President of Council Vanover called Council to order on July 19, 2017 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.

President Vanover noted that the presentation that was listed on the agenda as item number 7. There was a conflict and he would be unable to present this evening.

The minutes of the June 21, 2017 City Council meeting were considered.

Mrs. Harlow: On the June 21, 2017 meeting, we had Mr. Matt Shroyer come and address council. If we look back on the minutes, it just indicates “Mr. Shroyer”. I mean, in the first paragraph it says Mr. Matt Shroyer, but then when the conversation goes on, it is only indicating Mr. Shroyer. I was wondering, for clarification, for somebody looking at the minutes in the future, if we should have, “Mr. Matt Shroyer” put in that section so that it is a clarification as to which Shroyer we are talking about.

President Vanover: Any other additions or corrections? With that notation, I will accept a motion.

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adopt; Mrs. Emerson seconded. Minutes were adopted as published with six affirmative votes with Mr. Shroyer abstaining.

The minutes of the June 28, 2017 City Council meeting were considered. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to adopt; Mrs. Emerson seconded. Minutes were adopted as published with seven affirmative votes.

Mr. Parham: Council, we have once again added a new employee. I do not think this was due to retirement, I think this was due to an employee leaving our employment. At this point, I would like to ask our Police Chief Mike Mathis to come forward to introduce our new Violations Bureau Clerk.

Chief Mathis: Thank you. It is always a pleasure to come before Council and the Administration and the Mayor to introduce somebody. This is Mrs. Susan Brovey. She is one of our new Violation Bureau Clerks. Susan attended Thomas Moore College and got a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration. She has worked the majority of her career in Administrative tasks, mainly in the healthcare industry on the administrative side of it. She likes to volunteer and work at the Hamilton County Park District with the horses and at the riding stable. She also participates as a volunteer in the past with the Special Olympics program, which, of course, is kind of near and dear to us because we are pretty involved with that here locally. So, I just wanted to introduce Susan to you. Our clerical staff are a very integral part of our operation. They are there 24 hours a day, seven days a week, just like we are. She is currently on a midnight shift, so if she looks pale and not used to daylight. It is probably hotter than she is used to when she gets to work, but they are there and they are the ones that answer the phones, talk to people at the window, get on the radio, and take care of all the paperwork that makes the government run. Very important job they have and really help the machine of the Springdale Police Department move forward. So, I just introduced Susan to you, she might have a few words.

Mrs. Brovey: Hi, I would just like to thank everyone for this opportunity to work for such a great organization. I am learning a lot and I am working with a lot of great people. Thank you.

Committee and Official Reports

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City of Springdale Council

July 19, 2017

Finance Committee  Mr. Diehl  -  no report

Planning Commission:
Mr. Hawkins: The Planning Commission met on July 11, 2017. Five members were present. Had one matter of Old Business. The SCP Springdale LLC at 12110 Princeton Pike in Springdale, Ohio had a major modification to the PUD. This was approved with a 5-0 vote. We also had under New Business a 15-acre site located on Northwest Boulevard, Springdale, Ohio final PUD development plan. That was given a conditional approval to allow them to move forward with some financial matters. They are still going to have to meet with staff to address issues with regard to cross-access easement. Getting covenants, addressing some mounding for screening purposes and landscaping as well as the lighting that is going to be on the building in lighting the parking lot as well. That concludes my report.

Board of Zoning Appeals:
Mrs. Ghantous: Board of Zoning Appeals met on June 21, 2017. There was one item on the agenda. The owner of 276 West Kemper Road submitted an application requesting a variance to allow for the parking of up to three trailers in an unenclosed area of the property. That request was denied with a 5-0 vote. We met again on July 18, 2017 and we had two items; that was yesterday evening. The owner of 667 Smiley Avenue submitted an application for a variance that would allow for the construction of a porch that did not meet the setback requirements. The request was granted with a 6-0 vote. The second item from yesterday was the owner of 678 Allen submitted an application to request a variance to allow the conversion of a garage space to living space and that request was denied with a 6-0 vote. That concludes my report.

Board of Health  Mrs. Emerson - no report

Capital Improvements  Mrs. Emerson - no report

O-K-I  Mr. Shroyer - no report

Mayor’s Report
Mayor Webster: I've got a lot to talk about. Primarily about the fire that we had in the City on July 8th. I think that you are all aware that we had a pretty good size fire over in The Willows apartment complex. The result of it is that we have eight families totally displaced and so that has sort of been all encompassing for Mr. Clayton, our Health Commissioner. He is with us tonight to give us an update on where we stand on that. Before I ask him to do that, I would just like to make a few comments... You know, I am not one of those people that believe that it takes a village to raise a child, but I will tell you, when you have a catastrophe like this, it certainly does take a village to help. We have seen that outpouring of support. It has been very gratifying to see. Everybody from the Red Cross to the churches and the city people and private industry, just loads and loads of people and Matt will further identify some of those people. Anyway, of the eight families that are displaced, I guess today, we are told that one of them is not welcome back to The Willows because she is the one that started the fire. So, I can certainly understand that. Another family, they had six people living in a two-bedroom apartment. The Willows said no you can’t. You can come back, but you have to go into a three bedroom. They cannot afford it, so they are looking for other housing. Two other families have signed leases at The Willows and two will be signing leases at The Willows. So, we've got two at this point, two families and we’re not sure; I think they’re living with, some of them are living with strangers, I understand and one family, the family split up. One-half of the family is with one family and some of the other members with another family. Anyway, I think we have gotten, for the most part, over the initial crunch. The needs are still many for these people. We have run across a company called New Life Furniture Bank over in Blue Ash. They supply furniture to people in need like this. It’s called a furniture bank. Unfortunately, their acronym is NLF, so you have to be careful you do not transpose that or that you will have a trademark problem. Anyway, they accept gently used furniture and deliver it directly to families in need. The furniture donation is tax-deductible. They will pick it up and then they in turn deliver it to the needy families. So, I guess right at this moment, it is probably one of the most pressing needs is used furniture. So, if anyone here or anybody out there in TV land has furniture that is useable, we urge you to please help us out here. The phone number for the furniture bank is (513) 313-0530. If you forget that, just call the Springdale Health Department
Mayor Webster (continued): and ask to speak to Mr. Clayton. He would be more than happy to coordinate that with you. If you have furniture, please help us there. There is still the need with food, toiletries, that kind of stuff, clothes, naturally. The Princeton Closet has been a tremendous help too. Susan Wyder has really done a fantastic job helping these families. Also, just money to help these people. We had an S.O.S. meeting today; we’ve set aside a donation to the cause and any money that you would like to get to the families, if you want to make sure it gets to the families; it’s tax deductible. You can donate it to S.O.S. and just specify that this is to be used for The Willows fire family rescue fund and we’ll make sure that money gets passed on to those folks. S.O.S. can be reached at the City’s Health Department at (513) 346-5725. We certainly would encourage people to help us in that endeavor. So, at this point I guess I would like to have Mr. Matthew Clayton step forward and give us a report on exactly where we stand with some of these families and what organizations have come forth to help us.

Mr. Clayton: Mr. Mayor. Thank you for affording me the opportunity to come in and speak with our appointed and elected officials and with members of our community about this tragedy that occurred at The Willows of July 8, 2017 and thank you for the information you have provided. When the forty members of our community were displaced by this fire, we were advised that the needs were immediate and severe. Mr. Mayor, as you have indicated, most of these families lost everything; literally left with the clothes on their backs. The Health Department began to notify our community partners within a few hours of the fire. Daily emails providing information asking for community assistance and community involvement began on July 10, 2017. The Healing Center, Vineyard Cincinnati Church, the Princeton Closet, Princeton City School District, the catholic charity Su Casa, Springdale Offering Support, Higher Ground Ministries, Springdale Church of the Nazarene, New Life Furniture, Prevention First, and numerous citizens in Springdale began to pledge support, donate products and donate funds. The Healing Center and the Springdale Health Department began working together immediately after the fire to coordinate services and assess the needs of the victims. The Red Cross provided immediate assistance to the displaced families and within two days, the affected families began to receive assistance from the Healing Center, The Princeton Closet, and the Vineyard Church. Recently some of the families, as the Mayor has mentioned, have been placed in available apartments in The Willows of Springdale while others have been promised units that will be available to them within five days. These families; some of these families continue to stay at a local hotel thanks to the generosity of the Vineyard Cincinnati Church, Tri County Assembly and the Days Inn Hotel. As the Mayor mentioned, as these families transition to new homes, the need for furniture, household items, clothes, food, hygiene, personal care products and school supplies must be addressed. Individuals who wish to assist the families affected by the fire can reach out to the Springdale Health Department at (513) 346-5725 or (513) 346-5726. They can also reach us health@springdale.org. Mayor, you are correct and you stated very clearly that the need exists for donation of new or used furniture items. Clothing, household items, and funds. We will continue to work together as a community to assist them as they recover from the fire. Also, I would like to mention that we have set up a GoFundMe account and those who want to access the GoFundMe account can search under The Willows Apartments Fire Victims. Thank you very much sir.

Mrs. Emerson: Was anybody hurt? Fireman or residents?

Mr. Clayton: Fortunately, there were no casualties. We did have one individual that was transported by our Fire Department. He was treated and released. His injury was associated with a chronic medical condition that he had.

Mayor Webster: Thank you very much. So that is really all I have. The need is great if anybody in the community can help us, please step forward. Thank you.

Mr. Hawkins: I do not know if this is for Mr. Clayton or for the Chief. Was it determined how the fire was started?
Chief Hoffman: Yes. Actually, we called in the Hamilton County Fire Investigation Team. They determined that the fire originated in the kitchen. It was a cooking fire. Even though it was in the middle of the night.

Mayor Webster: If I might just add. In the report, and you can correct me if I am wrong here. At 3:00 in the morning, the lady decided she was going to fry chicken and she gets up and starts the chicken and falls asleep. So, that is the tenant that is not welcome back to The Willows.

Clerk of Council/Finance Director
Mrs. McNear: The financial report was not available as of today, so I will read that at the next meeting.

Administrator’s Report
Mr. Parham: Just a couple of things I wanted to point out and then I am going to ask the Fire Chief to step back up. In Mr. Hawkins report, he spoke about the item that was before the Planning Commission. One being the Major Modification for G.E.E.A.A. Park. We need to schedule a Public Hearing for that application. Mr. President, we would propose that the first reading be at the August 16th meeting, and then the Public Hearing and second reading for the September 6th meeting.

In addition, at the June 13th Planning Commission, the Commission heard an application to consider a zone change and a preliminary development plan for the property at 1391 East Crescentville Road for the consideration of a day care facility. This would require we have two public hearings, one is for a zone change and the other is for the preliminary development plan. We would request the same meeting dates of August 16th and the September 6th to address the applications.

Just a bit of information, we wanted to let everyone know that the “Opt-out” letters for the City’s Electric Aggregation Program were scheduled to go out this past Monday, the 17th. Maybe some have received those, but if you have not, they should be arriving very shortly. Again, if you wish to participate in the City’s Electrical Aggregation Program with the green energy or the renewable energy program, then you simply do nothing. If you wish to participate in the traditional or brown energy program, at a slightly lower rate, then you would need to still send in your opt-out form. In addition, you will need to contact IGS and there will be a telephone number identified on the Opt-out letter that will direct you to who to contact. So that program should be getting underway rather quickly.

