President Vanover called Council to order on October 19th, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

The governmental body and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. McNear provided the Invocation.

Mrs. McNear took roll call. Council Members Diehl, Emerson, Ghantous, Harlow, Hawkins, Shroyer, and Vanover were present.

The minutes of the October 5th, 2016 City Council meeting were considered. Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adopt; Mrs. Emerson seconded. Minutes were adopted as published with seven affirmative votes.

Committee and Official Reports

Civil Service Commission
Mr. Higgins: The Civil Service Commission met on October 6th, 2016 with all members present and Mr. Thamann. The Minutes from the August 4th, 2016 were reviewed and approved. In unfinished business, the Commission voted to affirm the certification of the top three candidates for the Fire Captain’s promotional process. It was suggested that the Commission amend the Civil Service Manual on how the process for promotions will be followed. Rules need to be updated to reflect the current processes that are already in place. The consideration of including or excluding seniority and proficiency when an assessment center process is utilized. It was determined to have a draft amendment of the rules in writing reviewed by legal counsel and then submitted to the Commission for discussion and action. The Commission met to review various correspondence between myself and the Commission, and also from Fire Chief Michael Hoffman. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for November 2nd, 2016.

Rules and Laws Mr. Diehl - no report

Finance Committee Mr. Diehl - no report

Planning Commission
Mrs. Harlow: Planning Commission met on October the 11th in these Chambers. All members were in attendance. We had one item of Old Business, which was our proposed Zoning Code Text, and we discussed that, and that has been forwarded to Council for your review. Then under New Business we had People Ready, a company at 1343 East Kemper Road, requesting a sign addition, and this is one of those that made us realize that our new Zoning Code needed to be tweaked a little bit. The company was coming in asking for 22.8 square feet for their new sign, and our current section of 153.452(C)(2) would have allowed the tenant to have 46.6 square feet, so by us catching this in the Administration and our Planners catching this and modifying it, I think that we’re going to be able to have a better signage packet for our companies coming into our Building Department.

Board of Zoning Appeals Mrs. Ghantous - no report

Board of Health
Mrs. Emerson: The Board of Health met October 13th in the chambers adjacent to here.

In New Food Service Operation, the Outback Steakhouse at the Tri-County Mall will be holding their Grand Opening on November 16th.

The Narcan report this past month for Springdale Fire Department responded to six reports of opiate overdoses and administered nine doses of Narcan for the month of September, which has been pretty much the average that they’ve been using.

The Willows Work Group met September 13th and they focused on reviewing their successes and shortages for the 2015 and 2016 year. Their next meeting is November 8th. The Vineyard Church attends those meetings, and something real positive that came out of that: the Vineyard Church had decided to donate money to redo the Willows playground. So
apparently their equipment is in very poor condition, so they’re going to replace the equipment and the Willows have agreed to supply the safety rubber mats that go underneath it. And currently it’s on a sewage lid. The middle of the playground has a raised sewer lid in it, so they’re going to move the whole playground over and around the corner from there, and that’s looking to take place in 2017.

In the Tobacco Cessation at the City of Springdale, the Springdale Health Department held a meeting of interest October 10th and 11th at the Springdale Community Center to see if people were interested in this program to stop smoking. They’re going to begin this series in January 2017. If you’re interested and miss those meeting, you can contact the Health Department at 346-5725. And I had mentioned last report that we had applied for a Youth Tobacco Initiation Grant through the Ohio Department of Health, and that grant went from $30,000 to as much as $60,000. We were not granted that. Hamilton County won over us on that, but we are going to continue and reapply next year to see if we can get some funds for that.

Springdale Nuisance Animal Control Pilot Program began September 26th. A limited number of animals have been trapped so far. If anybody out there has experienced a problem with skunks or raccoons and are interested in having the nuisance wild animal control contractor come out, you can call the Health Department at 346-5725. They’ll give you address to the company, that’s Hugh Rock Pest Solutions, that will come out, set traps, and take the animals away if we catch them.

On the Nurse’s Report, flu activity in the US remains minimal for the last couple weeks. We are now giving out the flu shot. We had a Health Fair on Tuesday and they initiated that there. We have vaccines for adults and children without insurance or with Medicaid, and we have clinics on the first and third Wednesday mornings, and then they’re offering this year three evening options on October 20th, October 26th, and November 1st for those that can’t make it during the morning clinics.

