President of Council Vanover called Council to order on February 5, 2020.

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

Mrs. McNear took roll call. Council members Anderson, Emerson, Ghantous, Hawkins, Ramirez, Sullivan-Wisecup, and Vanover were present.

The minutes of the January 8, 2020 meeting were considered. Mrs. Emerson made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Hawkins seconded. The minutes of the January 8, 2020 meeting were approved with seven affirmative votes.

The minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting were considered. Mrs. Emerson made a motion to accept the minutes; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded. The minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting were approved with seven affirmative votes.

Introduction of New Employees

President Vanover: Next up we’re going to go down to the Administration. Mr. Jones. Or Mayor Webster.

Mr. Jones: It’s our honor this evening. We have two new hires in the City. I’m going to start tonight with our new Building Official, Carl Lamping. Carl is in his fifth week on the job this week. He is a registered architect and brings with him a number of years of experience in the construction industry; working in the public and the private sector. Most recently, Carl spent 25 years in Clermont County in the Building Department. Throughout his career, Carl has secured several professional certifications which are expected to really benefit our City and our customers, included in those are certificates in the Building Official, Master Plans Examiner, Building Inspector, Mechanical Inspector, and a Residential Building Official. Carl is a graduate of Kent State University and received his Bachelor of Architecture, a Bachelor of Science, and an Associate Degree in Architecture Technology. He’s been a registered architect in the State of Ohio since 1989. If you will, join with me and welcome our new Building Official.

Mr. Lamping: Thank you very much. Appreciate that.

Mr. Jones: Carl, you certainly have the mic if you’d like to say something.

Mr. Lamping: Thank you. (laughter) I want to thank Mayor Webster and Administrator Jones for the opportunity that I have been given to serve the public at the City of Springdale. I look forward to the challenges of continuing to facilitate development and continue with Property Maintenance and the Planning Commission duties that I have and I’m looking forward to meeting everybody’s expectations.

Mayor Webster: I’d just like to add a couple of things. When Carl started, I think, three weeks ago, five weeks, whenever he started (laughter), when he walked in, so many people in this building said, “You hired him? You hired this guy?” Evidently, Carl has got quite a reputation; a good reputation, I might add. He teaches a couple of times a year. He teaches Building Officials class up in Columbus. The Building Inspectors here all knew him, they participated in some of his lectures, his classes. He came with quite a reputation and we’re very happy and pleased to have Carl on board. So, Carl, welcome to a great organization.

Mr. Lamping: Thank you very much. I’m looking forward to serving.

Mayor Webster: Thank you.

Mr. Lamping: Thanks.

Mr. Jones: Thank you Carl. Mr. President, I’d also like to introduce Andy Kuchta; he’s our new Economic Development Director. Andy has over 20 years of experience in the Economic Development and in local governments and the Greater Cincinnati area. Prior to joining the City, he spent 15 years as the Director of Community and Economic Development for Clermont County. Over his career, projects in which he has had a role in has resulted in the creation of over 6,900 jobs and $720 million dollars in real and personal property investments. Andy holds
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Mr. Jones (continued): a Bachelor of Arts and Psychology from Bowling Green and a Masters in Public Administration from Cleveland State University. Join me in welcoming Andy Kuchta. (Applause)

Mr. Jones: Hey, nobody clapped for Carl. (laughter)

President Vanover: We'll do a group clap.

Mr. Kuchta: Thank you Mayor (Webster), thank you Administrator (Jones), thank you Mr. President. Been here for a week and a half now and I’m already “hip-deep” in projects. Great, great team. Very happy to be here. I know I made the right choice. Some big retention and expansion projects that we’re already working on, of course, I can’t talk about them at this stage today in public, but, I think there’s some great things coming down the pike for Springdale. There’s a lot of opportunity here. A lot of diversity; more than I expected, even though I did my research ahead of time. I’m really excited. A great, great companies, great properties, and a great team, so, thank you very much for the opportunity.