At the last Council Meeting, on the 21st of June, we had a resident, who also happens to be one of our full-time firefighters, who came before council and raised a couple of issues. It was not necessarily the right venue, however, probably more importantly, is that some of the information that he provided was inaccurate. Therefore, I have asked the Fire Chief to come this evening to address the issues that Mr. Bryant, Jeff Bryant, presented at that particular meeting. The Fire Chief did meet with him the following day and, well, it’s just kind of mind-boggling as to some of the information he provided at the last meeting that he understood and knew was inaccurate information. Chief Hoffman will you come forward please?

Chief Hoffman: Thank you Mr. Parham. I appreciate the opportunity to come here and provide updates as well as clarifications on the two issues that were spoken of by Jeff Bryant at the June 21st Council Meeting. Yes, the firehouse roof is leaking in several spots. It has been. The building was built in 1977. We had the roof replaced 11 years ago. It sprung some leaks that were tolerable. Recently those leaks became more than just leaks. A couple of months ago, I put together a small team of people to start getting estimates to get these repairs made. All the members of the Fire Department knew that these estimates were being obtained. We talk about this in our monthly officer meetings. As well, the officers take the information back to the firefighters and they discuss this information with them so everybody knew about that. The people that are obtaining the estimates were obtaining the estimates prior to the June 21st Council Meeting. I met with Jeff probably two days after the meeting in my office and we had a lengthy discussion. Probably the biggest item that frustrated me was the fact that, and I watched the video on the ICRC and he stated that there had been duty-related injuries as a result of the roof leaks and that could not be further from the truth. I even asked him, “Where did you come up with that?”, and he stated to me, “I misspoke.”, and I (Chief Hoffman) said, “Yes, you did.” So we have had zero duty-related injuries as a result of that leaking roof. During our process of obtaining estimates, we are actually getting close to
Chief Hoffman (continued): having all of them in. They may all be in tomorrow. At that point, I will sit down with Mr. Parham and we will put together an action plan.

The second item that was brought up was the new sealer on West Kemper Road around the Northland Boulevard area. That when it rains, the road gets slick. Three of our apparatus (two fire trucks and our ladder truck) have had intermittent braking of traction. Whether they are responding to an emergency or non-emergency. Sometimes it has been as little as 20, 25 miles per hour. We are not sure why that has happened. The Captains have brought this to my attention. Yesterday morning we had a meeting with Mrs. Zimmerlin, Jeff Agricola, his management team, and two of our Captains so that we could share information with everyone so they could have a full picture of what is happening. The puzzling part is that, talking to the Police Department, there have not been any auto accidents in that area. Jeff Agricola is actually calling Metro to see if they have had any issues as well as Princeton School District and their school buses. So, Jeff (Agricola) is looking at a possible solution. He is talking to paving contractors as well as other jurisdictions that may have this same sealer. The sealer that has been put down, has put down everywhere. This is not anything new, but for some reason, three of our bigger vehicles are losing traction in that stretch. So, as soon as he gets some information, if there’s a cost involved, he will get with Mrs. Zimmerlin and discuss that. I just wanted to come in and give you an update on where we are with those. One of the things that we started doing today is we drafted a log that in each of our apparatus. So that every time a driver takes that vehicle out, if it’s wet weather, and they have one of the incidents, they can document the date, who was driving, what the weather conditions were like, or did they lose traction when they were braking, accelerating, steering. Things of that nature so that provides a little bit more detailed information for us to kind of decipher what a possible solution may be. Does anybody have any questions?

Mayor Webster: I was just glancing at the minutes here. I got the impression from Mr. Bryant at the meeting that they almost lost control of the vehicle or something. I mean it sounded like more than just a little spinning wheel or something.

Chief Hoffman: Well, I, actually when we had the meeting the other day, the original thought process or description was the vehicle did a complete 90 degree. So, if they were coming down the road, their vehicle wound up like that (illustrating a side view). That was not the case.

Mayor Webster: That is the impression I was left with.

Chief Hoffman: The breaking of traction was the vehicle fishtailing in essence. So, we are looking for a solution and hopefully we will find one. Any other questions? Thank you for your time.

Law Director’s Report
Mrs. Brandstetter - no report

Engineer’s Report
Mr. Shvegzda: As far as the State Route 4 Southbound Lane Addition Project, that project is substantially completed. We are just putting together the punch list for that particular project. State Route 4 ODOT Urban Paving, we are waiting on the pre-construction meeting so we have the schedule of the project as far as construction start. The Cloverdale area resurfacing, as you probably noticed the water main work on the eastern end of the area has been started. Primarily on the Greenlawn area. The work on the west end of this particular area will begin sometime around July 31st. As far as the 2017 Street Program, and the street rehab, that is substantially complete with the exception of some spot sidewalk and apron replacement. The only other aspect of that that needs to be done is maybe a little bit of pavement marking work that has to be completed and primarily it’s the resurfacing work in the various areas that need to take place and we have not yet gotten a schedule from the contractor on when that work will take place. As soon as we do, we will get that information out. As far as the street maintenance program, again that project is substantially complete. There may be a little bit of pavement markings that has to be completed in the Grandin area for that one. Beacon Hills subdivision streets, no change there. Glensprings Drive resurfacing, no change at that particular project. That concludes my report.
Mr. Shroyer: Mr. Shvegzda the work on Cameron Road, Naylor Court area and the Grandin Road area. Is that on schedule or is somebody waiting on somebody? It seems like it is kind of comes and goes.

Mr. Shvegzda: They had a problem with the Cameron area. They had adjusted the catch basins and as it turned out when they went to replace the curbs, they realized that they hadn’t adjusted them properly, so they had to go back and redo that so that was something that might have taken a little bit longer. Primarily, the aspect of what needs to be completed at this point is the grinding and resurfacing of the pavement there. Again, that is done by a subcontractor to our contractor Adleta Construction. We are trying to get their schedule for as to when they will start.

Mr. Shroyer: Okay, so we are not resolving issues, we are just getting contractors in the right place at the right time.

Mr. Shvegzda: As soon as we get that information, that last bit of the project, as far as that completion, we will get that information out.

Mr. Shroyer: Thank you.

Mayor Webster: I would just like to make a couple of comments about this seal program. I have gotten a ton of calls of this throughout the city and most people are extremely pleased. As a matter of fact, I had one guy left me a voicemail and said, “Mayor Webster no telling how many dollars you’ve increased the value of my property”. However, you know I have gotten two complaints, if you will or concerns that not maybe every crack was sealed before the, whatever you call it, the cape seal went over it. So, I just want to make sure everybody understands that not every crack is going to be filled. The larger ones are going to be filled and then the whole street is going to be sealed to keep the smaller ones from becoming bigger. I think that this process has proven to extend the life of the streets for up to five years. Isn’t that right Mr. Parham? So, we feel it is a very cost effective thing that we have done here with all of our streets. So, anyway, just do not be concerned if you see a small crack underneath the sealer. So, we had Mr. Agricola go out and check both of these streets, one was Van Camp I think. Another one on Mangrove and he is very satisfied with the work and he thinks it’s done to specs.

Communications Mrs. McNear - no report

Communications from the Audience

Mr. Salatowski: Thank you. I’d like to thank all the Council Members I got to call and talk and everybody called me back over the weekend. I’d like to thank you for that. Definitely, it was the weekend, if everybody called and you guys spent a lot of time on the phone with me. I appreciate that. I’m here to talk about, you’ve got an ordinance coming up tonight Ordinance No. 31-2017 and it’s where parking RV’s on the Springdale streets. As the ordinance reads, I’m not in favor of it. I’m hoping here tonight to open up some more eyes and at least maybe so that it doesn’t have to be voted on tonight. Maybe we can open up the discussion and maybe there’s other people that have different opinions of myself and how come, maybe I’m going to miss something from my side of it and maybe the other side has a bunch more. I’ve got an RV that will not fit in my driveway. When we take the whole family on vacation, or just camping in general on the weekends, our RV sleeps ten. So, it’s 32 feet long. It’s a trailer. I have a truck, so I can’t possibly back it in. It’s real tight where we are. I’ve got some great neighbors. They come out and ask all the time when it pulls up, “Hey, where are you guys going?”, and “Can we come with you?” I say they’re great neighbors because we never invite them, but they always ask, every time it pulls up. Under this rule that you guys are going to be discussing tonight, it’s got something in there about four days parking in the month. Under the way I would like to see it, it’s, or at least want to discuss about it, is say 24 hours. I go get my trailer from the site, the storage unit that we keep it. I bring it over; I get it at night, around 8:00 at night. I park in front of my house. We load up as much as we can before dark. I do leave it hooked to my truck. It does sit there. I go to work the next day, and if it’s not during the summer or like now, the kids are in school, the grandkids and such. I would come after work when they get off of school and then, we’re out of there. In fact, when we were doing our seal stuff in front of my thing, I actually had to move because the Police were coming and they said hey we’ve gotta move that trailer; they’re going to seal the road today. I thought man, if you
Mr. Salatowski (continued): Just wait 20 more minutes, the kids would be out of school, but we moved it and they did their seal program. It is not on the property more than 24 hours in Springdale. It’s loaded up; off we go. We come back either on the weekend or a Sunday, or we would come back the following week from vacation, but whatever it is, I pull it back up; I need my truck to get to work and stuff. I don’t have three vehicles. So, we unload it, within roughly six hours. I wash the whole thing. For those of you who don’t have an RV. An RV is actually like a mini house. You have to take everything from your house and put it in your RV, food, linens, everything and then when we come back. Everything goes back in the house and I wash it completely, top to bottom, scrub the whole thing and then within roughly six hours, but before 24 hours, it’s off the property again, off Springdale and back on its pad where it goes. With the new ordinance that you guys wanna talk about, it’s saying that you would only get four days to do that. This month alone, has five weekends in it. I’m not saying I went all five weekends, but I’m saying that’s a five-weekend month where most other ones are only a four-weekend month for the month. So I know that we’re kind of thinking. Well if you get four times to park on the street, that’s you get two and two and two and two if you went twice. But you got a holiday weekend in there and you happen to have five weekends, you know, what would happen if we need more than four and we voted on this and it went that way? Is it possible that we could get more than four? One of the next points I’d like to bring up; the City has, is, I don’t know you know, and I’m just guessing here, if we have 10,000 residents, if 200 of us have RV’s. I don’t know what the number is, but let’s say 200 of us have RV’s. The three biggest weekends for RV users is Memorial weekend, Fourth of July weekend and Labor Day weekend. So, the way, if I’m reading the proposal right, they want us to get a permit. Everybody wants to, has to get a permit to park in front of your house. Well, is the Police Department or the City or wherever got a line for 200 people to show up on Thursday to get the permits? Can we do it an easier way if this is what we’re agreeing to. Is it possible that we can get an answering machine and you call it in? If you have to be there more than 24 hours, is it possible that you can call in and give all the information that you’re asking for in the permit and that way if a police officer or whoever is driving by, they can call in to the number and say, “Yep, this guy is covered, he’s already called it in. His vehicle’s there. Nope, he’s not covered; he never called in to say he’s going to be parking there”. That’s just something else I’d like to raise up so that we can maybe talk about tonight or you guys can. Again, can we get more than four days? The unplanned breakdowns, unplanned, someone actually broke into ours where it’s parked. So, we get the phone call, hey you got broken into, you have to bring it over to the house, we had to put some plastic on it and cover it up. I had to replace the doors, the door locks and the window and then that wouldn’t have been a planned vacation or time to use it. That would’ve been an extra one, because, you know, what if I’ve already used up my two or four days, according to what you guys gotta talk about it, then how do I get more days, just in case. Then, just another little side. As we drove around over the weekend, because this was brought up, I did not go up and down every street, I promise that, but I did drive around the neighborhood. I only saw a couple that was parked around. I’m not saying, you know, there’s not a lot more, there could be; I do not know how many people own them here, but that were actually on the street, similar to what I do; I only saw a couple that was there while I was there. There could be more. I’m willing for any questions. I know I talked to everybody for probably an hour a call, so I’m sure you guys could discuss it, but if anybody’s got anything, I’m willing to try and answer a question.

