President of Council Vanover called Council to order on May 20, 2020.

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

Mrs. McNear provided the Invocation.

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

The minutes of the April 15, 2020 meeting were considered. Mr. Hawkins made a motion to accept the minutes. Mrs. Emerson seconded. The minutes were approved with six affirmative votes. (Mrs. Ghantous arrived shortly after minutes were approved).

Committee and Official Reports

Civil Service Commission
Mr. Coleman: Civil Service Commission did meet on May 7th at 5:30 p.m. in the conference room. At that meeting, all members were present. Along with the members of the Commission was Mr. Brian Uhl as well as Christina Ingle. At the meeting, the Commission was provided a candidate update for the following positions: Patrol Officer; there have been three candidate conditional offers that have been made so far. One patrol officer has begun work already. Another will start the Police Academy pretty soon and the third is in the background check process. The candidates for Firefighter; we were updated and made aware that there is still one more candidate that will be selected from the current eligibility list. Following a review of different correspondence, the Commission reviewed correspondence dated May 1st from Mr. Mike Hoffman, Fire Chief and Chief Hoffman was requesting to retain eligible applicants from the current list of firefighters and what this involved was promotional opportunities. For your information, when there’s a promotional opportunity, and the individual has been certified three times, then that person may be removed from the list, but, because of COVID-19 and some other things going on, the Commission made the decision to waive that and to keep the current eligibility list so when the other one finally made the decision to start all over again. Again, we took a vote on that and it was passed and so, therefore, certification more than three times rule was waived and that will allow the Fire Department to continue moving forward in their hiring process.

The other item was we took a look at the timeline for the Firefighter hiring process and, after review of those dates, concluded that the timeline was acceptable and, again, that would allow the Fire Department to move forward with putting together candidates for the Firefighter position. Additionally, what we looked at was individuals who applied for the position going forward, will have to have the Firefighter 2 paramedic’s certification. So, they can come through the door with the necessary background so that we don’t spend time and monies trying to get them qualified for the paramedic’s part of it. So, again, at that point in time the individual applies, they have to present certification that they are already a Firefighter/paramedic and, again, that will move the process along. At the conclusion of the meeting, or near the conclusion, we did ask Brian to meet with the Commission and just kind of give us an update on his work history, background, just so that we would get to know all the wealth of experience that he’s bringing to the City of Springdale. He graciously provided us with that. That was a really good discussion and, again, we’re happy to have him here as a member of the Springdale Administration. That concludes the report.

Rules and Laws
Mrs. Emerson - No report

Finance Committee
Mr. Hawkins - No report

Planning Commission
Mr. Ramirez: Planning Commission met May 12th in these chambers here. We had six members present. We had four subjects before us. First one under Old Business, was the Kleingers (Group) on behalf of Springdale Commerce Park, 12110 Princeton Pike; a minor revision to the PUD. What they asked for is basically a continuance because they want to split their bonds. They’re going after two bonds so they need a continuance to get the two
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Mr. Ramirez (continued): bonds out and so they can continue on with the paving project. So, it’s going to be done in two phases so they need two bonds. Next subject, Cincinnati Commercial Contractors on behalf of Jake Sweeney. The discussion was on the old property, the Atrium property which Jake Sweeney is going to turn into corporate offices. It will also be a showroom and Cincinnati Commercial was there on behalf of them. They basically, want to do a partial demo of that facility for car storage and then the rest will be corporate offices. Next step for them is to go to BZA for a few variances that need to be had before they continue on. Third subject, GBC Design on behalf of Chick-fil-A, if you remember right, they were before us previously and we thought that the proposal was kind of difficult. What they’re really looking to do is to add some drive-thru’s and another lane and it was just difficult in the way they wanted to apply that, so, they came back with another proposal and, in the end, they made some revisions and it was acceptable and that passed with a 5-1 vote. That will continue on. Finally, under New Business, U-Haul at 11750 Commons Drive, which is the old Front Gate, or not Front Gate, Front Room. They came before us and they were going to have a preliminary concept and what they really want to do is have storage inside, of course, the rental of the U-Haul trailers, and the sale of accessories that are used, whether they put them on your car for a hitch, things like that the garage there will be able to install these items. That passed with a lot of discussion. With a 6-0 vote and we made quite a few stipulations and some of those being that they wanted to park the U-Haul box trucks out along (Interstate) 275 basically, for advertising when they are not being rented out. The group felt like that wasn’t really the intent for parking the trucks and there was a lot of discussion on our behalf on why we did not want it. The applicant didn’t want to give in, so, in the end, we passed with a 5-1, a 6-0 vote with a number of stipulations; one of them being shielding the U-Hauls from visibility from (Interstate) 275. Again, that was a preliminary concept. So, they will be coming before us on June 3rd. That’s all I have. Any questions? (None)