Mayor Webster: I’d just like to elaborate a little bit on Mrs. Emerson’s report. Going back to the playground that the Vineyard Church is underwriting; they contacted me last week to see if I would cut a video for them because they want to show this in all four of their locations, and I’ve gotten some feedback from two of the locations. They did show it this past Sunday, and I guess they’ve got a program where they challenge everyone in attendance to contribute at least a dollar and I know they did this for the Princeton Pantry last year, and they raised a lot of money for them, so that’s how they hope to raise enough money to fund this operation. But anyway, I said “Yeah, just tell me what time. I’ll be more than happy to do it if it’s for the playground for the kids.”

The other thing, just let me reemphasize once again about the animal control program. I think all of us heard a lot of feedback from the community about the skunks and so forth and so on. As a matter of fact, we even challenged ourselves the one night left the Council Chambers here, so you know that program is up and running. I’m not sure, last report I had, Derrick might have some up-to-date numbers, but the last report I had that you know, it has not been widely used. I mean maybe a half a dozen people have requested a trap. Some of the people that came up here and spoke, we’ve actually gone out and knocked on their door to hand them a flyer, and no one answered so we left it on their doorstep, but anyway the program is up and running, and it’s not costing the City a ton of money. As a matter of fact, it’s costing zero until they catch an animal. I think they caught one raccoon, first report I had. Please take advantage of that so we can get rid of some of these smelly creatures.

Capital Improvements

Mrs. Emerson - no report

O-K-I

Mrs. Harlow: OKI met on October the 13th, 2016 and we had a couple presentations. One was from Go Solar Ready, and I’d like to give you this website because it is really very interesting. It’s solar.oki.org/map, and you can put your address in, and it will pull your house up and it will tell you how many square feet you have on your roof, what kind of roofing materials you have, if your house is even eligible for solar-type energy, how much solar energy panels you would need; it was very, very interesting. So if you have a chance, go take a look at that.
And then we also had a presentation by Miss Candace McGraw. She’s CEO of the CVG Airport, and as you’re all aware, I would say over the last ten or twelve years CVG Airport has really struggled with maintaining some of their carriers and some of their revenue has dipped, and they’ve had a lot of problems. Well, they’ve decided that the best way to solve their problem was through land development, because they were really rich in land, and they have built warehouses, made road extensions connections, and DHL is expanding to the tune of $108 million. The airport has just expanded the number of employees and the number of warehouse locations that they have, so it sounds like that the airport is really thriving. They have $170 million consolidated rental car facility that is in the works. So that is really exciting for our region. They’re also courting new low-cost carriers, so we’re hoping that we’ll be able to take flights to far away places a whole lot cheaper than we’re doing right now.

The other thing that we had was the Ohio Surface Transportation Program, that’s called STP, as well as the Transportation Alternatives, the TA. IN Ohio, for the TP funding, $44,138,000 was given out, and for the TA funding $27,104,000 was given out. A lot of these went to, well Mason had three, Butler County has a couple, SORTA bus caught a couple. Some of them were for roadway, some of them were connectors, some of the grants were for bike paths, walking paths. So I’m going to pass this on down to Mr. Parham, and I’m hoping that sometime in the future, oh I think I might have misread this, hold on just a second. $44 million for the STP, and the Ohio TA was $5,918,000, and then Kentucky got the $27 million. I apologize. So just over $50,000,000 for Ohio on the STP and TA, but I’ll pass that on down so that Administration can take a look at that.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Webster: First and foremost, I want to talk a bit about Issue 7, which will be on everybody’s ballot when they go to vote. I don’t know about any of you, but my phone started ringing Saturday morning with people that had their absentee ballot, and all it says is “Issue 7: Proposed Charter Amendment, City of Springdale, a Majority Affirmative vote is necessary for passage”, and then it rattles off a bunch of articles and sections and so forth and so on, but absolutely nothing to do with the actual meat of the issue. So, I’d just like for TV Land out there, if you will, what this is, it brings an affirmative vote on this will bring our Charter in compliance with the State Code. Right now there’s a conflict. Our Charter doesn’t address when we can have a Municipal Election, and so you know we’re fine as long as we have nothing out of the ordinary, like all over our District and our At Large races now are on odd numbered years, and we only get tripped up on this when we have an unexpected vacancy as we had this year. We had one of the Council members take a seat last year, and our Charter said they had to run for re-election this year. Well, when they went down to file, they found out the State Law prohibited that from happening because it’s not an odd numbered year. So that’s all this is, is bringing our Charter in compliance, so we would urge people to favorably consider that issue.