Mayor Webster: Once again, we’re very, very pleased to have Andy with us. I guess the thing that really impressed me with Andy, during the interview process, was we had had two interviews. We did the initial interview to narrow the field down to a couple of candidates, and we had those folks back in for an interview. Well, Andy shows up in his second interview, he’s got an 8 ½ by 11 sheet detailing what he would do with all the problem properties we’ve got in Tri-County Mall, Sheraton Hotel, and on, and on, and on. I was very impressed that somebody took the initiative and didn’t even have the job; he was an applicant, a contestant for it, but he went out of his way to spend the time and the effort to research the issues and it was a very comprehensive paper. Anyway, great job and it’s remarkable what he’s accomplished even just this week and I think you’ve seen some of it in the paper and you’ll be seeing more of it going forward here, but, Andy, welcome aboard; great organization. I’d like a round of applause for both of you gentlemen. (applause)

Presentation – Whitney K. Vickers, Recruiting Assistant, 2020 Census Bureau

Mayor Webster: Mr. President, if I may?

President Vanover: Sure.

Mayor Webster: I’d like to welcome one other person. We have a boy scout with us this evening. A young man by the name of Alex Rose from Troop 417 is paying us a visit this evening, observing what’s going on. I understand he was even here earlier to take in a committee meeting. Alex, welcome to the City of Springdale Council. Hope you enjoy it.

Mr. Rose: Thank you.

President Vanover: Mr. Jones do you want to do the introduction on the presentation?

Mr. Jones: I can, but, I’ve got to tell you, I don’t know this individual. Maybe Amanda would be more appropriate.

President Vanover: Mrs. Zimmerlin

Mr. Jones: No disrespect though, we’d love to have you.

Mrs. Zimmerlin: Whitney Vickers, the Recruiting Assistant for the 2020 Census Bureau is here and she would like to talk to you about the 2020 Census.

Ms. Vickers: Hello everyone. Thank you for having me. As you know, the Census is happening this year. It happens every ten years. It’s really important that we get an accurate count. It helps with accurate representation in the House and the Senate. It helps health providers for the Center of Disease Control to help alleviate some of the, like the coronavirus, for example, alleviate some of those issues with statistics and knowing how many people are in an area. It also helps with natural disasters, such as what happened in Beavercreek. I
Ms. Vickers (continued): know that a lot of people from Hamilton County sent some relief efforts up there. So, if we don’t have an accurate count here, we can’t get the accurate number of relief that we need. It also helps with public information. For genealogy, I know I’ve run into a lot of genealogists recently who use this information to track their heritage and their lineage. The last census in 2010, it was estimated that Hamilton County lost out on 30% of our count. Thirty percent of people were not accurately accounted for and that was roughly $1,800 dollars per person, per year, which came out to about $64 billion dollars that Hamilton County lost out on. So, if we get an accurate count, we get accurate funds. We also have some jobs available. For the City of Springdale, we only need about 20 more applicants to be at full capacity. It’s paying $21 to $26 dollars an hour, minimum of 15 hours a week, up to 40 hours a week. You make your own schedule, so you’re kind of working from home, but not really working from home. The U.S. government has finally figured out that technology exists and they can utilize it. So, they’re utilizing it this Census, and it’s no longer pen and paper and it’s no longer door to door, so, enumerators, or census takers are given an iPhone and a list of addresses of people who haven’t self-reported. Then, those are the addresses that they would have to go to help the individuals fill out the ten question survey and go on to the next one. It’s weekly pay, paid training, $.58 per mile, so, it’s easy, easy work. Any questions? Alright, thank you.

President Vanover: Thank you.

Mayor Webster: Thank you.

Communications

Mrs. McNear: I do have one item this evening. This is from the Ohio Municipal League and the subject is for new elected Council training seminar. If Mr. Ramirez, since he’s new, or, anyone else who would like to take advantage of this, there will be three classes. February 29th at the Cincinnati Marriott Northeast in Mason, Saturday, March 21st at the Doubletree Columbus Worthington in Columbus, and April 4th at the Embassy Suites in Independence. If you have interest in this, let me know, and I’ll get a copy of it to you. Otherwise, it will be on file in my office. Thank you. That’s it.