President Vanover: Mr. Salatowski, would you introduce yourself.

Mr. Salatowski: Yes, I’m Mr. Patrick Salatowski from 11783 Van Cleve Avenue.

President Vanover: Thank you.

Mayor Webster: Thank you very much for coming out. So, you have a couple of concerns. The number of days. What would be reasonable in your mind? If we . . .

Mr. Salatowski: Again, I don’t think we should have to get a permit if you’re there under 24 hours. If you’re just pulling up, doing your business and you leave, I don’t see what I should have to go through the hassle of trying to obtain a permit to park in front of my house. I mean, it’s under 24 hours. It’s, I’m in and out. If I was there, if we needed longer repairs or something, I think myself, this is just my opinion, but, I think that’s when you if you’re saying four, we’ll give you four days to repair it for the month, if, what would be, I don’t
Mr. Salatowski (continued): know how long, what kind of repairs, because otherwise I’d probably be taking it to a shop or something. But, anytime, so far, that we’ve had to have it, it’s always been under 24 hours that it stays in front of the house and then it’s gone. That’s what I’m saying. If we said, I don’t want to say that you had eight weekends, or eight times, because that would be every weekend, but let me tell you, if I was retired, and I could afford it, and it would be great to be with the family every weekend, then we would probably do that. But, then I might have enough to have a house somewhere else where I didn’t need an RV, so, I don’t know. As we’re saying, you know, four days. I’m just saying four days if you go more than two weekends, it’s, you know, I’m limited.. So is it possible that I could go more than four days if I, hey, this month alone, but I promise that the RV is probably not coming in December, January, February, maybe not even in March. It’s usually, actually it is. It’s tied up for hunting season, so, come November on, it’s not here until I pack it up in November and it don’t come back until March, but that’s just myself.

Mayor Webster: I think in the latest rewrite of the Zoning Code, we increased that time from 72 to 96 hours.

Mr. Salatowski: That’s for the parking in your driveway.

Mayor Webster: In your driveway, yes.

Mr. Salatowski: What I’m bringing up is for the ones that cannot get it in a driveway. If I’m there and out of there in 24 hours, do I have to have a limit on how long? I promise I don’t, and I can’t believe that somebody would bring it and then leave and then bring it and leave every day, every other day for 24 hours. I don’t know, but I can’t see that happening, but, because it would only be as we go on vacation or use it to go camping and there has been a time when, hey, we really need to get it cleaned, it’s really looking bad, or like I said, someone broke in and we had to repair it.

Mayor Webster: Mr. President, I know we’ve got a lady here that has lost her voice and I think she’s given a written statement to the Clerk of Council here and if we could maybe hear that and then open the thing back up for discussion and address some of his concerns. Let’s hear the other side as to give you some background after you hear from this lady how we have arrived at where we are today.

Mr. Salatowski: Thank you.

Mrs. McNear: Hello, I’m going to introduce Charlene Reckner of 467 Cloverdale Avenue. Unfortunately, she has lost her voice, but she did type up a written statement that I’m going to read for her. “It is great that an ordinance is being considered regarding temporary parking of RV’s on residential streets. They are a safety hazard to residents both in cars and on foot. Some residents of the area of the Cloverdale Avenue and Rose Lane have called the City and the Police regarding the two RV’s parked on the streets. 481 Cloverdale has three RV’s by the property. One in the yard which is by code, and two on the roads. Two of these do not belong to that resident, but to someone from another area of Springdale. They have numerous cars running stop signs because the stop sign is not visible at times. I personally saw a young couple with a baby stroller almost being hit by a driver who came around the RV and did not see the stop sign and missed them by eight to ten feet. I was also almost hit in my car by a driver who was parked behind the RV on Cloverdale and pulled out around it on the wrong side of the road and did not see me because of the RV. I had to hit my brakes and so did he. It is a dangerous situation on our narrow streets. These are ones I’ve witnessed. They are big and very high and you cannot see around them or over them. They move them a foot or two once a week so the Police do not give them a citation. Friends of mine either keep their RV’s on the side or in the back of their property or pay to store them on RV lots as the one by Jungle Jim’s on Route 4. If people can get by with parking RV’s on the residential streets, it will open a whole can of worms. It could get out of hand. The police can only mark tires and a resident will move it one to two feet to keep from being ticketed. Springdale is a wonderful city and I have been here over 50 years. Things have certainly changed with all the rental houses and it is a job to keep up with all I’m sure. I would hate to see things get out of hand with numerous RV’s and large vehicles parked on streets that make it unsafe for people walking. Our streets have no sidewalks and more cars running stop signs. It is an accident waiting to happen. Keenan Riordan, Police Officer for our residential streets has had calls; Brian Ward
Mrs. McNear (continued): from the Building Department has had numerous calls as well. I hope Springdale puts safety first regarding this matter. There is an ordinance regarding commercial trucks, but not RV's. Other communities have ordinances regarding RV's. Our police have very important work to do and it is a shame that they have to take time for marking tires because of complaints and people not regarding other neighbors or safety of residents. If other people started parking recreational vehicles on narrow residential streets, our neighborhoods could become recreational vehicle storage place. People should check with the City before buying RV's. School will be starting soon and these RV's are a safety hazard for children getting on and off the bus walking to the house and waiting at corners. In addition to that written statement, there's also some interactions with people who are owners or neighbors of people who are owners of RV's and this is from the Family Motor coach Association and then Mrs. Reckner also did bring some pictures that are from 481 Cloverdale. Mr. President, you've got the packet right there, if you would like to pass those around. (Mrs. McNear speaking to Mrs. Reckner) Is there anything you want to whisper to me?

Mrs. Reckner: Just tell them thank you for listening and I appreciate their concern.

Mrs. McNear: Thank you for listening and she appreciates your consideration.

Mayor Webster: So, this legislation is not before you tonight because we've gotten one complaint. Because we got one idiot that decides to make the streets of Springdale an RV lot with three RV's. One legally parked behind his garage and the other ones according to the code are also legal, but he's got one in the front of his house and one across the street from his house. He goes out and moves them every 48 hours so that he doesn't get tagged by the Police Department. We've also gotten complaints from Heritage Hill. We've gotten complaints from the Terrace and the Oaks, we've got a couple of calls back there; so, you know, it's not just an isolated situation. Let me say this, I apologize for not sharing this stuff with you guys before. We don't like to bring legislation in and have you see it for the first time when it's on the agenda and I think our track record is pretty good at that. We try to apprise you of that beforehand before something hits the floor of council. In this particular case, we didn't. We wrestled with the language and we think this is a real safety hazard as Mrs. Reckner has indicated and we think we need to do something about it. Now, so, that's the primary objective. To try and get these things from being permanently parked on the street. We've got to figure out a way to also make accommodations for people like Mr. Salatowksi here who has to park his unit on the street to service it and so forth and so on; the easiest thing would just to be throw these right in with other commercial vehicles. I mean, we don't want, as per Zoning Code, we don't want buses, cement trucks, box trucks, box vans, semi-trailers, semi tractors or any other non-recreational trailer used for commercial purposes like stake beds, step vans, tank trucks, tar trucks, dump trucks, tow trucks or wreckers. We say those are safety hazards we don't want them on the street, so I'm not putting that on the same category, but as far as from a public safety standpoint, it's a big box out in front on the street and in this case, blocking a stop sign. Those things, based on the size of them, would have to be back substantially a substantial distance from the stop sign so that the motoring public could see the stop sign. So, we think it's a hazard that needs to be addressed and so when we have wrestled with this thing for several weeks. Mr. Parham, our Police Chief, our Law Director to try to come up with the language that would take care of the problem, accommodate the people that need, that don't have a driveway where they could park it and service it and at the same time something that the police department could enforce. I think that for this body to sit here and pass something without the police being able to enforce it is absolutely useless. I think that we, and the ones that are in the driveway, yeah, we have used hours there; 72 hours, we've bumped it up. We thought that on the street, using hours was going to be extremely hard to enforce that. We got the police chief with us here this evening. He'd be more than happy to answer any questions you've got about the enforcement of the way this thing is written. So, there were a lot of things that went into this thing and it's not just because we had one resident complain because we've got three RV's and one resident. Just for your information, the one resident that we're talking about at the corner of Cloverdale and Rose Lane is a tenant, so it's a rental property. He owns the one vehicle that's park on the property. One of the other vehicles belongs to his son who lives over on Balsam Avenue, Balsam Court. I don't know who in the heck owns the third one. That just appeared a couple of weeks ago, so we don't know who is the ownership is there, anyway, don't be surprised tomorrow if you
Mayor Webster (continued): look out and you’ve got a fourth one out there. Anyway, that’s all I’ve got to say about it at this time.

Mrs. Emerson: First of all Mr. Salatowski and Mrs. Reckner, thank you for coming in and sharing your opinions. When we initially, and correct me if I’m wrong, when we initially updated this ordinance to the 48 hours and the moving of the RV’s to the side or to the back of the house, the main idea, I believe, was to keep those unsightly things off of the streets so people could enjoy the views and their own homes and their neighbor’s homes. We are the minority in Springdale. RV owners are minorities in Springdale. I am an RV owner. You’ll get no more compassion from anybody up here but me because I own one. I also park it where I’m in a storage lot because I don’t want my neighbors to have to look at my RV, my toys.

When I’m done playing with them, I put them away and I feel we all should be that way. As far as Mr. Salatowski, I have a couple of questions for you if you want to come on up to the podium.

Mr. Salatowski: No.

Mrs. Emerson: So, I’m thinking this isn’t even going to affect you. There’s five weekends in this month. Have we needed it five weekends this month?

Mr. Salatowski: No, but if I was using it three. I did use it three in June. I used it three weekends in June and that only a four weekend month.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay, so looking at the whole situation. We can’t always look at the “what-if’s”. What if your car breaks down? What if this? What if that? We can’t always look at that. We have to look at the whole picture, so if you’re van gets broken into or your RV gets broken into, we can’t always bring that in to “Well you can have an extra day for it”. There has to be regulations so the police officers can enforce it. No one thought that we would get RV’s on the street that we could move every 48 hours and they could stay there. No one up here, until it happened, knew that that was possible. Somebody found a loophole and that’s what they’re doing. Also, what that said as far as the number of people coming up on those three big weekends? I would say there’s very few people who park their RV’s on the street to fill and empty; 99% of us here in Springdale park them in the driveway, which you can’t and I get that. So you’re not going to meet a large line at the police station to get your permits. If you do, I would be terribly shocked. So I don’t think that’s going to be an issue, but when we place out a law there, we have to be able to enforce it. The only way we can do that is to have documentation written so the police officers know when that RV came and when it left. So that’s why we’re making everybody go down who needs to use the street to load and unload to get a permit.

Mr. Salatowski: That’s why I’m asking if you have to be more than 24 hours, you would have to get the permit.

Mrs. Emerson: I understand that. I appreciate the suggestions. The other thing I would like Council to consider before we pass this. There’s also issues, now that we look at how the other laws and codes are in our policies. There’s boats now that are being parked and it’s legal to park those on the street as long as it’s hooked up to a motorized vehicle. So, now I’ve go down the street a huge boat parked or attached to a car that’s allowed to sit there as long as they move three feet every 48 hours. So this does not address boats and those kinds of items. So, I’d like Council to consider tabling this ordinance and letting us look at all the verbiage and the other options that we may have to add or take out before we pass this tonight. Do you have any questions for me?