Halloween will be observed on October 31st. I believe that’s a Monday night, from 6-8 pm, and that will be immediately after our Daylight Savings Time ends, so it will get dark early, so please be careful if you’re driving around our City that evening.

Also, I’d like to announce that November the 11th is a Friday; it’s Veteran’s Day. We will have our annual ceremony over across the street here at 1pm. I think it’s the fifth grade, fourth grade kids will be entertaining us, the choir, and that’s always the highlight. I don’t have any details on the speaker yet.

Also, I’d like to once again announce SOS has kicked off their Christmas Program, and if there’s anyone out there that would like to adopt a family and help us with that program, last year I think we had 170 kids, something like that, but anyways a whole bunch of children in this City had a very nice Christmas thanks to the efforts of all the people that volunteered and the efforts of SOS of organizing that. So we’re right in the middle of that, so if you’re a corporation and you’d like to, you’ve got employees that would like to help, we’d be more than happy to set a barrel in the lobby of your building for food donations, because we try to make a nice basket of food for all the families. So anyway, if you would like to participate in any way, shape, or form, please call our Health Department at 346-5725 and they’ll put you on the list.
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Mrs. McNear: I have the General Fund update through September 30th. Our budget is $16.54 million for Net Receipts, and we have collected $14.929 million on that. That is 91%. The top five major General Fund sources are Earnings Tax, Real Estate Taxes, Paramedic Services, Local Government Funds, and Mayor’s Court. The lion’s share of that is from Earnings Tax. It's a total of $13.992 million so far this year, or 94%. On the Expenditures side of the house, the Net Expenditures are $16.70 million. We have expended $12.220 million, or 72%. Our ending General Fund balance through September 30th is $5,553,000.

Administrator’s Report

Mr. Parham: Mrs. Harlow touched on the amendments, so I just wanted to let Council know that we have placed a copy of the proposed amendments to the Zoning Code in your mail bin for your consideration. The schedule, or at least the proposed schedule, is to have Council to address the proposed amendments at your November 16th meeting with a Public Hearing, so we need to schedule the Public Hearing. The first reading of the Ordinance would be at the November 2nd meeting of Council.

In addition, I’m going to pass out some language here. I think we’ve all had discussions recently about properties not being up kept. From time to time, the City Building Department is faced with individuals who are repeat offenders or violators of our Property Maintenance Code. Sometimes it’s very frustrating to get them to not repeat the offense and to make the repairs. Currently, the Property Maintenance Code penalty states that any violation, whether it’s your first violation or your tenth violation, it is considered guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree, with a fine not more than $250, or imprisoned not more than 30 days, or both. Probably with residential properties, or with residents, the $250 may make an impact on them. However, in the case of businesses, it more than likely sometimes does not make that impact, and so you continue to see the repeat offenders. Although I did have the Building Department provide me with a couple examples, four examples, all were residential. One of them had as many as seven repeat offenses. A couple others had at least five. What we would like to propose, is to amend the penalty. We asked the Law Director to provide some language to provide a little more strength into the penalty. What the language that we’ve passed out would do is that for a second violation, it would increase the fine to $500 with imprisoned time of no more than 60 days (it essentially doubles). On a third offense, it would be $750 per violation with imprisonment of 90 days, or both. So if Council is agreeable to considering this amendment to the Property Maintenance Code, we would ask that at the November 16th meeting, legislation be brought in for your consideration.

Mayor Webster: Public Hearing, or not?

Mr. Parham: No, there is no public hearing. The next item I have for you, item number five on the Pending and Future Legislation Report, talks about, in essence, the loan that the City took out for the purchase and ultimate demolition of the former Sheraton Hotel. The notes were scheduled to be paid off this December 31st. Unfortunately, the building isn’t down yet. We haven’t sold the property yet, and so as a result, we must roll the note. We have been able to secure quotes from two financial institutions. One was Northside Bank with a rate of 3.5%. We were able to get that from them today. The other is Huntington Bank, which our current note and rate is with Huntington, for 3%. The new rate they are proposing is 3.16%. Huntington’s maturity date would be December 1st, 2017. The goal is to, of course, have the building down this time, and then also have the property sold so that we can pay back the debt. Again, we would propose having legislation before you at the November 16th meeting to roll the note for that particular legislation.

