President of Council Vanover called Council to order on December 1, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

Dismissal

President Vanover: At this point, we will dismiss the outgoing Council Members. (Council Members Emerson and Vanover departed the dais.)

Swearing-In-Ceremony by Judge Melba Marsh

President Vanover: Mr. Hawkins I will turn the meeting over to you.

Mr. Hawkins: Moving into the swearing in, we have the honor of having with us, I don’t know how many years it’s been. Judge Marsh has been doing this since she was thirteen (laughter). We have the honor of having Judge Melba Marsh from Hamilton County Common Pleas Court to do our swearing in this evening. She’s been doing this for a number of years, we’ll just say, and I believe every elected official up here has been sworn in by Judge Marsh. It’s a wonderful tradition. We appreciate you being here, your Honor, and if you could come forth and we’ll begin the festivities.

Judge Melba Marsh: Wonderful, thank you. I know if it’s December 1st whatever year it is I’m thinking, “Should I be someplace?” Then, I start coming up I-75 and I thought, uh oh and I’m always looking at my watch, it’s 6:30. There’s usually something that makes it very memorable. As I said to the audience here, one year I forgot my robe. One year I forgot my robe. So, I said, “What am I going to do?” What is a judge without a robe? So, I stopped by St. Matthias and the Father gave me his robe. I put my hand over the one symbol, I thought, “No one will notice”, but one little boy did. He says, “That’s pretty cool!” I’d like to thank you very much. There’s always a feeling of apple pie and the flag and sparklers every time I come out to Springdale to do this particular swearing in. I’ve done other swearing in ceremonies and they’re not the same friendly atmosphere that I get here. For that, I know this is a friendly town and I know this is friendly people. This is God’s country. Thank you very much for having me. So, what are we going to do next? Like I don’t know.

Mr. Hawkins: Your Honor, we’re going to begin our swearing in with Thomas Vanover.

Judge Marsh: Mr. Vanover. District Four, I believe. I’m going to see if I can remember. Elected in 1992. I was here. I was here. Is there any committee that you haven’t served on? Let’s see, you’ve been on Planning Commission, Public Utilities, Capital Improvement, Public Works, Rules and Laws, is there anything that you haven’t done? Self-employed electrical contractor over twenty years. Graduate of U of C. Where’s Donna? Donna join us please. Thought I’d forgotten didn’t you? You do this long enough, you remember. Alright and where’s the camera? Raise your right hand. This is for the memory books. Thank you Donna. Raise your right hand. Repeat after me.

Mr. Vanover: I, Thomas Vanover, solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution of the State of Ohio, the Charter and statutes of the great City of Springdale, Ohio and that I will faithfully discharge my duties in my elected position of Council, to the best of my ability, so help me God.

Judge Marsh: Congratulations! (Applause)

Mr. Hawkins: Your Honor, we’re going to move on now to swearing in Mrs. Holly Emerson.

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Judge Marsh (continued): though and you were with the Junior Olympics for several years. Are you still with Junior Olympics? The one I went with Pasta for Charity, Pasta for, Pennies for Pasta! Is Bob here? Bob, join us. How are you doing? You thought I forgot about Bob. Now where’s the camera again? Let’s get the money shot. Raise your right hand for me:

Mrs. Emerson: I, Holly Emerson, solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution of the State of Ohio, the Charter and statutes of the City of Springdale, Ohio, and that I will faithfully discharge my duties in my elected position of Council, to the best of my ability, so help me God.

Judge Marsh: Congratulations! (Applause)

Mr. Hawkins: Your Honor, next we have Mrs. Meghan Sullivan-Wisecup.

Judge Marsh: Mrs. Wisecup. Welcome. I had to do a little bit of research and I know that you participated in Springdale Youth Sports. You’re currently a coach? You’re Springdale Youth Boosters Organization President. Is that formerly? At Springdale Elementary School, you were the volunteer of the year 2009 and 2010. But, the way I remember I know something about you, you were Chairperson for the Springdale Elementary School Levy. The Princeton School Levy. Is that correct? Successful too! Congratulations! Congratulations on your win here. I don’t know, is your family here tonight? Please join us! Come on! The whole family of course. Can we save someone there to be the photographer? Very good! Outstanding! Now let’s get a group, no, you stay in the middle. There you go. How is that picture? You ready for the money shot? Raise your right hand:

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I, Meghan Sullivan-Wisecup, solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution of the State of Ohio, the Charter and Statutes of the great City of Springdale, Ohio, and that I will faithfully discharge my duties in my elected position of Council, to the best of my ability, so help me God.