Board of Zoning Appeals
Mrs. Ghantous: No report. Board of Zoning Appeals did not meet this month.

Board of Health
Mrs. Emerson: The Board of Health met on May 14th, 2020. Most of that meeting consisted of speaking about COVID-19 and our Health Commissioner, Mr. Clayton is here tonight. I’m going to defer that information to him. As far as the Narcan doses for April, we’ve used three doses in Springdale. We finally got all the stats back from the overdoses for the year of 2019. That was from January to December. We had 345 overdoses, compare it to 2018, they had 357, and so, we are down 4%. That’s good news. The Childhood Immunization Clinic has been cancelled until further notice. The Children’s Health Fair was also cancelled. The Latino Coalition of Southwest Ohio has been cancelled also until further notice. They are still running the free Produce Pop Ups. What they are doing now is they’re doing a drive-thru and the next one is going to be May 22nd at 9:00 and that’s going to be in the parking lot of Heritage Hill Elementary School. Then, helping needy Princeton students, efforts to assist local families impacted by COVID-19. The Calvary Church is collecting nonperishable foods and household items to distribute to local families impacted by COVID-19. The Springdale Health Department encourages community members to participate either by donating or by reaching out to the Princeton Closet. You can reach them at (513) 518-6991. If you have food and household items to donate. There is also a drop off box and that’s at the Calvary Christian Church at the main entrance and that’s at 11970 Kenn Road. That concludes my report unless there’s any questions.

Mr. Clayton. Thank you Mr. President, members of Council, Mayor for allowing me to come in tonight to talk about COVID-19. It’s a little discussed topic as we know. But, there’s good news. I’d like to begin by sharing some numbers. In the week of May 4th to May 11th, we saw 20 cases. The prior week, we also saw 20 cases in Springdale. So, we saw some big jumps in numbers those two weeks. Last week, we saw only eight new cases, and thus far this week, it’s one case. Another case popped in today. I haven’t had a chance to really trace down the one that came in this evening to determine if it’s, in fact ours, or if it should be with Hamilton County. We’re at one, possibly two cases for the week. So, we’re really seeing the numbers come down. I’m very pleased about that and I’d like to give some credit for that to our staff. We have had some great success in a health education, health communication campaign. First, as everyone knows, we’ve been sending out COVID-19 reports; probably more information than anyone really wants. Then, we’ve had the opportunity to partner with
Mr. Clayton (continued): our Latino media to get the information out. And, we’ve also, if I could just brag on our staff, our staff was great about getting packets together and distributing those through our supermercado across the street, the Mi Tierra. Some information went out there. We also had the opportunity to promote infographic bilingual information. We partnered with UC, actually Dr. Aday’s group. She has students who are bilingual. They took that information out on our behalf to the supermercados across the region the weekend of Mother’s Day. So, there was a big push, and, since then, we’ve seen a change in behavior among our Latino population. Now that is very significant because many of the recent cases have been among our Latino populations who are seeing more social distancing, more use of masks, and we believe that that’s directly correlated with the drop in cases. We believe that we’re going to see a continued decrease in cases and, at this point, I will open up for questions from members of Council with regard to COVID-19 in Springdale.

Mr. Hawkins: Mr. Clayton, is there any additional opportunity for our community to get testing because we have a Health Department whether or not someone is positive or not, but also for antibodies?