I also wanted to provide Council with an update on where we are with the property on Neuss Avenue. I think I sent an email out in response to a question that Mr. Shroyer had shared with us. Sharing with you that at the time of the question, the property owner had not secured a permit for the dumpster that reappeared. We were able to have the Law Director contact the Statutory Agent for the property, and that seemed to move things pretty quickly because right away, that afternoon, the property owner’s family was in taking care of their responsibility for the permit. What we had also suggested is that there will be other permits that will be needed for repairs, so take advantage of that opportunity. Unfortunately, the young lady who stopped in said she
couldn’t handle those. She was going to have her brother stop by. As of yet, the brother has not been by. Today, we did stop by the location and found that the workers have been working, and they are clearing out and performing demolition work on the inside. So there is activity that is occurring, and I think the Mayor noticed that there was more debris in the dumpster than what we’ve seen in the past. So that is moving along.

One other item I’d like to just present for your consideration. At the last meeting, Mr. Diehl introduced the discussion relative to the consideration of a sidewalk on Kemper Road. Mr. Hawkins inquired as to the fee for the engineering work. We have a fee proposal that’s been submitted by the engineering team, CT Consultants, for $6,500. That would include preliminary engineering to design the sidewalk which would be approximately three feet off of the existing white pavement line, six feet in width, and it would also provide for CT to go out and stake the site. The stakes, just as similar as we did on the north side a year or so ago, would identify the back edge of the sidewalk, so it gives residents an indication on how close the sidewalk, the back of the sidewalk would be to their properties. So if Council is in agreement, we can proceed.

Mayor Webster: I’d like to emphasize, this is south side only.

Mr. Parham: Correct.

Mrs. Harlow: Will letters be sent to the nineteen residents along there before…

Mr. Parham: Yes, we’ll send a letter out. I was hoping to get that done already, but I haven’t, so we’ll try to get a letter out to the residents letting them know that is what the stakes stand for and this is what is being considered.

Mayor Webster: I think we want the two to sort of coincide with one another, staking and the letters, because if we stake it and we don’t send the letters for two or three days, our phones are going to ring off the hook and so are yours, and vice versa, if we send a letter and no stakes they’re going to be calling, so I think we need to… if the stakes can go in one morning and when they open their mailbox, the letter’s there, that’s perfect.

President Vanover: Council, (to Mr. Parham) you’re looking for direction from us?

Mr. Parham: Yes.

President Vanover: Council, you still in concurrence to proceed with this step?

Mr. Diehl: Yes.

Mrs. Harlow: I’m not sure. Sixty-nine hundred dollars, sixty-five hundred dollars?

Mr. Parham: Sixty-five hundred dollars.

Mrs. Harlow: Sixty-five hundred dollars. And do we have a ballpark figure for how much the sidewalks would cost us?

Mr. Parham: What we identified last time, very preliminary numbers, is that this process or this proposal would be about $250,000.

Mrs. Harlow: Okay. Then my vote is no.

Mrs. Emerson: Is there any way we can poll the residents first before we spend the $6,500 to stake it out? They may have seen the whole issue on the other side and say, “You know what, I’m not really interested in any of this.”

Mayor Webster: But Mrs. Emerson, like we said before, just to send out a letter saying do you want a sidewalk or not, you know no one is going to be able to answer that until you tell them where the sidewalk is going.
Mrs. Emerson: Well, I would say that, but we went through a whole thing on the other side of the street, and so those people across the street saw all of that. Maybe they already have an idea if they want it or don’t. I hate to spend $6,500 and these people out front just say, “You know, I’m not really interested.” That’s all I’m saying.

Mayor Webster: That’s why they pay you the big bucks. You need to make that decision.

Mrs. Emerson: Yes, sir.

Mr. Diehl: This is not about the residents who live there. It’s about a safety issue of people walking down the street. We’ve all been elected to serve the people and our primary responsibility is to keep them safe. That’s why we have a Police Department, a Fire Department, and a way to walk from one block to another without being in danger.

Mr. Shroyer: Mr. Parham, is this, while obviously we’re not ready to spend $250,000, but if we’re going to apply for grants, would this engineering work have to be in place before we could do that application anyway? Would there be a reason to go ahead and do the engineering and put it into the grant request cycle?

Mr. Parham: I’m going to have to defer that question to Mr. Shvegzda as to whether there’s a requirement to complete the engineering to be a part of that application. You have that in preliminary cost, don’t you?

Mr. Shvegzda: Yes, it’s not a specific requirement, but you use that to develop a very, a much more firm cost estimate to include in the grant request.