Mr. Salatowski: Nope. Thank you.

Mrs. Emerson: Thank you.

Mrs. McNear: I have a family member who has a huge boat and a huge RV and they are absolutely beautiful, but I do not want to be his neighbor. He doesn’t live in Springdale. He does have property where he can store it, but he does pay to have it stored. Safety is a real big concern and I understand people want to enjoy the toys that they have, but we have to make sure that safety is number one. Thank you.
Mr. Harlow: I also agree about tabling this until we can get more information and have more input from our residents. One of the things that I would suggest to make if we do go with getting a permit is to enable the person to do it online and print it off and stick it in the windshield. I think that would be a way that they don’t have to jump through hoops to obey the laws. Thank you.

Mayor Webster: I’d like to ask Chief Mathis to come up and I think he can adequately answer your question why that there’s some problems, some inherent problems with doing that and I agree with you. Before we turn it over to the Chief, let me just say this. These permits would be issued out of the Police Department and the Police Department is there 24/7. So it’s not like you have to get there and you have to leave work early to run to the Police Department so, as you go up to West Chester or wherever you bring your RV home, you can stop at the Police Department and pick up your permit. Anyway, Chief why don’t you tell us why, how we have arrived with the permitting process.

Chief Mathis: Thank you Mayor. We really don’t have an ecommerce portal in the City. So, we don’t have, at this point the kind of technology to fill out permitting applications and things like that. If it was done by email, that would require someone to constantly monitor an email address because somebody could send us something on a Sunday, they could send it on a Monday and then we would have to assess that application if, for some reason we needed to deny it because the information was incomplete or maybe they had already stored their RV for the number of days that you all decide would be permissible, then we would have to get back a hold of that person electronically and whether they’re checking their email, they may have already parked their RV. I’m not saying it can’t be done, we just haven’t really explored that fully and I think there’s some problematic aspects to it unless it was done so far in advance if we made it to say you have to apply for this so many days in advance so that those kind of applications could be looked at electronically.

Mr. Hawkins: That was my real question in terms of how quickly and easily accessible was it going to be for the RV owner to show up and say, “Hey I want to take it out and get a permit.”

Chief Mathis: Well, the way, our concept, our conception on how to process this would be simplistic. As the Mayor said, we’re open 24 hours, seven days a week. We always have a staff member on station; a Violation Bureau Clerk. They would begin the process. If someone came in with an application, it’s very simple the amount of information we need. Basically your name, your address, your phone number, a description of your RV and the license plate number, the dates you want it to be there. They don’t have to be contiguous. You could do one four separate days a week apart, however you needed to do it. They would then check a log that we’ve created that would allow them to determine if they’ve already used any of the permissible number of days. If you’ve already used two days and you guys decide that four days is the number; they only get two more. Whatever number you decide is what they’re allowed to have. Then, if they’re good with the number of days they need, the person just shows their identification so that we know that they are who they say they are and where they’re living and we scan that document into our records management system. That document actually becomes their permit when they sign off on it. On the back of that is going to be whatever ordinance you all adopt if you adopt one. Along with some other information that remind people what the rules are, they post that on their RV in accordance with the ordinance and they should be out the door. Unless we’re busy, and we are a public safety agency, sometimes the creek rises, but under normal operating circumstances, I would imagine if someone walked in that door they’d be walking back out within ten minutes. We could make the permit available online as a form to print off so they could fill it out in advance before they bring it in, so that would save them a couple of minutes if they needed to do that. I think most people store their RV’s off premises, I mean most people I think do so they have to go get it anyway and when they’re getting it to bring it back they could just swing by the police station if they needed to.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you Chief. We’ve discussed this issue before. We’ve had a little committee made previously and it’s been said before I think that it’s about striking a balance of trying to protect residents that don’t have RV’s at the same time allowing residents that do have RV’s to enjoy some of their toys so-to-speak. I think Mrs. Emerson said this when we
Mr. Hawkins (continued): went through this a couple of years ago, that the ordinance is there for people that don’t have RV’s. That’s the majority of folks; that’s what the ordinance is made for in terms of protecting property interests. It’s about trying to find a compromise. All that being said, we have spent a significant amount of time previously in addressing the issue. At the same time, as Mrs. Emerson references, we have the issue of boats and other sporting vehicles that it may make sense to table it and make sure we’re going over everything so we’re not going through the thing piecemeal and then turn around and addressing another issue with regard to this later on. So, I’m also fine with tabling the matter for a month or more, whatever to go over so we’re addressing the whole thing at once.

Mr. Shroyer: A couple of things; the Mayor indicated we’ve had some other people besides the Cloverdale issue that have some concerns and they’re obviously entitled to those concerns. My guess would be they’re not RV owners. To them, their concerns are valid, but if we’re not talking about an issue of parking the thing and leaving it and we’re saying that we’re looking for some type of a process where people can own these things and actually be allowed to bring them home and use them. We’ve got that issue and then we’ve got the Cloverdale issue that obviously is just somebody beating our system. I’m hesitant to change our system to the fact to the point that it drastically impacts everybody else that has an RV to address this one issue. I did talk to those folks on Cloverdale. Apparently, from what they tell me in the discussion is the one motorhome that is in the yard belongs to them. The other two belong to their two sons and neither of those have been used. I guess, in a year’s time. They intend to leave actually tomorrow morning on an extended family camping trip. So, the other two motor homes have been there while the father and the two sons, I guess basically, update, repair, make road worthy the other two motor homes so that they can all go on vacation. They tell me that tomorrow morning all three motor homes are leaving and after their vacation when they come back, their motor home will go back in the back yard where it’s stored. The other two, she says the one son will store his at home, the other son stores his in storage and I got the impression that the motor home set for basically a year until we do the annual motor home trip. She tells me that the Cloverdale issue tomorrow morning will be resolved. It may re-occur next year when it’s time to get the motor homes ready to go again for the family camping trip, but that’s their explanation of why the other two motor homes were there and on the street. That issue aside, if it does resolved itself tomorrow, I’m more inclined to think along the lines of Mr. Salatowski that a permit process where we physically go to the Police Department and we fill out an application and we get a permit is somewhat cumbersome. What I think what the bottom line that we’re trying to overcome is the individual who beats our system by parking for 72 hours and then moving six inches and parking for another 72 hours. If we were to consider something more along the lines of a timeframe as Mr. Salatowski indicated, whether it’s 24, 48 or the 72 I think that it’s currently the trigger. I think any vehicle can be parked for 72 hours, 48? If we were to consider legislation that addressed the RV’s, boats, whatever, that outlined that 48 hour timeframe, but in some manner, limited it to non-consecutive timeframes where it could be parked for 48 hours and then it has to leave, not move six inches, forward, six inches back for another 48 hours, but 48 hours and then it has to leave for a period of time whatever we believe that period of time is. Then that would build some flexibility back in to it for the folks that need to bring it and intend to leave with it and they’re not trying to beat our system and if it has to be gone for 72 hours, it has to be gone for 48 hours, it can’t just move six inches and reset the clock. That might be an avenue to consider, but I would be hesitant to support an ordinance that has the type of impact that this, as it’s written right now, will have on all RV owners when I think we’re trying to address some specific situations and we may be able to do that with some different language. I also would be in favor of not acting on this ordinance tonight and give it some time and come back to it. Thank you.

Mrs. Emerson: Chief Mathis can I ask you a couple of questions?

Chief Mathis: I work for you guys. Sure you can. Absolutely.

Mrs. Emerson: Once an RV owner comes up and applies for the permit, you put that in the databases system. So you have record of that; correct?

Chief Mathis: Well, we’ve never done this before.

Mrs. Emerson: That’s the plan.
Chief Mathis: Our plan is they would come up and it would be kind of a layered thing. It’s essentially an Excel spreadsheet that everybody would have access to that has just some basic information that you could log the permit and then, in our records management system, we would scan the application and attach it to that incident or into our records management system so we have an electronic copy of the permit and that would also be accessible by any of our people.

Mrs. Emerson: So is it possible once say, Mr. Salatowski comes up and he wants two days; once he puts that information into the system; next he comes up does he have to re-write everything or can you just pull it up, he shows his I.D. and print off a permit? That might save a few minutes.

Chief Mathis: I mean that’s something we could look at doing.

Mrs. Emerson: That way everybody, all the RV owners who have to come up and get permits their information is already in there.

Chief Mathis: Yes, the permit, like I said, if I recall correctly, is name, address, description of the RV, license plate number and the dates you want it there. It literally, if they know their license plate number, it shouldn’t take more than a minute, minute and a half to fill it out.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay, and then if we went the route let’s say that Mr. Shroyer wants to go with the 48 hour thing. How hard is that for you to enforce? Because you don’t always know when a vehicle parked there, when it left, when it came back, I mean, so how are you going to be able to clock that if we were able to take that out?

Chief Mathis: Well, it’s more problematic for us when we go by hours instead of calendar days, because it’s easy to know that something was there on a calendar day. It’s less convenient for people because I understand his concern. If he gets there at 8:00 on a Tuesday night, that’s 8pm to Midnight, he only got four hours that calendar day. If he leaves at 9am the next morning, nine hours on that calendar day. That’s two calendar days. I totally get that; but it’s easy for us to know if something’s there. For us to prove that a calendar day just got ticked off, we just have to know it was there. Whether it was there for five minutes, five seconds, five hours; it doesn’t matter. When we have to know it was there a certain period of time, like hours, then we have to say, “Okay, we saw it there at noon on Tuesday and then we saw it again another day.” Now, what a person could do to challenge that is to say, ‘Well you saw it at noon on Tuesday, but I left at 3:00 and I didn’t come back until midnight, so I only had it there for three hours and then it wasn’t there for so many hours.” That’s where people, if you want to say “play the system” when we get a complaint about a vehicle parked on the street, we mark the tires with a little crayon. All they have to do is roll that, they don’t even have to go three feet. If they roll it so that when we come back the tire markings aren’t in line, we know they moved the vehicle. We can’t prove, you see what I’m saying and so it’s hard for us to constantly drive by a house just to check on a vehicle. So that makes it more problematic. Is it enforceable? Yes. We do enforce the 48-hour rule, but there are, it gives more wiggle room and really that’s a legislative and philosophical decision that you all get paid to do as to how you want to do that. Then we’ll figure out how to enforce it once you give us the direction.

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Mrs. Emerson: Thank you.

Mayor Webster: I was going to ask the Chief to explain the problems with trying to do it by hours and I think he already did that. I guess I do have a question for Council. There seems to be some sentiment to table this, so where are we going to send this and who’s going to be working on it and what’s the expectation of the resolution. Give us some objectives here.

Mr. Shroyer: I just wanted to mention that I use the 48-hour or the hour timeframe because I’m familiar with that already being in place, whatever is easier for the Police Department to manage if you put calendar dates on it. It can only be there for two calendar days or three calendar days whether they get two hours on one day and 24 hours on the next day, whatever accomplishes the objective and it is the easiest to deal with or enforce,
Mr. Shroyer (continued): but the idea is that you don’t move it six inches and get two more days. You get two days and it leaves or you get three days and it leaves or you get hours whatever is workable.

Mayor Webster: So, is everybody comfortable with using days. You understand why we needed to use days in here instead of hours? Okay, alright. I hear a concern about other types of vehicles?