President Vanover: Did you want to talk to Joe (Ramirez) about the Ethics?

Mrs. McNear: No. I’ll do that at the second meeting.

President Vanover: Okay (laughter)

Mrs. McNear: I’m sure you’re all rushing to get those annual reports filed.

Communications from the Audience - None

Ordinances and Resolutions - None

Old Business

Mrs. Ghantous: The Public Relations Committee met today. We revisited the topic of Welcome Packets that we started the conversation on that was started in September and kind of put on hold. So, I brought each of you an existing publication that we kind of referenced in that conversation as well. I don’t know if everybody had seen it or not. When we talked about it the first time, I kind of indicated that my vision was that it would be very simple, the whole mission behind it would be just meeting people, welcoming people, letting them know who their representative is and we weren’t trying to “reinvent the wheel”. At that time, I felt like this would be a good vehicle at the Public Relations Committee to use for that purpose. I guess we’re at the point now where we just want to see if everybody is interested in doing this. Meeting and dropping these off at the new resident’s homes.

Mayor Webster: I’ll give you a little background on this packet. We put this together in 2018. This was mailed to every single resident in the City of Springdale. So, all of you should have gotten a copy of this. Maybe you forgot about it, but if you look on the back, the date is March of 2018. So, this was given out and the challenge when we put that together was how do we make sure the new residents get this? So, now, what’s in place is the Tax Department, who
Mayor Webster (continued): monitors the Court Index for new residents coming into the City to make sure they get them signed up on the tax rolls, they forward that information to the Recreation Department, Greg Karle’s staff manages this program for the City. So, they get the information from the Tax Department, and they wait two or three weeks after they get the notice and give people time to get in and get settled and so forth, then they mail this. We also make these available to all the apartment managers in the City, so, as new tenants come in, it’s not an exact science, but at least those are available at the front desk and so forth of the apartment complexes. The one place that I don’t think we probably are doing the job we should and we’re in the process of tightening that up, is on rental houses. I think that since you have to get a permit once a year, the mechanism is there. If we could just hook into that, we should be able to make sure those rentals also get the same package. I think we’re doing a pretty decent job of covering the community with that, and, this was put together with, there’s no dates in there, there’s nothing that expires in there in effect, so, I think we’ve got a good first step.

Mrs. Ghantous: So, my whole idea from the get go was about just meeting and welcoming new people. I thought it would seem awkward to not have something to hand out and I knew this was available. I wasn’t aware of how everybody was getting this mailed to them, so, that’s great. If this isn’t the vehicle to use, is there one or do we even want to worry about that and we just want to go out and introduce ourselves to people? For me, this was secondary. It was really meeting and welcoming people so they would know who they could call if they had a question. So, again, I’m not hung up on using this as a vehicle, I just thought it was a great idea since it was already available, we wouldn’t have to reinvent the wheel. What do all of you think about that?

Mr. Anderson: I think it’s a great vehicle. I know they were being mailed out at some interval. I don’t think it’s a bad idea just to have the same document as part of that conversation. I think the key focus for what we want to do is to knock on a door, put a face with a name and a handshake and say, “Hey, welcome. If you need anything, we’re here.” I think it’s different to have that and knock on a door than it is a mailing. I think both are good. I don’t think it has to be “instead of” or “in place of”. I think just having these available, again, it’s the second time they might see it, or, it might be the first time. When you’re moving, how much stuff do you get in the mail? “Welcome to the neighborhood”, “you’ve moved”. You get everything from advertisers to local. I don’t think there’s any problem with having that same document, saying, “Hey, have you seen this? If not, here, and welcome”. So, I love the idea of doing that and I think we talked about what is the actual number of turnover that we have. How many times would we be doing this? I think the estimates we had were you’re looking at, was it ten to fifteen houses that you’d be knocking on, between the group, in a month? So, you’re not talking about a lot of extra documents and they don’t have to take it. So, for me, the same one is actually good and just do it again. The only other thing I would add is if we could have some copies that were actually printed in Spanish instead of just available online. I think that would be a big help too that we could take with us if there aren’t already. I think that would be good.