Judge Marsh: Congratulations! (Applause)

Mr. Hawkins: Your Honor, and last but not least, we have the swearing in for Jeffrey Anderson.

Judge Marsh: Jeffrey Anderson. So I made a couple of notes for Jeffrey and a story of the hometown boy makes good in the world and comes back home and serves the community. Would that be fitting? Sounds good. I like it too. You grew up in Springdale. You graduated from Princeton High School, Miami University graduate, computer science analysis, but you worked in Chicago and in that you worked in I read, France, Spain, Manila, all over the entire world. Then when you came back to this community, you worked for us at Fifth Third Bank, and you worked at Kroger’s and then you developed your own, worked with a smaller firm, but you worked with some really major companies. Walmart, General Electric, Proctor and Gamble and I noticed there’s a running theme here. Youth isn’t it? Because you are a Springdale soccer coach, aren’t you? So, soccer coach, soccer coach, soccer coach. You are married to your high school sweetheart, Karen. Is she here? Karen, please don’t sit back. You have three boys. All in Princeton School District. Are they here as well? Group shot? Before we leave tonight, we’re going to get a group shot. Very good. Photographer please. Very good. Very good. Now I need you to raise your right hand for me:

Mr. Anderson: I, Jeffrey Anderson, solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution of the State of Ohio, the Charter and Statutes of the great City of Springdale, Ohio, and that I will faithfully discharge my duties in my elected position of Council, to the best of my ability, so help me God.

Judge Marsh: Congratulations! (Applause)

Mr. Hawkins: Mrs. McNear if you would do a new roll call please as soon as Mr. Anderson joins us.
Mrs. McNear took roll call. Council Members Anderson, Emerson, Ghantous, Hawkins, Shroyer, Sullivan-Wisecup, Vanover were present.

Election of President of Council

Mr. Hawkins: We now move into taking nominations for the election of President of Council.

Mrs. Emerson: I’d like to nominate Tom Vanover for President.

Mr. Hawkins: Do we have a second?

Mr. Shroyer seconded the motion.

Mr. Hawkins: Are there any other nominations for President?

(No other nominations were made)

Mr. Hawkins: Then by acclimation, Tom Vanover will be President of Council.

Mr. Vanover: Thank you.

Election of Vice-President of Council

President Vanover: At this point, we’ll do the election of Vice-President of Council. I’ll take nominations now.

Mrs. Emerson: I’d like to nominate Lawrence Hawkins. Do I have a second?

Mrs. Ghantous seconded the motion.

President Vanover: Any other candidates? Then, by acclimation, Mr. Hawkins will continue as Vice-President.

Ordinances and Resolutions

RESOLUTION NO. R13-2017
COMMENDING BOB DIEHL FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE

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

Mayor Webster: I’d just like to say, before I comment on Bob, I’d just like to congratulate all four of you. Congratulations on your win. This is always a bittersweet evening where we say, “Hello” to some new people and we say, “Goodbye” to some people. As I said to Mr. Diehl a few weeks ago, we all have a shelf life and I guess that’s sort of where we are this evening. Anyway, just for you new people, we’re looking forward to working with you two as we are the other Council Members and I’d just like to assure you that my door is always open as I’m sure Mr. Parham’s door is always open. So, if we can be of any assistance to any of you, please feel free to take advantage of that. Now, Mr. Diehl, I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Diehl when he was a member of FRYS, which is a predecessor of the Springdale Youth Boosters. My wife served on that board with Mr. Diehl for many years. I can honestly say he’s one of the hardest working individuals I’ve ever met. I can still picture Bob being the last one to leave the Men’s and Women’s Tournament. They would be cleaning up the grill. There was no task beneath Bob. He’d do whatever needed to be done and never complained about it. Just a tremendous asset to the FRYS Board. When I became Mayor, I asked Bob to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission and he did so. He was very knowledgeable. He coached his daughter’s soccer teams. Was very involved with the youth sports. He was a real contributor on the Park and Recreation Board. In 2007, there was an opening on Council and I approached him that summer about running for Council. He said he’d think about it. He didn’t seem too excited about it. Much to my surprise that evening, I got a call from Bob saying, “You know, I think I’m going to do that.” So, he proceeded to run At Large. He was a leading vote getter in 2007 and I think 2011 also. In 2015, he switched to District Seat and that’s where he’s been the last two years. Altogether, he was on Council for ten years. He served on, as the
Mayor Webster (continued): Resolution indicates he served on a number of committees. I also asked him to serve on my cap committee a few years ago to look into why we couldn’t get more of the youth involved in our sports programs. He served very diligently there. Like I said, it’s a very bittersweet evening where we say, “Hello” to some new people and, in this particular case, I say, “Goodbye” to a very, very, very dear friend and I wish him and his family all the best in the world. Thank you very much.