Mrs. Emerson: I would like to look before we close this up and have to re-address it later possibly; I’d like to look at everything like the other sporting things like boats. Boats can be just as big as RV’s and I don’t want to be looking at those on the street either. So, I would like to bring that in to this ordinance also.

Mayor Webster: We have another resident back here that. You better be careful what you say though.

Mr. Emerson: Hi, my name is Bob Emerson; I live at 696 Allen Avenue. My wife and I have had some heated fellowship over this and we’re RV owners and we used to be boat and RV owners and they never were both of them in the driveway at the same time. There’s an issue. There’s an issue on Cloverdale and Rose and it’s, from what I’ve heard and read, this is not going to address that issue at Cloverdale and Rose.

Mrs. Ghantous: That’s exactly right.

Mr. Emerson: There’s nothing in the ordinance that says one RV, and it’s funny because in my conversation with Pat, Mr. Salatowski, I googled RV and everybody knows Google knows everything. Google says that an RV is “a trailer or a motor home with living arrangements inside similar to a home.” That doesn’t address boats, that doesn’t address car trailers. You can go right around there on Dimmick Avenue; there’s a guy that has a car trailer that’s probably long enough to accommodate two or three cars at one time and it’s not parked beside his house, it’s parked out next to the road. It’s in front of his garage, and it’s on a gravel driveway. I just think there’s too many open ends on this ordinance that is supposed to be voted on tonight. I think if you’re going to attack things, attack the violators, don’t attack the people that are trying to get away for the weekend. My camper comes home. You know my camper parks right next to his (Mr. Salatowski). His got broken into and mine didn’t because his is prettier than mine, but I bring mine home and I wash it. I patch it up, I look for defects and I usually bring them home a week before we go out. Because when I leave, I don’t want to have problems 100 miles down the road. I don’t park it on the road, but I have parked it on the road while I’ve shifted cars around the stuff and then I hit the road. I don’t want to look at the thing; I don’t want my neighbors to look at the thing. If there were complaints about mine, I would definitely consider doing whatever I had to do. If you check your records, you probably don’t have complaints about Mr. Salatowski. You got complaints about Rose and Cloverdale and that’s what needs to be addressed is the complaints, it’s not the “not complaints”. That’s all I’ve got to say. Thank you.

Mayor Webster: Bob, I will say, there’s been one addition to the ordinance; you may not have seen this, but only one permit may be granted per household, so that would limit the number.

Mr. Salatowski: If we do go with the Police Chief’s situation, if we do dates, you ask me how many dates I would need. I would need 16 days now. Because I bring it, like he said, on Thursday night and I leave on Friday. That’s going to count as two of mine. Well, I’m gonna bring it back on Sunday. No matter how it plays out, to unload it where two of my dates are going to be a Thursday and a Friday and all I did was leave and then it was only under 24 hours, but that is going to be two dates. So, if we were talking dates, when you asked how many dates I would need, I’m going to need 16 days, three days, six days, I’m going to need, yeah, I’m going to need 12 days. If you go by dates and not hours and I understand your problem (speaking to Mrs. Reckner), but I’m just saying mine would be dropped off on Thursday, picked up on Friday. You know and then shove off and then I’ve got to bring it home, so that means I’m limited, you guys are limiting I’m only allowed to take vacation one time a month, you know, that seems pretty harsh. Just wanted to put that out there.
President Vanover: Thanks.

Mr. Diehl: Chief I have a question for you. Earlier, there was some issue about safety and stuff. In your opinion, how safe are RV, boats or whatever you want to call them parked on the street?

Chief Mathis: Well, the primary issue I think you have in any safety on the street is visibility. If anything impacts on the visibility of a driver, it renders less safe. So, we've had issues in the past where someone's bush or tree grows out and it obstructs the stop sign or a speed limit sign. So, there's an obstruction to visibility and we have to go trim them back. It could be any sized vehicle if it is big. If someone parks a school bus or someone parks a whatever, it can impact on the ability of people to see. I know we've had complaints on Cloverdale. You have to park thirty feet from a stop sign to be legal, but if the vehicle is large enough, by the time you go around it, you may not have time to really see what's around it. I'm not aware of any actual issues we've had in the neighborhood where there's actually been an accident, but then again I don't live there like she does (Mrs. Reckner) and I don't watch, I'm not there like she is, she lives there and if she's seen near accidents, I'll take her at her word that there's been issues. That's the main concern I think you'd have when you're dealing with a public roadway is visibility and if you have to go around something if it forces you to go left of center, depending on how busy the road is. There's a big difference between where maybe his RV (Mr. Salatowski) that's a little less travelled than on other streets where there is a lot more traffic. Just because it's a residential area, I know, like on Cameron I heard people talk about Cameron earlier, that's a heavily travelled street for a residential street because it's a "cut through". People want to cut through between Route 4 and Sharon and back and forth. There's a tremendous amount of traffic on that street and so that would be more problematic. Literally, every street is different. Every situation is different. So, it would be hard to say. It's hard to create one rule that covers all situations.

Mr. Diehl: Absolutely, but going back to my original question, are these things a safety issue? If you had to classify them, would you consider them a safety hazard?

Chief Mathis: I think they could be, depending on where they are parked, how they're parked, how long they're parked there, where they're at in relation to traffic control devices, how heavily travelled that street is. I mean, inherently, they're not evil and it may be fine, I'm not really familiar with his (Mr. Salatowski's), I'm sorry, the street again?

Mr. Salatowski: Van Cleve.

Chief Mathis: I think they could be, depending on where they are parked, how they're parked, how long they're parked there, where they're at in relation to traffic control devices, how heavily travelled that street is. I mean, inherently, they're not evil and it may be fine, I'm not really familiar with his (Mr. Salatowski's), I'm sorry, the street again?

Mr. Parham: Just to follow up on that. None of these vessels are in themselves "safe" or "not safe". It's what you do with them. It's how they're used. It's whether they hinder or inhibit other opportunities. If you place them as you've heard the Chief and others talk about, in various locations, then they create unsafe opportunities, but the vehicle itself is not safe or unsafe. One of the other issues that you have to consider with large vessels or large vehicles, and not just those, but sometimes smaller, depending again on where they're located, is access. Access for especially our emergency vehicles to be able to get to the site they need to get to deliver the service. So, again, it depends on how it's used will determine the condition or the situation becomes a safe or a not safe situation. You know as the Mayor indicated, we received some concerns; we tried to address those concerns. Is this proposed
Mr. Parham (continued): legislation perfect? No. There’s no legislation that’s perfect. What we try to say often is that you have to be careful when you are trying to address one issue that you may capture several others and those others are things that you may not want to prohibit or eliminate. At that point, then it’s a decision based on which is more serious, if you will, for lack of a better term. Which creates the more unsafe condition if you will. So, what we’ve tried to do over the last month is try to find language that would address the elimination of allowing these size vehicles to sit on the road and to hinder and create the unsafe conditions. Again, it’s not perfect. What we’ve talked about often when we’ve gone through our zoning code is the zoning code and our entire codes, are what we refer to, as a living document. We draft legislation, we create policies, we create rules, and then we have to go out and live those things to see how they actually are going to work. In this case, we have this situation that’s been presented to us. As Mr. Emerson talked about, we may limit one unit per household. We’ve tried to tie the unit to a household so that we know at that point in time, as we’ve had with this situation, the owner doesn’t live on that street for one of those vessels. The owner lives in another part of the community, but yet that vessel was always parked over on Cloverdale. This is a photograph of one of those vessels. It’s not a photograph that I think that most people are going to want to see sitting out in front of their home. It’s a mobile home, yes, but there is a lot of stuff on the back of that mobile home and that constantly would sit over in the neighborhood. It would consistently be moved to avoid a citation. Those people (the neighbors) didn’t like to see that there. So we’ve tried to come up with language that can address this situation, but also give others the opportunity to use their RV’s. It seems to me that when we or when Council adopted the legislation in 2013, it was very clear, because prior to that you could park your RV on your property in front of your home. The big change, and it had to be on an improved surface, the big change is that you can no longer park it in front of your home, you can park it on the side and you can park it in the rear and the give in that opportunity was you didn’t have to have it on a piece of concrete. You didn’t have to have it on an improved surface, but you couldn’t park it in front. That message said to me: we do not want to see them in front of our homes. What we’ve learned from this situation is there’s a loophole in the process of seeing it out front and that is individuals get a chance to park it on a piece of concrete. You didn’t have to have it on an improved surface, but you couldn’t park it in front. That message said to me: we do not want to see them in front of our homes. What we’ve learned from this situation is there’s a loophole in the process of seeing it out front and that is individuals get a chance to park it on the road and there’s nothing that prohibits you from parking it on the road. So what we would try to do in this opportunity is to reduce and limit it. The other section in the code that talks about the 96 hours, which is four days; we tried to pattern this language after it because that is driven by giving those owners of RV’s a period of time; four days, in which to bring their RV to the front of their homes and do whatever it is they need to do, whether it’s clean it, whether it’s repair, whether it’s to load it or unload. So the thought was to then take that same concept and give you the opportunity to park it on the road for those who did not have the ability to put it in their driveways. Our original draft was to eliminate them from the road altogether, but then the question came up, “Well what about the people who don’t have a big enough driveway in order to park them in their driveway? How do you accommodate them?” So, we went back to the drawing board and as the Chief has talked about, we’ve come up with a permit system. The permit system gives us an opportunity to establish a unit of measurement to know when the vessel is there. He has already talked about the hours versus the days. The other thing that you see that is in the proposed legislation if you will on the exhibit, is it talks about within close proximity of a city block of proximity up to your home. Some suggested that you put a number of feet. A thousand feet, five hundred feet. What we tried to do is to eliminate the officer from having to get out there and measure. Are they at 500 or are they at 501? If it’s within the city block, it’s very easy to observe that it sits within that block. They don’t have to get out and do anything extraordinary. So we’ve tried to make the process easier for accommodating the resident who owns the RV as well as to have a system in which it can be enforced. Because believe me we have heard, unfortunately the complaints when the vessel is there and why we aren’t getting rid of the vessel, or that they’re not doing their job. So what I’ve always said to you is that I prefer whatever we do is that we establish a black and white rule. The black and white rule simply says either you hit the point and you’re in violation, or you don’t hit the point and you’re not in violation. We want to make it easier to be able to enforce it so that whatever goal that you’re trying to achieve by steps in the law, were able to enforce it. So, I’ve provided you with just some information. The ordinance also talked about the Ohio Revised Code, Section 4501.01. Because the definition was not clearly identified in the ordinance. I have given you a copy of that so you can see what that means. Also, it identifies five different units, travel trailers, motor homes, truck campers, fifth wheels, and park trailers for those of us who, and I’m not one of those, who are not familiar with them all. We just tried to provide you with some visuals as to what they look like.
Mr. Parham (continued): Mrs. Emerson is correct. There are other issues and other voids that are in the current policy relative to how you treat boats. A boat by itself cannot simply sit out on the street, but once you attach it to a vehicle, it can legally sit on the street. They just have to go back and move it every 48 hours. So, we want to work with the residents to try to achieve what they need from one perspective and at the same time, we want to try to assist the other perspective. With that, I'll always be willing to answer your questions. Thank you.