Mayor Webster: Those are available.

Mr. Anderson: I know they’re available online. Are they printed also?

Mayor Webster: Yes they are. We have a Spanish version of that.

Mr. Anderson: That’s perfect. I think that would be good.

Mayor Webster: Do you have one of those John (Jones)?

Mr. Jones: Yes, I do actually.

Mrs. Ghantous: Well, he’s prepared.

Mr. Anderson: Do you happen to know how that was translated just as a side note? Do we have a service that translated it or did that get done?

Mayor Webster: I’m not sure.
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Mr. Jones: Mr. Karle shared with me, Mayor that they hired a professional company to do that.

Mayor Webster: A professional translator.

Mr. Anderson: So a speaker would have looked at that and it would have felt natural. It’s not just kind of a rote…that’s perfect.

Mr. Jones: You can take a look at it there. Very professionally done.

Mayor Webster: It was done on day one. The day we had this one available, we also had that one available.

Mr. Anderson: Right. Thank you.

Mrs. Emerson: I think, Mrs. Ghantous, the other thing we had talked about was some of the simple requirements like the trash cans and some of the other things that your new residents wouldn’t know and I don’t know if we could, instead of mailing these out, why can’t we stop the mailings and then just hand deliver these versus giving them duplicates? We could take it and hand it out to them and then with that, maybe put a little flyer just for your information or whatever and put those other little tidbits in a leaflet or brochure inside here.

Mrs. Ghantous: We had talked about “Top Ten Things”, or whatever, like, we had the one lady talking about, for instance, people not knowing to bring their recycle bin up. Those types of things. So, I would like to include something like that and that’s with or without this, whatever the group decides is the best thing to hand out to people. What we hand out is secondary. It’s important, but it’s secondary to meeting people, in my opinion.

Mayor Webster: Mr. Anderson, you indicated that there’s 10-15 new residents a month. Did I get that right?

Mr. Anderson: That was the number that I heard in the meeting that we had just before that.

Mayor Webster: If those people are buying that house, then they should be getting this.

Mr. Anderson: I understand. I’m not questioning whether they’re getting it. This is in addition to. We’re trying to make that connection of welcome and community feel and just give a face and a name that they could talk to. I’m not saying that they wouldn’t be getting it. This is just something we talked about might be good to help foster that spirit of community that we talked about wanting.

Mayor Webster: So, we’re going to mail the document, and then somebody’s going to be knocking on their door and giving them another one. Same thing. Is that what I hear? Mrs. Emerson saying somebody should pay them a visit?

Mrs. Emerson: That’s what I was saying we could stop the mailings and just personally hand-deliver this. First of all, it’s going to save you postage, second of all, you actually have a tool with you to meet them and greet them and give them the information and along with this, I would put in a little leaflet saying, “Did you know that trash is on Monday”, you could put the trash cans to the curb at this time or whatever. We have recycling, those kinds of things that the new resident wouldn’t know. So, instead of mailing them, we could hand-deliver them. Either way I think is fine, but, we’d save postage, then we’d have a tool with us.

Mayor Webster: Yes, but if you stop and think about trying to hand-deliver something, trying to find people home and how many of them are you just going to hang on their door. Are you going to make multiple trips until you find them home?

Mrs. Emerson: I don’t think we’re talking this many people.

Mayor Webster: Ten to fifteen a month.
Mrs. Ghantous: That’s spread over possibly seven people. Workload would be fairly light.

