those reusable bags but to my knowledge there is nothing in place that’s going to demand or require anyone to not use the plastic bags. In fact, if you go into grocery stores today, I believe the self service check out lines only have the plastic bags.

MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Planning Commission - Apr 9
Board of Health - Apr 11
Parade - Apr 13, 9 a.m.
Veteran’s Committee - Apr 15, 6 p.m.
State of the City address - Apr 17

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE - none

UPDATE ON LEGISLATION STILL IN DEVELOPMENT

Ordinance 12 - Apr 17
Agreement with TEC - TBD
Amendment to Section 153.480 of the Zoning Code - TBD

RECAP OF LEGISLATIVE ITEMS REQUESTED - none

Council adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:

Marjorie Harlow, President of Council

__________________________, 2013