Mr. Shroyer: Thank you. Just to clarify for Mr. Salatowski. When I talked about the days or dates, calendar dates I was thinking in lieu of or instead of a permit process as long as it doesn’t stay there more than two calendar dates or three calendar dates and it leaves for a period of time. It can come back as many times as will actually fit within that month without a permit process. I think a permit process is cumbersome for the RV owner. I think it’s going to involve some type of time and record keeping and documentation for the Police Department. I think if we can resolve the issue without instituting yet another paper permit process where people are going back and forth to the Police Station and the Police Department is keeping records. My thought was that if the issue is we’re being played by people that are parking for 48 hours and moving six inches, then let’s address that issue. Whether it’s hours or days. If it can stay there for two days, it can stay there for two days and then it has to leave for three days. If at the end of three days it comes back for two more days and you want to play that game all month, then maybe you’re beating the system again, but you have to have some place to put it for those three in between days, so I’m thinking instead of a permit process.

Mrs. Emerson: I just want to tag on to what Mr. Parham said. I just want to remind everybody out there that the RV owners as ourselves, we’re minorities. This ordinance isn’t being passed for us. It’s for the majority of the community who do not own these huge RV’s and boats and those kinds of things. So, it’s not about us, the RV owners. We’re trying to allow people to enjoy their RV’s and things, but not at the cost of what the rest of the community wants.

Mr. Shroyer: I guess I understand that thought process except that I don’t get the impression that we have a large segment or population of the community that has a strong feeling either way and that when we then start to talk about well we’ll add boats or we add jet skis, or we add anything else that we don’t want to look at. I guess at some point it becomes the question of who are we accommodating that doesn’t want to look at it. There are people that park cars in front of my house that have obviously been in multiple wrecks and barely running and I can hear them start them at 2:00 in the morning and I’d rather look at somebody’s $30,000 bass boat parked in front of their house across the street than look at some of the cars that are parked in front of my house at periods of time. But, just because I don’t want to look at doesn’t mean that we need a law that they can’t drive it or they can’t have it. They buy their license tags, they buy their insurance, they do all the same things, you know maybe a Ford lover doesn’t want to look at my Chevrolet truck in front of the house, but at some point we have to ask ourselves how many people we’re trying to accommodate because somebody doesn’t want to look at it for 24 or 48 hours. Thank you.

Mrs. Emerson: Just to tag on to what Mr. Shroyer said. Do these run and are they licensed?

Mr. Shroyer: Yes.

Mrs. Emerson: Do these people drive them?

Mr. Shroyer: Yes.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay, can you see around them?

Mr. Shroyer: Yes.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay, that’s all I needed to know.
Mr. Shroyer: You can see around my boat parked next to the back of my truck as well, but we’re talking about two different issues now. If we’re talking about safety issues because of the size of the motor home or whether you can see around a vehicle.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay, and you also mentioned that there are few RV people in the community. Is that what you said?

Mr. Shroyer: No, I said I don’t know that we have a large number of residents in the community that have a strong feeling about whether the RV’s are parked in front of their neighbor’s house temporarily or not.

Mrs. Emerson: I would beg to differ. We can take a poll.

President Vanover: I would say on that point, until you’re affected, it doesn’t bother you. Many years ago I had a neighbor that had one and it showed up at Thanksgiving and you know, you spent time decorating the house and they had to come into the cul-de-sac and be in front of the house before they could see it, so, but, you know, they were completely legit, so. Okay, I guess at this point Council I think we need to give the Administration some direction on what we want to do. Go ahead.

Mrs. Matheny: I’m Julie Matheny and I live on Park Avenue. So, this situation on the corner of Cloverdale and Rose Lane; I drive by to and from work, errands, everything else. I constantly see it and I don’t want to look at it and if I live there, that close to those that residence, I would have been up here many council meetings ago. It’s an eyesore. It deteriorates the property and the property values of the people in that particular neighborhood and I also am bothered by, as Mrs. Emerson brought up the boat that she has to look at. I only have to look at it because I live on the street behind her, but I see it every day when I go to and from my house and I was wondering how long it was going to be before we were going to talk about it. Because we don’t want to see a bunch of extra vehicles that are unnecessarily parked in our driveways. I personally wish it wasn’t even allowed to park it on the side your yard, but it is. I think we have given the sporting vehicle owners, campers, boats, everything quite a lot of leeway in this city. Quite a lot and I, for the life of me, have been coming to Council meetings for many many years, watched them on TV, never in my life have I had to hear about motor vehicles as much as I have in the past two years and I would think that this Council would have better things to spend time on than an hour talking about this. Thank you.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Megan Sullivan-Wisecup 152 Silverwood Circle. I just want to talk because I had actually talked to Mrs. Emerson before. It’s been about two months ago that I had mentioned the boat that was by my house. I know that you saw it was kind of across the street from Mrs. Ghantous’ house. I wasn’t sure of the rules of being on the road when I looked at the way that things were written out, it was very confusing as to how it worked and we had both talked about how we both had boat issues. Where the one that was in our neighborhood was parked, I’ve almost gotten in to actually three car accidents over it because it blocked where you could not see around oncoming traffic. You couldn’t see the stop sign coming, like who was stopped at the stop sign before you literally got on it and they were turning in to you. It was a very very dangerous situation. Boats are just as serious. I live in your neighborhood Mr. Salatowski; I’ve never seen your camper. I’m going to be honest. I’ve never seen your camper and I think that what you guys are trying to do, correct me if I’m wrong, it’s not to punish the responsible RV owners or anything like that. I don’t, I feel like what I was hearing was like you feel (Mr. Salatowski) like you’re being punished as a being a responsible RV owner and I don’t think that that was the intention at all. I think it was safety. I think it is finding some sort of a happy medium between people like those who leave their stuff parked that are in dangerous situations and aren’t doing what they’re supposed to do and then people that are doing what they’re supposed to do. I don’t think anybody’s trying hurt anybody or affect anybody. I personally think that there does need to be some sort of way that the police can govern it because I could easily say, like I was talking to Holly, I could say, “Chief Mathis, this boat has been here for seven days and it hasn’t moved; they could chalk it. They could move a little bit up and I still can’t see the stop sign. It’s still a big eyesore and it’s a problem safety wise and there’s nothing that the police can do about it. My daughter’s a young driver. She’s as cautious as any 18 year old is on the road and I can only assume if I’m getting ready to get into accidents, what some teenager is going to be like in that area. I don’t think I’m the only person that has people in their neighborhoods that don’t always drive the safest in
Mrs. Sullivan-Wiseecup (continued): The first place and then you add to that something taking a path of their road. It’s very very hard to see around and it’s hard to get around as well. That’s just my two cents. As far as the permit, I think that that was actually a good idea as far as being able to govern and watch how long someone’s been there or whatever. I don’t know the magic number. I mean I want somebody to be able to enjoy their toys as much as anybody else. They paid for them, they’ve bought them, they deserve them, but at the same time, at what cost to safety and the neighbors and everything else. I think that the only way they would be able to govern it is if there was some sort of permit. Because if not, you’re saying I haven’t been parked here that long. Your neighbor is saying yes you have and you could chalk it. The police can only assume you’re telling the truth when they said they’ve been out here this long. If you had the permit you could say this is the day that you’re logged in. This is the day you’re supposed to be logged out. There’s no question as to how long it’s been there or how long it’s supposed to be there. That’s when it’s allotted, it should be there period. That’s just my thoughts.

Mayor Webster: Well, I hope, especially you seven individuals have got a feel for what we’ve tried to accomplish when I say it’s like threading a needle and it is to try and accommodate all the concerns and be fair to everybody and to have something that the police department can enforce. It’s not an easy task and that’s what’s we’ve trying to do for the last, as Mr. Parham says, for the last month. At the end of the day, I think that I hear some concerns about the permitting process. If you don’t want to do permits, then I think you might as well just forget this whole process. Because there’s no way that the Police Department is going to be able to police how many half days or three quarter days or overnights. You’ve got a police officer in not just one day you’ve got three officers going to go past you. Three different officers that are going to go past your house and there’s just no way it can be enforced on an hourly basis. So, I think it’s going to be days and I think there’s going to be a permitting process. We’ll be more than happy to go back to the drawing board and work with whatever committee you want us to work with to try and come up with something that’s acceptable; but I think going in, if you’re not willing to accept a permitting process, then you have no teeth into it and whatever we come up with is not going to be enforceable. Thank you.

Mr. Hawkins: I for one, first off I appreciate what the Administration has tried to do with regard with the legislation. I do think in terms of enforcement it’s important that it’s something that you can actually enforce and I do think that you probably have to go through a permitting process to be able to enforce any of these things. My only, I don’t want to say issue or question with it really is just taking a little bit more time to evaluate the situation. I do think it’s something that needs to be addressed. The only other question is are there any other things that we should look at while we’re attacking this issue and looking at this issue to do it all at once. I know we’ve been through this to some degree before with the campers on the side of the house and the back of the house and all that stuff and it was one of those things at that point too. We went to address it as collectively at once, as we could opposed to not taking care of something and having to worry about that popping up and rearing its head. So that’s the only reason I’m in support of tabling just so we can look at and we may table and come back and say we’re not even going to address the boats or the majority may say let’s just address the RV situation and leave that for another day, but I think it’s at least prudent to look and consider it while we’re going through this process.

President Vanover: Okay, well I mean as far as committee, we have a standing subcommittee of council rules and laws which is where it would originate from or go to. So, I think if Council you are leaning to tabling it and then sending it to Rules and Laws, they can work with the Administration and gel this. I agree with Mrs. Emerson. I think the votes are an issue. The big, well, it’s like you said it, I know the one she’s talking about and I think I’ve seen 42 footers which are approaching the length, well, actually it’s longer than the width of my house, so, I think that seems to be the feeling. Council do you concur?

Mayor Webster: I’m the one that threw out Rules and Laws, but I mean if you want to designate a couple of people rather than that committee, that has an interest in it or some knowledge in it, then that’s fine. Just give us a couple of people to work with.

President Vanover: Yeah, I mean technically, well, Mr. Hawkins?
Mr. Hawkins: I don't know if we still have a record of individuals we had when we made the subcommittee before of some RV users and some non-RV users. If the administration can pull that, we may consider asking those individuals if they have an interest in participating in it as well.

Mr. Parham: I think the last time, what occurred, we didn't necessarily put a committee together, but we had the gentleman who had gone before BZA who had been denied. He came to a Council meeting seeking relief, and then the Administration said, give us the opportunity to investigate and see what other communities are doing. We assigned that to the Building Department. The Building Department gathered information from other the communities as well as the industry and took it to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission digested that information, discussed it, and made a recommendation to Council. Council addressed it and made the final decision as to what language would be adopted. So there's really no one that we can think to organize. Back in the past, there was a committee of boat owners, RV owners, and non-owners and all were put together to discuss the issue. In 2013, we really didn't put a committee together.

Mr. Hawkins: I'm sorry. I meant that further back when we were addressing it. I don't know if any of those individuals, if it makes sense to pull them into it.

Mr. Parham: I would not know where to find them all.

Mr. Hawkins: Okay. Fair enough.

Mr. Parham: Because that preceded me being here. I am not sure who would've been on that committee at that point, other than Mr. Osborn (Cecil).

Mr. Shroyer: I would suggest it. In the end, it's a Council issue and a Council ordinance and we have a process in place with rules and laws I would suggest if Mr. Diehl and Mrs. Ghantous are comfortable with it that we follow the established route.

President Vanover: Any objection Council? Alright. Then that's the way we will proceed. I'll leave it to the administration and Rules and Laws to get together.

Mrs. Ghantous: It's on our agenda.

President Vanover: I know and when we get to it, we'll have to do a motion to table and when we get there, we'll do it. Not now.