Mrs. McNear: I would also like to offer congratulations to the successful candidates and to their families. Because this is a family win or loss. Because everyone who is sitting out here supports the candidates, who sit up here. We could not do that without the people who sit out there. So, I want to say thank you to that group as well. Also, there’s not enough kissing going on. All these four candidates got to kiss their spouses and I think an agenda item for the next swearing in is definitely in order. So, we have a date as soon as we’re finished here (points to Mr. McNear). I also want to just express my appreciation for all the work that Bob and Joanne did for the City and I hope they continue to do so. This resolution should be to Bob and his family because, let’s face it, all of us who serve, we miss our anniversaries, we miss our children’s birthdays, we miss our spouses birthdays. We miss our kid’s concerts and our ballgames. So again, it is a family function and it is a dedication by family, so again, I want to thank all the work that Bob and Joanne did and to all the families out there who support the candidates so that we can do the work that we do up here. I’m not going to respond when we have the resolution for Mrs. Harlow and you know these comments are extended to her as well. Thank you.

Mr. Hawkins: Again, public congratulations to our two new Council members. With regard to Mr. Diehl, I appreciate his service, his leadership, his mentorship. I really followed in his footsteps because we were on Planning Commission together and he, two years before I first ran for Council, he got on Council and was very helpful and encouraging me to also run for Council and so I followed his footsteps all this time. I just want to say, “Thank you” and he’s, for those that know him, know he’s a big Bengals fan. Hopefully, with some additional free time, he might be able to go down there and coach them to win some more games. I really appreciate what Mr. Diehl’s done for us.

President Vanover: I too, would like to give Bob, and, well, Joanne both, a tip of the hat. Bob is not only a co-Council member, but he’s a friend and that’s big. Sometimes, like families, we would squabble a little bit on different things, but Bob was always willing to listen and when he had his thoughts, he put those out there to. He was dedicated to the City and in serving in that position. I likewise too will personally miss Bob, but I know he’s not leaving us completely.

Resolution No. R13-2017 passes with seven affirmative votes.

RESOLUTION NO. R14-2017
COMMENDING MARJORIE HARLOW FOR HER DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE

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

Mr. Hawkins: Just wanted to thank Mrs. Harlow for all her time of service. I believe she served the City for approximately two decades in a variety of roles. Devoted countless hours to the task of helping the community. So, I just wanted take this time to say, “Thank You” to her.

Mr. Shroyer: My congratulations and welcome to the two new folks. In reference to Mrs. Harlow, I knew her before I decided to run for Council, probably better than anybody else that I already knew on Council. I want to thank her for some of her guidance, some of her input, kind of a learning curve, because I happened to live in her district and not far from her and knew her fairly well or well enough to ask her after Council meetings, “Well, what do you think? Was I out there somewhere? Did I do okay?” Early on, she provided a good amount of guidance and input in helping me with the learning curve, I appreciate that, and I would thank her for that as well as for her service. Thank you.

Resolution No. R14-2017 passes with seven affirmative votes.
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Old Business - None

New Business - None

Communications from the Audience - None

Adjournment

Mr. Hawkins moved to adjourn; Mrs. Emerson seconded the motion and Council adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:
Tom Vanover, President of Council

__________________________, 2017