Mr. Anderson: We had talked about that initially, at least in the last meeting we had. How often do you retry versus mailing. Kind of the guidance that our opening guidance, at least from the Committee meeting that we had, if we’re comfortable doing this, maybe you make a couple of attempts. If it doesn’t seem like you’re going to catch them, then you leave it. We’re trying to make that connection. We’re not dictating this. We’re asking for feedback. At least that’s out of our last meeting what we thought was a reasonable thing to do that we could handle it between the group if everyone wants to do it, which seems a bit more of a personal connection. But, we’re open to feedback.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I know back when my mother was in Women’s Club, back in the eighties, they had a Welcome Wagon kind of thing. So, when new people came in to the community, they would tell the Women’s Club and the Women’s Club would go out and welcome them to the community and give them a little something or whatever and talk to them and say, “Hey, welcome to our neighborhood, and we have these kinds of meetings and this kind of stuff, do you have kids, etc.” Let them know what was going on in the City. I think this is kind of the same kind of thing. It gives that personal thing because they can get this in the mail, but, maybe if I went to their door and I saw that they had a whole bunch of kids, I could say, “Hey, you know we have the Community Center right down here and we have this available.” Because, they might not take the time to look through this, but they might take the time to listen to me and then they would also have someone to contact if they needed anything or if they wanted something or they had any questions going forward about the City stuff. Like, say, they do get a thing in the mail they say, “Yeah, you know we had our trash can out. I didn’t know it had to be behind a screen.” You can say, “Yeah, that’s part of why I am here. To explain to you that we have this and hand this to you and there’s these rules and whatever”. Just to kind of be the personal touch with the City. I know that some of us go door to door when we are campaigning. This would just be a way to go door to door with the new people without asking for anything in return. We just want to come and meet you, welcome you to the City, give you a face, a person to know who we are. And, just have that personal touch. I think that was what we had talked about when we originally were talking about this whole program last year, if I’m wrong, correct me, but, that’s what I thought was putting the personal touch to it. Giving them everything that’s available in the City from us so they hear it. Because, some people don’t take the time to read through these things. Some people get stuff like this in the mail, and throw it right away without even looking at it because they assume it’s some sort of an advertisement for something. I don’t know.

Mr. Hawkins: The idea of going door to door, I agree with the idea as has been said by Mr. Anderson and Mrs. Ghantous that it doesn’t have to be “in lieu of”; it should be “in addition to”. I would still mail it out because it’s about trying to make the connection with them and get them the information and the more opportunities you take to do that, the better. Then, the part of going door to door is about the personal connection, the interactivity of it, if there’s any questions, things of that nature, it gives the opportunity. I agree with what you’re indicating, Mayor, in terms of the fact that we may not catch them. But, that’s okay. You’re taking another opportunity to try to get with them. Maybe you take two or three shots, and if you don’t, you don’t. But, the mailing has already gone out there, they’ve got that information, you can leave it on their door. But, it’s about giving the sense of community, the sense of some interactive connection. What I’m hearing from everybody, this isn’t anything that folks on the dais are asking to put on the Administration.

Mrs. Ghantous: Correct.

Mr. Hawkins: It’s what the elected officials of Council are indicating that they are willing to go through and do. I haven’t heard anybody say they didn’t want to or weren’t willing to go through and do it. So, I think it’s just one more opportunity for Council to help with what the Administration is already doing and reaching out to our new residents.

Mr. Ramirez: Just so I can “chime in” as well, I’m totally okay with it as well. I’m willing to give it a try and if it doesn’t work out, we can always retreat, but especially in the warmer months, it will be a lot easier to get out and about (laughter).
Mrs. Ghantous: More people are moving in the warmer months usually.

Mr. Ramirez: Thank you.

Mrs. Ghantous: So, I guess that just brings us down to do we want to still use this as our vehicle?