Ordinances and Resolutions

ORDINANCE NO. 30-2017
AUTHORIZING CONTRIBUTIONS TO CERTAIN HEALTH ACCOUNTS OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE RELATED TO THE CITY’S HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Diehl made a motion to adopt; Mr. Hawkins seconded.

Ordinance No 30-2017 passes with seven affirmative votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 31-2017
ADOPTING SECTION 73-042 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE REGULATING TEMPORARY PARKING OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES ON CITY STREETS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Harlow made a motion to table Ordinance 31-2017 and request that the Rules and Laws Committee review all the issues we’ve spoken about this evening and come back and give us a report on that. Mrs. Emerson seconded.

Mr. Parham: Is the intent to have information back to you by the next meeting, the August 16th meeting?
President Vanover: If that’s possible, fine. If not, you know, I’m not going to put a burden on you and I would throw out to Rules and Laws Committee, you have the capabilities if you want to interview others, that you can take advantage of that.

Motion to table and referred to Rules and Laws subcommittee passes with seven affirmative votes.

RESOLUTION NO. R6-2017
A RESOLUTION PERMITTING THE CARRYING OF CONCEALED HANDGUNS IN THE SPRINGDALE MUNICIPAL BUILDING BY VALID CONCEALED CARRY PERMIT HOLDERS

Mr. Shroyer made a motion to adopt; Mrs. Harlow seconded

Mrs. Ghantous: I was just curious about the history behind this. Why, why now and what the thought process was. Were the employees here in the building requesting this or? I’m kind of new, so I don’t really know always how these things come about. I was just curious how this ended up before us tonight if there was a story; not a story, but you know something that happened; an incident or something that happened and why we’re talking about it tonight.

Mayor Webster: Well this goes back quite a while. Something Mr. Vanover and I have drilled, if you will, our state representatives for many years going back to Ross Hillidge, so forth and so on and Devers that we were concerned about that. About the ability. Especially if you look around here, you’re a captive audience. There’s only one way out of this chambers. You go around the door, but you’re back at the same thing. I just see it as a very unsafe condition and something that I think that needs to be addressed. The state code was changed in December.

President Vanover: December 19th.

Mayor Webster: The ordinance became effective in March, is that right? I think sometime in March it became effective. So, it gives us the authority to allow concealed carry in all of our municipal buildings except the Police Department and the Courthouse and, because there’s a court there and the p.d. so it’s dual reason why it can’t be in that building. But this council has got the authority to authorize concealed carry in this building, the Fire Department, Recreation Department, Maintenance squads if they saw fit to do that. I think over the years we’ve had conversations with a number of different council people regarding that. I don’t think Tom and I; well I guess we’ll hear here shortly, but I don’t think we’re the only two that feel this way that I guess. I would like to add this that I think that law is still somewhat unfair about employees whether the city’s personnel policies can prohibit employees from carrying those weapons inside the building. If they can, I think that the administration would like to have some time to update the policy manuals to make sure that everything is spelled out in black and white as to what an employee can or cannot do as far as concealed carry is concerned. I wholeheartedly support this. I think it’s long overdue and there’s just a lot of nuts running around out there and the only protection that we’ve got is that little sign on the door that says no weapons beyond this point. So, I’m sure that’s going to stop some idiot that’s decided he wants to do in the Springdale city government.

Mr. Shroyer: I also would support this resolution and in addition whether we did anything about it tonight as far as a motion to amend or to give it some time, but I wonder if the administration would get a feel from the administration at least from the Fire Department as to whether they would have any concerns if we also included the Fire Department building. Those folks work 24-hour shifts. They come to work at 8:00 in the morning and work until 8 the next morning. A number of them I know have concealed carry permits. They leave their weapon in the car because they can’t bring it into the firehouse. I would much rather know that that weapon is in their locker locked in the locker room in the firehouse than in their vehicle for 24 hours at a time in the parking lot when sometimes there’s people in the firehouse sometimes they’re not. Granted, it would be pretty bold to be breaking into cars right behind the police station, but those things happen. Unless the Fire Department administration had some reason that they didn’t want their building included, I would like to think at some future point we may consider that building as well. Thank you.
Mr. Hawkins: The question I had had been answered by the Mayor with regard to policies and procedures set in place for employees if this were passed and the fact that we don’t have those set at this time. That gives me some pause and concern because I think it’s important that those things would be set in place prior to this being passed. All that being said, I think as you indicated Mr. Mayor, why this is coming forth is about the elected officials in protection during council meetings or while elected officials are taking on their tasks in other opportunities here within the municipal building. In as such, I think it’s important to narrow this some more than where we are and so if this was something where the employees in the Tax Department, the Building Department, the Administrative wing who are here five days a week, seven, eight hours a day felt a threat or concern, I’d be open to looking at that for their benefit. It doesn’t sound like that’s the issue; sounds it’s more about our protection, the folks here on this dais; and so I think it’s appropriate to change the language to effectively say elected officials and going through the thought process on that, I think it would pass constitutional muster in terms of us being able to do that. You have basically three levels of scrutiny that get looked at in terms of a constitutional evaluation. The first one is rational basis, which is the lowest. I would submit I think it would qualify under that as where we’re sitting there saying, “Is there a group that’s being treated different than another group?” We do and it would be elected officials are being treated differently in terms of being given the opportunity to carry if they otherwise have a legal permit versus non-elected officials. Non-elected officials are not a protected class. That’s not something that protected by race, or sex, or age, or anything like that. Looking at the level of scrutiny for rational basis, you just have to have a rationally related action that’s related to a legitimate government interest whether it’s real or hypothetical. So the rational related act would be saying that we’re allowing elected officials to carry firearms. Non-elected officials not to carry them for the legitimate interest of trying to protect elected officials. It can be rather open. It can be a hypothetical threat. It would pass legal muster. I think if you went to the next level of scrutiny, which there are some gun control review that has taken place with intermediate scrutiny, I think we pass intermediate scrutiny as well if we’re just saying elected officials can carry firearms. That’s saying there has to be an important interest in public safety. It must be shown the law or policy being challenged further as an important government interest by means that are substantially related to that interest. I think if you’re saying we’re going to allow elected officials to carry a firearm that’s furthering an important government interest in terms of protecting those individuals and limiting that. I think either way between rational basis scrutiny or intermediate scrutiny, it would pass constitutional muster. There’s nothing that I know of in terms of case law or within the state legislature that’s passed that says that we couldn’t limit it in that way. I would like to proceed going at it like that opposed to just making it a blanket open opportunity for anyone to come in and carry. The last group of people that I’m interested in or worried about being able to carry is just the average citizen that’s walking in here that doesn’t work here. That isn’t a potential target as sitting on the dais to just say, “Hey look now we’re going to open it up for John Doe to be able to carry their firearm in here.” There are too many things that I think that we’re creating in terms of potential issues in doing so. I would suggest we stay focused on the issue at hand and why this has come to pass which is about the elected officials and them doing their duties here.

Mayor Webster: So, if I understand what you’re saying, you would favor this being as applying to only elected officials.

Mr. Hawkins: Correct.

Mayor Webster: and not other employees or not outside non-employees?

Mr. Hawkins: Correct.

Mayor Webster: Mrs. Brandstetter are you familiar with this? Can you restrict? I was under the impression it had to just be by building and once you authorized a building that anybody could carry.

Mrs. Brandstetter: We can certainly look into that and get back to you.

Mayor Webster: Please?

Mrs. Brandstetter: We can certainly look into that and get back with you.
Mr. Parham: She’s not sure.

Mayor Webster: Oh, you’re not sure about it? Okay. Well, anyway, that I think somebody asked me that early on whether we could restrict John Doe from coming in and my understanding is that we can’t, but I can be wrong, so we need a clarification on that.

Mr. Hawkins: In the State statute that 2923.126, under B7 has basically outlined the idea that it’s up to that governing body with authority over the building enacting a statute, ordinance or policy that permits a licensee to carry a concealed handgun into the building and so if that’s what the ordinance or statute or policy is, I think we’re free to do that. The only counter-argument to that is “Is it going to pass constitutional muster in terms of treating people differently?” I think, under the lowest level of scrutiny, which I would argue applies because you’re looking at, “Are you treating somebody different because of their race, their gender, their age?” That doesn’t apply. We’re not treating somebody different because of those things. You get into there could be an argument for intermediate scrutiny because we’re talking about a constitutional right of carrying a firearm. But at the same time, I go back to the fact that the State has already limited it and we’re providing an additional option, but I still think it passes it that because it’s an important interest and it’s substantially related to carrying out that interest. That’s what I would prefer versus just making an open-ended thing for any and everyone walking in the building who has a CCW permit. The only other thing I would say is this; I’ve gone through the class and I’m not going to sit here and ask people to say if they have or haven’t so that they’re not a target should we pass this and someone wants to come in and start with those people that may have a firearm. There’s a reality. It’s great. I suggest everyone go do it for the sake of gun safety, whether you have a firearm or you plan on carrying one or not. It’s great for that. There’s also the reality that you don’t come out of it and all of the sudden you’re a Navy Seal. I watch people often come into a Sheriff’s office and go and pick up their CCW permits and there’s a good portion of them that probably could get their gun taken from them at any given moment. So, there’s some concern. The fact that you have a permit does not inherently mean that you are greatly proficient in the use of firearms. We open that up any and every one walking in this door, walking in this building. That’s a concern. It’s a concern to me for our employees that are here and it’s a concern for the residents that may come in here to conduct their business or to watch a Council meeting or to go by the Tax Department. That’s a worry.

Mayor Webster: Why would, if you pass this, and everybody can carry, why would that concern you more than it is today? Because what’s stopping that person from coming in today? The sign on the door?

Mr. Hawkins: You’re likely to have more people do it and it’s the concern of someone being negligent with regard to how they’re handling and managing their firearm. That’s my concern. The idea that anyone can come in here. Anyone can come in, I know. Anyone can commit a crime if they want to commit a crime. We can stick three police officers in here if someone just wants to commit a crime, they can do and do that. I think if the goal really is about the concern and we’re going through these meetings; elected officials going through their tasks and their duties and then being targets. Then, let’s limit it to that. There’s nothing that I know of that says case law that says we can’t do it and there’s nothing that statutorily says we can’t do it. The Ohio Revised Code, the section that we’re talking about says that governing body has the ability to make their own, enact a statute, ordinance or policy permitting folks to carry in. Let’s limit it to that. I feel it would be much more appropriate for what we’re trying attack and deal with.

Mrs. Harlow: I just wanted to state that I think that a lot of other municipalities have police officers at their council meetings and I believe that most people who carry have their carry conceal permit are responsible gun owners. I do believe we are sitting targets here. If we have someone who is very upset with us and comes into the chambers and doesn’t like whatever laws we passed or whatever, we are sitting ducks. As the Mayor said, there’s only one way out. I’m hoping somebody else up here is a good shot.

Mayor Webster: Well, okay, from the feedback I’m hearing here, it sounds like Council is generally in favor of doing this. I think we probably need to hold it off to get some tweaking done to it. So, based upon what I’m hearing you guys say, then I’m going to ask
Mayor Webster (continued): Derrick to go ahead and get the personnel policy manual updated or get it ready and if we can’t have it ready when this resolution is ready, then we’ll need the resolution to go into effect at a future date. To give Derrick and Amanda time to get the policy manual in place before this is enacted, but we will check out the employee, and if we can restrict it as per Mr. Hawkins request, if we can restrict it to just elected officials or if it has to apply to everybody that comes through the building and also check with the Fire Department to see what the administration over there what their feeling is in regard to this.