Mr. Shroyer: Well, I would agree with Mr. Diehl that the sidewalk issue is more than the nineteen residents. Obviously we don’t want to do something that they don’t want if all nineteen of them don’t want it, but on the other hand I think we need to look at the bigger picture. I would be in favor of doing the engineering so that we have that available to put it into the grant cycle.

Mrs. Emerson: I understand what Mr. Diehl and Mr. Shroyer are saying, but you gave the other side of the street the option to put it in or not, so I don’t think we can go in here if the residents truly don’t want it and say because it’s safety for everybody, we’re going to put it in your front yard. I mean you gave the other side of the street the option; you’re going to have to do the same for these residents on both sides of the street. That’s just my two cents.

Mr. Hawkins: I think it’s important that there be some consideration if there’s a sidewalk there or not because there are some safety issues. My concern right now is, we’ve got a lot of things going on in terms of financial commitments, so my concern, not as much about the $6,500 as the $250,000 that it would cost, and granted we may get grants to cover a good chunk of that, but even if we do that $6,500 right now and even if we bring residents in and the residents say “Yeah, sidewalks. Good.” right now, I don’t know that I’m ready to commit the City’s money to that right now with some of the things we have going on with the money towards the hotel, stuff we’re doing with the street program, you know. A year from now or maybe even six to eight months from now, we can see where some of these other things are going to come out financially, if they’re going to actually pan out for the City in terms of some new business, revenue, what have you. I’d probably feel a little more comfortable about it, but my concern would be the overall cost of it. So on the one hand, if assuming the engineering is going to be still good if we did it now for the next twelve months or what have you, I wouldn’t necessarily take exception with doing the engineering right now, but when it comes down if we’re going to talk about an actual vote at some point if the residents would like to have a sidewalk and if Council then decides yeah, let’s look at a sidewalk, I wouldn’t be in a position to approve that right now just because I’m more concerned about the overall expenditures that we’re doing with some of the commitments that we have. So I wouldn’t have a problem waiting to do that so that it’s not as disjointed, but at the same time if the majority of Council wants to look at that now, they can. But I’m not going to be in a position to I think support a sidewalk, even if the residents want it right now, even though I’d like to see one there, just because I’m worried about how much money is out there.

President Vanover: I’ve got three answers. Basically, do we proceed with the $6,500 and stake it and send letters to the residents?
Mrs. Ghantous: I’m in favor of moving forward with the engineering plan so that we can talk about it in more detail.

President Vanover: Mr. Hawkins, are you yay, nay?

Mr. Hawkins: I’m fine with moving forward with the engineering with the assumption that we’re going to be able to use this twelve months from now, or what have you, if we need to. Is that accurate, Mr. Shvegzda?

Mr. Shvegzda: In so far as any funding application, to be able to use it for that? Yes.

President Vanover: Okay.

Mayor Webster: I think the advantage of going ahead with the engineering, I don’t want to waste $6,500 either, but if we’re going to even think about filing an application, we’re going to need some of that engineering done, and I think if we’ve got the engineering done it puts us in a situation where if Mr. Parham gets a phone call that somebody’s got money available, do we have any shovel-ready projects, we can say, “Yes, we do.” And believe me, he’s gotten those phone calls before, and so I think it’s to our advantage to have this in our pocket and ready to do it. And I agree with you, we don’t have the $250,000 sitting in the bank, waiting to do the sidewalk, but this, I’m certainly in favor, let’s take the first step and just yeah, if all nineteen residents storm City Council and they say, “Hell no! I don’t want a sidewalk in my yard!” and we get the same response we got last year, then I’d say, Mr. Diehl, sorry, I think we’d have to say no. But I agree with you, it is a terrible safety issue down there, and we’ve made it worse.

Mrs. Emerson: No.

President Vanover: Yes. So, my total, I’ve got five affirmative and two in the negative, so Administration, you’ve got your direction.

Mr. Parham: Thank you. We’ll move forward with the engineering. Mr. Vanover, also we need to set the Public Hearing.

President Vanover: Okay.

Mr. Parham: If you are in agreement we’ll set it for the 16th of November.

President Vanover: That’s fine.

Mrs. McNear: Mr. Parham, can you give an update on the hotel? We had an eyesore before. Now it needs an adjective in front of eyesore, and I won’t say that out loud in Council chambers, but it really looks terrible now that the two ends of the hotel have been demolished. There’s trash everywhere.