Mr. Anderson: I’m definitely for that. I would just add mechanically, what we talked about since we’re of consensus. It seems like in doing something like this, it would be what we talked about in the Public Relations Committee meeting. That committee would divide up the community into some equal portions and so as to not add additional work to Administration, that Committee would collect and then mail out to people the names, twice a month on a regular interval, the 15th or 30th, these are the names that are out and here’s your assignments. Then, just some in the next week or two, when it’s convenient, make a couple of attempts. There’s no reporting back requirement. There’s no post visit notes that we’re asking for. It’s just an opportunity. So, we’ll divide it up. We’ll do that heavy lifting and then send out the names and make an effort. We’ll make the connection everyone is trying to make. That’s how we would propose it working. Again, if there’s feedback on the mechanics, this would be the time to do it. Otherwise, we’ll start. The other thing I wanted to give some feedback or question back on additional flyer to put in. There’s nothing that stops us from making that adjustment over time, right? So, the longer we wait to start doing some of this, the more people we’re going to miss. So, I would propose that we start doing it with what we have and start making those as they come in. Then, we can meet again, as the PR group and work on that flyer or that insert and maybe take feedback from some of the meetings that people have had. Hey, these are the things that I keep seeing, or this is what I wish I could tell them more easily, or this is something that I wanted to tell them, but I wouldn’t be comfortable doing it necessarily. Maybe we could stick that on a flyer so they can read it. Because, sometimes you don’t want to knock on a door and be the first one saying, “Oh, by the way, you’re breaking these four rules”. But maybe, we figure out what those are and do that later. So, I would encourage us to start.

Mrs. Emerson: I think it’s all in the verbiage we use. So, it’s not like we have to point out, it’s, “Just so you know”, or “heads up”, or present it that way. Just “heads up”.

Mr. Anderson: These are the top ten. We talked about different ways to do that at our September meeting. Hey, these are the top ten things. I guess I would encourage us to start with what we have which is why I love this welcome pack even though it’s going out, as a vehicle to have that communication. Then, maybe we’ll meet again after two months of doing it and say, “Hey, what should we have in the flyer?” I just don’t want to wait for that flyer to start doing it because we’re missing people that we could be connecting with. Thank you.

Mr. Hawkins: I agree with using this document and Public Relations Committee working on an additional flyer for Top Ten, Top Fifteen, Top Twenty, whatever things to be mindful of and I think the Administration did a great job of putting this together in English and Spanish. So, I agree with the idea of getting started with this.

Mr. Ramirez: I agree also. One other thing, I had the privilege of going to the Princeton Community Leaders and Business meeting today at Princeton High School with Mr. Jones and Mr. Kuchta and actually brought up the subject of the Council people having business cards. I think, along with this, to hand them a card with the local representative’s number and other important numbers like the Fire Department, Police Department, and maybe City Administration. I think that will give a more personal touch than just this magazine. Thank you.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Mrs. Emerson just shared with me that in this it doesn’t even say when our City Council meetings are. So, I was going to say that would be something that I would like. Was it on there? (Speaking to Mrs. Emerson). Never mind. We didn’t see it at first. Sorry. Never mind, it is on there. I was going to say because that’s something that I think would be important to have on that additional paper just as a pop out to say, “Hey, if you have any issues or questions, this is where we’ll be on the days and time that we’ll be there.”

Mr. Anderson: To the point of business cards, I know when I was in one of the newly elected officials meetings a few years ago, a couple of Forest Park people handed me theirs, which, I thought looked nice and I still have. I know that City Administration has those, so, that’s
Mr. Anderson (continued): fine. I thought about that. I didn’t want to add that expense necessarily out of the gate. I’d be fine with it though. I was just planning to write a little note on the paper that I had and put a post it note before handing it to them, I was just going to put my name, my number, and email is what I was planning to do. I’m not saying anyone would have to. That way I can say, “Hey it’s right here”. It also feels personal that way. But, if we had business cards, I think that would be great too. I wouldn’t want to wait for those to start though, again. I would do a note. Thank you.

Mr. Hawkins: In terms of business cards, we’d had them. I haven’t gotten any since I first got elected in 2009. Has anyone besides Mr. Vanover, Mrs. Emerson received business cards since they’ve been elected to Council?

Mayor Webster: Doesn’t Council already have business cards?

Mr. Hawkins: That’s what I’m saying, I remember I got some in 2009, Mrs. Emerson got some in 2009, but I don’t know that anybody else since we were elected has. I haven’t gotten any new ones, so I’m assuming nobody else has gotten any.

Mayor Webster: We could probably have those by Friday. That’s no big deal.