Mr. Shroyer: I would be hesitant to limit it strictly to elected officials. I would, on the other hand, advocate that the policies and procedures manual reflect some guidelines for employees. I don’t know whether Mr. Parham or Mrs. Zimmerlin care to or have a concealed carry permit, but I think at least 40 hours a week, during the day, during the week that the same situation exists. If you walk in to the Administrative wing of this building, you have a captive audience there. Whether everybody in that wing should be carrying a firearm or not, I think is an administrative decision, but I think the option should be there should the policy want to address specific employees that have that option. Thank you.

Mayor Webster: I wholeheartedly concur with you. It’s always been a concern of mine not just with the council meeting, but also in the Administrative wing there’s no way out there and if you stop and think about it, this building is all of it’s not enforcement. But, the Tax Department, you’ve got you’re enforcing your taking money from people, which is probably the most severe action you’re taking. You’ve got a Building Department over there that’s making people comply with zoning codes, property maintenance codes, this, that, and the other, so I think there’s good reason for that to be throughout the building and we may not be able to restrict it. We’ll have to see and wait until Jeff gets back to get an interpretation of the code as to whether we can restrict it. I would be in favor of having the entire building, even if it means having John Doe walk in off the street.

Mrs. Harlow: I never dreamed in my entire life that principals of high schools or middle schools would need to carry weapons, but the Ohio Board of Education, they’re working that into their requirements for some of the schools and I couldn’t tell you how many times at the University of Cincinnati we were on lockdown and we were all in glass enclosed offices because there was an issue on campus and we got the siren to go on lockdown and it’s not a good feeling that you can’t protect yourself. It’s not a good feeling at all. I would support some type of a resolution.

President Vanover: Well, being that I was one, at least I had my hand on the wheel for a while on this. I am, I don’t make any bones about it, I have my CCW. The one lesson I learned out of that was, once I got my CCW I realized it was the beginning and not the end. There are more restrictions on a licensed carrier on what they can do and what they can’t do. You can walk in a bar, but you better not have a drink or you better not be inebriated because if that gun comes out, you’re in a world of hurt. It changes your mentality. I just had, a month ago, six weeks ago a young lady in a neighbor’s car trying to take stuff out. Well, I went racing out there. The good news was I was smart enough to leave the weapon in the house, because she wasn’t on my property. Those are decisions that all and I agree most of the concealed carry license holders are upstanding citizens. That sign out there means only one thing to them, they don’t, but anyone else that wants to do something can. The common thread through all of Sandy, not Sandy Hook, the Connecticut school shooting and all of them is that they were gun free zones. The only thing, one person, a bad guy with a gun, the only thing that’s going to stop him is a good guy with a gun. I pray that mine never out of its container except on the target range and practice range and it’s one of those things that you just, I sent through. If you ever want some educational reading, this is a phenomenal book. It’s “War on Guns” by John R. Lott, Jr. PhD. From 1950 to 2010, zero mass public shootings occurred in an area where general civilians are allowed to carry guns. During this period from 1950 to February 2010, just over 1% of mass shootings occurred in those places. One that we all recognize, Ft. Hood, there were two incidents there; April 2014; the incident lasted eight minutes. It was long enough for Ivan Lopez to fire at least 35 shots. There were three dead and 14 injured. That’s one shot every 14 seconds and people say, “Well, you’re close to my wife, well you’re close to the police station. Yes, we are, but it takes time for them to get there and in eight minutes, carnage could happen. The first Ft. Hood shooting in 2009, Major Nadal Hassan; ten minutes, killed 13 and wounded 32. He had two weapons. He fired approximately 220 shots. One shot every 2.7 seconds. Both of the shootings came to an
President Vanover (continued): abrupt end because police were on site. You mention University and probably the first and for a long time the University of Texas shooting. Unfortunately was a former Marine; Charles Whitmore was in the tower. Ninety-six minute shooting spree and there were 14 dead and 32 injured and had it not been for some of the students going to their cars and retrieving their weapons, and pinning him down, it could have been a whole lot worse. So, good guys with guns can mitigate a situation. Just Monday there was a 17 year old girl in Oregon around Portland that there was a guy the police had been looking for. He had eluded them and she called her dad and said, “Hey can I get one of the guns out? I don’t feel safe, I’m home by myself.” Got it out, she laid down, took a nap and woke up to this buy coming through her window. She didn’t fire a shot, because once he faced the business of the weapon, he retreated. I don’t know how many up here, but I will be the first to admit that I’ve been on the business end and that is the most helpless situation at all. With that, Council what’s your move on this?

Mr. Shroyer: I would just add that to the thought process that I think probably that most concealed carry folks follow, and I know, I do, is; my weapon is either in a gun safe next to my bed, or it’s with me. If I know I’m going somewhere that’s not going to permit me to carry a weapon, then I leave it at home. To me, that sign on the door says there’s guns in the cars in the parking lot. Because a concealed carry individual, who has a weapon with them, is going to be conscientious, enough not to bring it in to the building when it says don’t bring it in to the building. So what do they do with it? They leave it in the car. To me, that borders on negligent handling of the weapon if you leave it unattended. It should not be in the car. It should either be with you, or it should be in a safe place. Thank you.

Mrs. Emerson: When this first was brought up to us, and I think there was some discussion about it, I was all for this. The more I have thought about this; someone had come to me and had mentioned, “You’re only there four or five days out of the month.” That’s true, but I’m making this decision to pass this, and, I’ve got other people that are here every day. This may not be what their desire is. I go to work every day and I’m in an area where there’s no guns and I know that and that’s okay with me. I would like, like Mr. Hawkins had said, I would like to look at it to limiting it to just to elected officials in here and not to the whole building and anybody who wants to walk in. I think this is our decision to protect ourselves. I don’t think that’s what all the employees in this building that work here every day. I’m not sure that’s what their wishes are. If we were going to look into that, I would like to look into it and see what their opinions of carrying concealed all the time in this building would be.

President Vanover: Again, Council, what’s your decision?

Mr. Shroyer made a motion to adopt.

President Vanover: Council, we have motion in front; do you want to withdraw the motion or proceed through?

Mr. Shroyer: Do you want to table it?

President Vanover: We can withdraw the motion, table it?

Mr. Shroyer: Where would it go from there?

President Vanover: Well, give Administration time to set up policies and procedures.

Mayor Webster: Also to see if we can just restrict it to elected officials. The way it reads right now it’s the entire building. Anybody coming or going in the building could carry.

Mr. Shroyer: Okay, I’ll rescind it.

Mrs. McNear: Mrs. Harlow you had second.

President Vanover: Rescind yours?

Mrs. Harlow: Rescind it?
Mrs. McNear: No, this is to withdraw your second to the motion for the resolution.

Mrs. Harlow: I will rescind my motion or my second that I didn’t do, but.

Mayor Webster: So, could we hear what’s going on?

Mr. Hawkins: It’s a secret.

President Vanover: They’ve rescinded their motion to adopt and the second, so we’re at the point now; we need I guess motion to table and then go from there.

Mr. Diehl made a motion to table; Mrs. Ghantous seconded the motion.

The motion to table Resolution No. R6-2017 passed with a 7-0 vote.

Resolution No. R7-2017
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK OF COUNCIL/FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDMENT TO THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO, PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974, AS AMENDED

Mrs. Emerson made a motion to adopt; Mr. Diehl seconded.

Mr. Parham: Council, this is a piece of legislation, unfortunately we did not discuss with you prior to tonight’s meeting. We were contacted by the Hamilton County Community Development or Hamilton County Development Department. If you recall, back in April or so, we had shared with you that changes had taken place relative to the Community Development Block Grant Program. At that time, they had made a decision that it is not necessary that the legislative body of a community adopt legislation to enter into this agreement with the County. I think that because of the magnitude of the projects and the commitment that we make, we thought it was best that you provide your approval or your disapproval of the participation in this program. It has been a program that has served this community extremely well. As the ordinance indicates, that, in prior years, each three-year period, you’d have to come back and pass a piece of legislation to say that you’re going to participate in the program. They are now proposing that you sign off on it this first year and then each subsequent three-year period it will automatically renew. However, if you ever get to a point that you wish not to participate in the program you do not have to wait until the end of the three-year period. You can simply let them know the prior that you do not wish to participate. For instance, if you chose not to participate, in year 2019, you would have to let them know no later than June 30th of 2018.

Resolution R7-2017 passed with seven affirmative votes.

Old Business - None

New Business
Mrs. McNear: Council, you have a liquor license request. This is a transfer of stock only. It’s EG Miner’s Enterprises, Inc. doing business as LaRosa’s at 11711 Princeton Pike, Springdale, 45246. So no changes other than stock within the organization. Any issues with this? We’ll get the paperwork filed. Thank you.

Meetings and Announcements
Mrs. Zimmerlin: I have a couple of things for you tonight from the Recreation Department. The Neighborhood Yard Sale will be taking place Saturday, August 12th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Goldfish Swim will take place on Saturday, August 12th at Noon. They release over a thousand goldfish in the main baby pool to be caught by hand by children under the age of 12. They will also offer document shredding on August 19th, which is a Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Community Center and it’s a chance for you to dispose of your sensitive documents in a secure manner and all of the paper that is shredded will be recycled. The Park and Rec Department also has an employment opportunity. They’re
Mrs. Zimmerlin (continued): accepting applications for the position of part time facilities supervisor and part time maintenance worker and information and applications are available on the city website or at the community center. Thank you.

Mrs. Harlow: Mrs. Zimmerlin can we back up a minute please? The shredding is August 19th?

Mrs. Zimmerlin: Yes ma’am.

Mrs. Harlow: And the time on that please?

Mrs. Zimmerlin: I’m sorry?

Mrs. Harlow: The time?

Mrs. Zimmerlin: From 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Mrs. Harlow: Okay. Thank you. I wanted to announce that Planning would be holding their meeting on August 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Communications from the Audience - None

Update on Legislation Still in Development

Mr. Hawkins: As you review your Internal Memorandum, Item Number One was addressed with Ordinance No. 31-2017. An ordinance adopting section 73.042 of the codified ordinances of the city of Springdale regulating temporary parking of Recreational vehicles on the city streets and declaring an emergency. That was tabled with a 7-0 vote. Item number two was addressed with Ordinance No. 32-2017. An ordinance authorizing the city to fund the employees’ health savings accounts in 2017 and declaring an emergency. That passed with a 7-0 vote. Item number three was addressed with R6-2017. A resolution permitting the carrying of concealed handguns in the Springdale Municipal Building by valid concealed carry permit holders. That was tabled with a 7-0 vote. Item number four was a resolution R7-2017. A resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk of Council/Finance Director to enter into an amendment to the cooperation agreement with the Hamilton County Ohio pursuant to provisions of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended. That passed with a 7-0 vote. All other matters were forthcoming.

Recap of Legislative Items requested for Next Council Meeting

Mr. Hawkins: An ordinance reducing special assessments levied for the purpose of constructing certain improvements at Pictoria Island and declaring an emergency. We also have a request for an ordinance approving a zone change from residential single household high density to planned development to allow a day care facility at 1391 East Crescentville Road. That would be a first reading at the next meeting. We also have an ordinance approving a preliminary development plan to allow a day care facility at 1391 East Crescentville Road Higher Ground Ministries House of Favor Church. Again, that’s a first reading and an ordinance approving the major modification to the planned unit development and preliminary development plan of approximately 130 acres at the GEEAA Park and that will be a first reading as well.
City of Springdale Council

July 19, 2017

Adjournment
Mr. Hawkins moved to adjourn. Mrs. Emerson seconded the motion and Council adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:
Tom Vanover, President of Council

________________________, 2017