Mr. Parham: Yes, ma’am. So where we find ourselves today, we originally contracted with O’Rourke Wrecking Company to demolish the building and clear the site. As we shared with you prior to awarding the contract and opening the bids, we identified another asbestos-containing material, vermiculite, in the lower levels but not in all of the lower levels. We approached O’Rourke to give us a number to remove the vermiculite. Their number just didn’t make to waste $6,500 either, but if we’re going to even think about filing an application, we’re going to need some of that engineering done, and I think if we’ve got the engineering done it puts us in a situation where if Mr. Parham gets a phone call that somebody’s got money available, do we have any shovel-ready projects, we can say, “Yes, we do.” And believe me, he’s gotten those phone calls before, and so I think it’s to our advantage to have this in our pocket and ready to do it. And I agree with you, we don’t have the $250,000 sitting in the bank, waiting to do the sidewalk, but this, I’m certainly in favor, let’s take the first step and just yeah, if all nineteen residents storm City Council and they say, “Hell no! I don’t want a sidewalk in my yard!” and we get the same response we got last year, then I’d say, Mr. Diehl, sorry, I think we’d have to say no. But I agree with you, it is a terrible safety issue down there, and we’ve made it worse.

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and identify a time in which we can look forward to the building being raised. Essentially that’s where we are at this point.

Mrs. McNear: Thank you for the update, and I’m definitely not happy about that. It’s horrible. I walk by it several times a day, and it is just horrendous to look at.

Mr. Shroyer: I was going to ask the same question.

Mr. Diehl: Mr. Parham, I’d like to go back to the penalties for the violations here.

Mr. Parham: Yes, sir.

Mr. Diehl: Just so I understand, if I don’t cut my grass and I get cited three times, I can get charged this penalty?

Mr. Parham: Well, grass is a little different. If you don’t cut your grass and we have to go and cut your grass, we can then simply have that applied to your taxes, the cost of it. If you are a property owner and you refuse to put your trash cans back, that’s a violation. Then you would be cited. That would be one of those instances. If you are a business owner and you continue to set out milk crates in the front of your building and you’re notified to remove the milk crates, but you refuse to remove the milk crates, yes, essentially that’s where you are.

Mr. Diehl: Okay. I have no problem with that, just wanted clarification.

Mr. Parham: I would also need some response as to whether or not we’re interested in bringing the legislation or not.

President Vanover: Legislation?

Mr. Parham: For the Property Maintenance amendments.

Mr. Diehl: Yes.

Mrs. Harlow: Yes.

Mrs. Emerson: I have another question on this. Is it under the discretion for any offense? So like grass on the sidewalk three times. This is what we’re going to do to them?

Mr. Parham: Well, we don’t have something to regulate grass on the sidewalk, but essentially...

Mrs. Emerson: I mean trash cans. We’ve got somebody who doesn’t get home from work until late and they don’t get the trash cans, so three times, we’re going to slap them with a $250 fine?

Mr. Parham: No, ma’am. There is a lot of discretion, and I think Mr. Ward does a very good job at administering discretion. He communicates with residents. He talks to them. He informs them of potential violations. We also have our Community Pride.

Mayor Webster: Community Pride.

Mr. Parham: The Community Pride program where we identify violations. We send you a nice little friendly letter that says “We’ve identified this; you need to make repairs.” There’s no threat of violation. Now if you don’t address the issue after that point when you get that Community Pride letter, the next letter will be one that says to you, “You need to correct it, and you have to correct it by such and such a date. If you don’t, then you could be cited.” So there is discretion that is still there. It isn’t automatic that after three times, it will occur.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay. Then I am for it.
Mrs. Harlow: And I do want to state that the City does work very well with the residents. If you ask for a time extension, they try to take that into consideration. We were notified that we need to do something on a blacktop driveway, and it was a, by the time we got the letter, it was approaching fall. We asked if we could have this done in the spring of the year and have it completed by May 1st, and they agreed to that. So they are very willing if you come forward and you ask for an extension, typically if they can grant it, they will. They will work with you to the best of their ability, we’ve found.

Mayor Webster: I think it’s evidenced by that, just take a look at the house on Neuss. We tried to work with that individual, and so some people take advantage of us unfortunately. Not that many people. Most people are very honest and appreciate of us giving them another thirty days or sixty days or whatever is appropriate, and they go ahead and take care of the violation, but that’s an example of what happened to us sometimes when we do try to work with our residents.