Mr. Hawkins: That would be excellent. For everybody probably, because we haven’t had any lately.

Mayor Webster: So name, Council, you want your home phone numbers on them?

Mr. Hawkins: Cell phone.

Mayor Webster: Why don’t you circulate a sheet down what you want on them and we’ll get them done for you.

Mr. Anderson: I believe the information that’s on the public website is probably enough. I think it has our phone numbers. On the back of the newsletter, they publish our phone numbers and email addresses. But, whatever you normally put on. We can work with the Administration. We don’t have to do that today. We can get it fixed.

Mayor Webster: This is Tom’s here. He’s got his office number here, office number of the building, his home phone on there and he’s got the City’s fax number. So, is this what everybody wants?

Mrs. Ghantous: I just want my cell phone and email.

Mayor Webster: Would somebody on Council circulate a sheet telling me.

Mrs. Ghantous: I’ll start the sheet.

Mr. Anderson: I think email would be good.

Mayor Webster: So, let me understand. So that I didn’t miss anything. So, we’re going to continue to mail this out as we’ve been doing. But, then, when the Tax Department sends the list down to the Rec Center, we want that sent to the Public Relations Committee? No?

Mrs. Ghantous: No, I’m going to get the names. I’m going to provide the names.

Mayor Webster: You’re going to take it.

Mrs. Ghantous: We don’t want Administration to have to do anything. This is not meant as anything that is to create any more work for anybody other than for us and it will be minimal work for us.

Mayor Webster: So, then who’s going to assign?
Mrs. Ghantous: Jeff is going to look at the areas, the geography, and try to section it up into seven sections that are fairly equal. As equal as they can be. And then, twice a month, I'm going to look at the closed properties. As soon as the name changes hands, like on the 15th and the 30th, I'll check and then I'll make a list and everybody will know what their geographical area is and I'll know I have three and Joe has two, and Lawrence has one or whatever it's going to be. So we don't mean this to be any extra expense or any extra time whatsoever for Administration.

Mayor Webster: Thank you. Appreciate that. How many of these do each of you want? Fifteen, twenty?

Mrs. Ghantous: Twenty maybe?

Mr. Ramirez: Aren't they already printed?

Mayor Webster: Well, yes.

Mrs. Ghantous: I think Greg (Karle) has a big stash of them.

Mayor Webster: I think Andy's (Kuchta) has got a couple of boxes in his office.

Mr. Jones: A couple of things. One, is our Economic Development Director probably has a couple thousand of them to include those in Spanish as well. So, if you want to poke your head in and see him at any time, he'll give you whatever you need. The second part is if you go ahead and fill that out as the Mayor requested, and tell us what you want on your card, Stephanie (Morgan) orders those on a regular basis, and it usually takes four to five days. So, we can get them to you and they are very inexpensive. Very inexpensive.

Mr. Hawkins: I was just going to say, it's probably easier for us to just pick them up from the Municipal Building has opposed to warehousing.

Mayor Webster: Okay, so, you guys get your own. (laughter). Just tell me how many you want in Spanish and in English.

Mrs. Ghantous: Thank you guys. I appreciate your cooperation and your enthusiasm about meeting the new residents.

New Business

Mr. Shvegzda: We've had the two bid openings since the last Council meeting. The one we had yesterday was for the Landan Lane Reconstruction Project and the lowest and best bidder was Fred A. Nemann Company at $292,308.50. The final engineer's estimate on that was $289,000. On January 24th, we had the bid opening for the Beacon Hills Subdivision Street Grinder Resurfacing. The lowest and best bidder on that was John R. Jurgensen and the corrected low bid amount was $649,341. The last engineer's estimate was $665,000.

Mrs. Ghantous: I was wondering if we could get the Census jobs advertised on the City Facebook page. Just to draw attention to it. In case some of the residents might be looking for something to do. They might like that opportunity and not know about it.

Mrs. Zimmerlin: I don't see any problem with that if Ms. Vickers wants to send something to me, we can get it up on the Facebook page.