Mr. Parham: We’re not in the business of trying to make money. We’re trying to change the behavior, and so the penalty is there when people refuse to change the behavior. If it’s the last straw and it’s the last opportunity, then we set the penalty. And sometimes, yes, I think we’ve been extremely generous and we’ve given maybe more time than we should have, but that’s simply the folks over there trying to give the individual time in hopes of thinking that everybody’s going to think in a very similar manner and try to make the problem go away. And so we’re not trying to make money off of this; it is just simply that part of the experience has been at $250, we’ve found some, more like organizations, who are willing to simply pay the $250 and continue the violation. And so what we’re trying to do is change the behavior and change that mindset.

Mrs. Ghantous: I’m in favor.

Mr. Shroyer: Yes.

Mr. Hawkins: I think that the Building Department and the Administration is very patient and does a nice job of working with residents when it comes to the Building Maintenance Code. I have an issue fundamentally in just criminalizing things to criminalize things. I understand the purpose is to make sure we have some more teeth to be able to get people to do things. I understand that if someone actually was convicted of multiple offenses through Mayor’s Court, with as patient as our Administration and Building Department is, they would have to be a very special individual. It’s not even so much the fines that concern me as much as having a misdemeanor of the second degree and third degree for Maintenance Code Violations is difficult for me to swallow. So I don’t have a problem bringing it to Council as a statute or as an Ordinance. I don’t know where I am in terms of supporting that right now. We’ve got a lot of people in jail for doing things that are more significant than this. So, if Council wants to bring it, we can bring it, but I don’t know that I’m supporting that.

President Vanover: Okay, so.... Yes to bring it up?

Mr. Hawkins: Yeah, we can bring it. I don’t know where I’m going to come out on that though.

President Vanover: And I also am in the affirmative, so we have a majority your direction.

Mr. Parham: Thank you.

Law Director’s Report
Mr. Forbes - no report

Engineers Report
Mr. Shvegzda: Just a few updates from last month. On State Route 4 Southbound Lane Addition, we did get notification from ODOT that the contractor has told them that they will be starting construction spring of next year, so we do have that as far as a change in the date of starting construction. As far as the remaining portions of the 2016 Street Program and the
State Route 4 Service Drive work, we’ve received quotes from two contractors, as a matter of fact the Public Works Department have gotten the third quote late today and they’re reviewing that, so they do have the three quotes to select from. The Cloverdale Area Resurfacing in regards to the Greater Cincinnati Water Works water main replacement, it’s currently scheduled to begin February of 2017 and be completed by August of 2017. Unfortunately at this point, the City has not received the executed agreement with the Water Works, and until we have that executed copy of the agreement, the work can’t take place.

Community Cleanup

Mrs. Harlow: I had the pleasure of meeting with Mr. Shroyer and Mrs. Ghantous on Tuesday, October the 11th, and we discussed our Cleanup Springdale and we decided to put the name out for Council’s review, to call it Spruce Up Springdale. We have picked a date of April 29th with a rain date of May 7th, and some of the items that we discussed would be publicity – how would we get this out to our residents, and of course we have the newsletter that we would ask that that be promoted in. We also talked about Facebook, yard posters, ICRC publications, the Tri-County Press, possibly seeing if we could send out fliers at school at the Springdale and Heritage Hill Elementary School and have the fliers in English and Spanish. That might be a problem, but we’ll check with the school to see. And then also we talked about robocalls. I know we had that available for getting the cars off the street for snow emergencies, they type of thing, or shelter in place. Perhaps that could be used for notifying our residents. Some of the other things that we talked about would be that we would need to reach out to neighbors that were in need and finding a way for those neighbors to let us know and identify some of the houses that need help, and maybe as a Councilperson, walking up to the house and saying, “Hey, we’re doing this Spruce Up Day on April 29th. Is there anything that we can help you with?” And that would also come back to matching volunteers and organizations. I know Mrs. Emerson has told me that she wants to know all about it because her church might be interested in helping. Meghan Sullivan-Wisecup has told me that she is interested in being part of this. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, the Vineyard Church, the Springdale PTA, the Heritage Hill PTA, those are other organizations that we thought we might be able to tap into. And then for extra volunteers that we might have that day, we could assign some of those people to clean up our parks and one of the other things that we talked about would be possibly testing what might be the best way of getting our materials out. Maybe in District One and Four, doing postcards and mailing them to the residents. Perhaps maybe in Two and Three it might be door hangers. And then try and gauge where our best response is coming from, and use that for criteria for future years. Then we wanted to end the day at the Community Center Park with hot dogs and refreshments for all of the people who wanted to participate as well as to thank our volunteers. And we will continue to meet, we’ll have another meeting probably in November, and then as we get closer to the April 29th date, we’ll ramp up meetings and start pulling in volunteers and organizations. So I would be happy to field any questions or take any suggestions that anyone might have.