Mrs. Ghantous: Thank you.

Mrs. Zimmerlin: I just wanted to jump to the two bid openings that we had. We'll have legislation for you at the next meeting. It's in the Pending Legislation report, but it will be for Fred A. Nemann for Landan Lane and then Jurgensen for the Beacon Hills Subdivision.

Mayor Webster: And the Beacon Hills project I think was budgeted for $540,000 and now we're up to $619,000?
Mr. Shvegzda: $649,000 and $341,000 was the low bid.

Mayor Webster: That’s with the contingency? $649,000?

Mr. Shvegzda: Yes.

Mayor Webster: So, our recommendation is that we go forward with that project because you know that’s bond proceed money that has to be committed by March 20th, or we incur some penalties from the IRS, so we certainly want to get the funds committed at the next Council meeting.

Mrs. Emerson: Did we ever get a settlement or an agreement on the company that did the overlay?

Mayor Webster: Yes, that was settled months ago that we got a check from them for $60,000?

Mrs. Zimmerlin: We accepted it. It was at our September 4th meeting.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Anderson: While we’re talking about bids, when were we doing the re-bid or have we already for the locker room and police renovations?

Mrs. Zimmerlin: We’re working on that now.

Mr. Anderson: The bids not open yet.

Mrs. Zimmerlin: No, it’s not open yet.

Mr. Anderson: Okay. Thank you.

Meetings and Announcements

Mrs. Sullivan-Wiseup: Planning Commission will meet next Tuesday, the 11th in these chambers at 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Zimmerlin: Civil Service will meet tomorrow, the 6th at 5:30 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room and then Rules and Laws will meet on February 19th at 6:00 p.m. I have a couple of announcements from the Rec Center. Youth sports registration is underway for baseball, t-ball, girls’ softball, spring soccer, and spring volleyball. Also, AARP is offering income tax help to seniors at one hour appointments. They’re available every Friday morning through April 10th. It is for simple State and Federal tax returns. You can call the Community Center for to schedule appointments. Just as a reminder, the City offices will be closed on Monday, February 17th in recognition of President’s Day and the Community Center will be open holiday hours from 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Mrs. Emerson: The Board of Health will meet on February 13th at 7:00 in the conference room adjacent to here.

Mrs. Ghantous: Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on Tuesday, February 25th at 7:00 p.m. in the chambers here.

Mr. Hawkins: Just along the lines of an announcement, we have with us Leia Hawkins, who is the President of Springdale Elementary School. I’m not going to make her give a report at this time (laughter), but may have her come back and let her know what’s going across the street. Thank you. (laughter)

President Vanover: It’s going to be a long ride home for you Mr. Hawkins.
Mayor Webster: I understand she’s upset because she wanted to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Communications from the Audience - None

Update on legislation still in development

Mr. Hawkins: As you review your Internal Memorandums, all items are forthcoming.

Recap of legislative items requested for next Council meeting

Mr. Hawkins: There’s a request for an Ordinance Authorizing an Agreement with the Contractor with the Best Bid for the Landan Lane Reconstruction Project and Declaring an Emergency. There’s also a request for an Ordinance Authorizing an Agreement with the Contractor with the Best Bid for the Beacon Hills Subdivision Streets Grind and Resurface Project and Declaring an Emergency. There is a request for a Resolution Making an Appointment on Behalf of the City Council of Springdale, Ohio to the Board of Directors of the Deer Park, Loveland, Sharonville, Sycamore Township, Symmes Township Energy Special Improvement District, Inc. There’s also a request for a Resolution Authorizing the City of Springdale’s Participation in Financing Public Improvements in Cooperation with the Port Authority and Authorizing the Execution of Documents to Effectuate Such Financing, and Declaring an Emergency. As well as a first reading for an Ordinance Amending Various Sections of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Springdale. That concludes requests for legislative items for the next meeting, unless there’s anything else from Council or the Administration.

Adjournment

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adjourn; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded the motion and Council adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved
Tom Vanover, President of Council

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