Mr. Diehl: Has the Committee given any thought to age limits?

Mrs. Harlow: No, we hadn’t, because typically what the, are you talking about like Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts? (Mr. Diehl indicates yes.) Typically there’s some type of a job that they can do. I know Mrs. Wisecup told me that all different kinds of ages over at the Princeton, they go out and they rake leaves, do things like that. So we’re definitely not going to be putting power tools in the hands of a child that’s not ready for it or whatever, but we’ll be very careful with that.

Mr. Parham: I’m sorry; I didn’t get the rain date.

Mrs. Harlow: May 7th.

Mr. Parham: May 7th. Okay, thank you.

Communications - none

Communications from the Audience - none
City of Springdale Council

October 19, 2016

Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 30-2016
AUTHORIZING THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) TO PROVIDE BRIDGE PROGRAM INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Diehl made a motion to adopt; Mrs. Emerson seconded. The Ordinance passed with a vote of 7-0.

Ordinance No. 31-2016
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK OF COUNCIL/FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, OHIO LABOR COUNCIL, INC., FOR THE PATROL OFFICERS BARGAINING UNIT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Harlow made a motion to adopt; Mr. Diehl seconded. The Ordinance passed with a vote of 7-0.

Ordinance No. 32-2016
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK OF COUNCIL/FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, OHIO LABOR COUNCIL, INC., FOR THE SUPERVISORS BARGAINING UNIT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Diehl made a motion to adopt; Mrs. Emerson seconded. The Ordinance passed with a vote of 7-0.

Old Business - None.

New Business

Mrs. McNear: Council, you have in your hands this evening a transfer for a liquor license from Outback Steakhouse of Florida, LLC, located at 11700 Princeton Pike. That is where the transfer will go to. It is being transferred from the Outback on 11790 Springfield Pike. This is a D5-D6. A D5 is spirits and liquor for on premise consumption only, beer, wine and mixed beverages for on premises or off premises in the original sealed containers until 2:30am. The D6 is the sale of intoxicating liquor on Sunday between the hours of 10am or 11am and midnight. Are there any objections? (None) Alright, I will take care of filing the paperwork. Thank you.

Meetings and Announcements

Mrs. Ghantous: Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on November 15th at 7:00 here in these Chambers.

Mayor Webster: Just to remind everybody, Monster Mania is scheduled for Saturday the 29th from 2-4pm down at the Community Center, and you do need to pre-register for that and that this year is being sponsored by the Springdale / Forest Park Lion’s Club.

Mr. Hawkins: As an announcement, I just want to thank and congratulate a great Father-Daughter Dance. John Wagner, our Recreation Programmer; Sharon Brooks, SYB President; and Renee Jacobs, who was the leader on the committee. It was a wonderful time had by all.

Communications from the Audience - none.
Update on Legislation Still in Development

Mr. Hawkins: As you examine your internal memorandum, item number one was addressed with Ordinance Number 31-2016, which passed with a 7-0 vote. It was an Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Clerk of Council/Finance Director to enter into a collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio labor Council, Inc., for Patrol Officers Bargaining Unit and declaring that an emergency. Item number two was addressed with Ordinance Number 32-2016, an Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Clerk of Council/Finance Director to enter into a collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc., for Supervisors Bargaining Unit and declaring that an emergency, and that passed with a 7-0 vote. Item number three was addressed with Ordinance Number 30-2016, an Ordinance authorizing the Ohio Department of Transportation to provide bridge inspection services for the City of Springdale and declaring that an emergency, and that passed with a 7-0 vote. All other matters were forthcoming.

Recap of Legislative Items Requested for Next Council Meeting

Mr. Hawkins: There are several Resolutions confirming Mayoral Appointments as well as Council Appointments for various Boards, Commissions, and Committees. Also there will be a first reading of the Zoning Code Amendments, and also a request for the Property Code Amendment as well. Is there anything else?

Mr. Parham: Property Code is going to be on the 16th of November, but the others are correct.

Adjournment

Mr. Hawkins moved to adjourn. Mrs. Emerson seconded the motion and Council adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:
Tom Vanover, President of Council

_______________________, 2016