Mr. Clayton: That’s a great question Mr. Hawkins. First, if I can say, I’m on the Regional Multi-Agency Collaborative along with representatives from healthcare and congregate care. That’s something that the State is pushing for and I’ve got a seat at the table where we’re making the decisions about how testing is going to happen across the region. It’s being led by Dr. Lofgren, from UC (University of Cincinnati), the President of UC hospital. We are in a position to get tests. The State is sending those allotments out and they’re going to the local health departments. We have sent those to our healthcare centers that had outbreaks. The big concern there is where we’ve had outbreaks but also our long term care centers or our intermediate long term care. So, we’ve had one outbreak in a long term care center, that was Brookdale and one outbreak at an intermediate care center, which is actually here on Walnut Street. So, we’ve been providing test kits according to that process. But, there will be more testing coming. That’s a big push on the part of the state and rightfully so. They need to get more information; more data.

Mr. Hawkins: Do you anticipate that the number of tests that Health Departments may have access to is going to be based on the population that that Health Department is taking care of?

Mr. Clayton: I do. I think that we’ll get fewer tests than say, City of Cincinnati, or Hamilton County, but we’ll be able to serve our population well in partnership with our healthcare community partners. We’ve strengthened those relationships over the course of this pandemic and that’s been very helpful.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you. And, again, you and your department have been doing an awesome job in terms of keeping everybody informed and doing those reports. We appreciate it.

Mr. Clayton: Thank you Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Anderson: I did want to echo Mr. Hawkins’ sentiments. Especially, the data you have been sending out has improved over time. Which is very impressive considering it’s at the same time cases are going up, so that additional depth has really helped us understand and when we engage with the community as well, it helps us to help people to understand that we’re watching it and we’re adapting to it. A good example is the Latino engagement you discussed is a great example that shows why it’s powerful to have a Health Department in our City; that makes us unique. One question I have for you is recently I have seen ads pop up on social media sites advertising private lab testing for antibodies, not so much the active cases. My question around that is, “Is there some guidance you can give people if they decide to seek that out”. Do those results also result if they have antibodies going back to the Health Department here and would you then have to follow up those as active cases too? Or, are those just private information that they would get? What’s the view and how are you treating this as more private labs start dealing with antibody testing?
Mr. Clayton: Well, Mr. Anderson, that’s a great question. First, with regard to the antibody testing, there are different types of tests as you know and some are more accurate than others. The push now for rapid tests and to make those tests readily available it’s a good idea because we need more data. Realistically, from my perspective, we’re making decisions with a limited amount of data. That having been said, there’s a lot of concern about both false positive tests and false negative tests. So, as those tests become more available and more people get tested, I think that we’ll be in a better position, but the question with regard to how that will impact if someone’s not symptomatic, they get a test, and it shows that they have been positive, but they’re non-symptomatic, it’s a completely different scenario than someone who’s symptomatic, tested at a healthcare facility, and then needs to quarantine for 14 days or self-isolate.

Mr. Anderson: So, they could expect somebody who gets a positive, one of those private lab positive antibody tests that’s non-symptomatic to self-quarantine, get reported, or change their behavior. So, as we open up the Rec Center and the pool and things like that, if somebody has positive for antibodies, should they not go to these places?

Mr. Clayton: The CDC guidance has changed a few times along the way. If someone tests positive, the real question is going to be, “Are they symptomatic”? If we look at the guidance that we’ve received thus far, if someone is non-symptomatic, they’re still recommended to wear the mask, social distance, but realistically, the State’s asking us all to do these things anyway.

Mr. Anderson: Thank you.

Mr. Clayton: Yes sir.

Mrs. Emerson: Mr. Anderson, a little tag on to what Mr. Clayton was talking about on the antibodies; there’s a lot of tests out there that are testing antibodies now, but the COVID-19 is, the COIVD is not a new virus; it’s been out there, it’s just mutated. So, a lot of those antibody tests that you’re paying $65 at private labs, they’re not testing for the COVID-19 that we have currently now. So, there are hospitals encouraging staff and people to not to go out and get those antibody tests done yet, because they haven’t critiqued it yet to be specific to the COVID-19. Thank you.

President Vanover: Well, Mr. Clayton, it would also be true; we’re finding out daily that this has been around a lot longer than what was first thought, so, that would make more sense that there are people out there that are positive for the antibodies, but yet asymptomatic that there body was successful in fending it off, and that’s much like well, we don’t get a booster shot, but, you have the antibodies for smallpox or whooping cough or that stuff.

Mr. Clayton: Mr. President, you point is well taken. It’s true that we originally assumed that the first case was in March and now we’re finding out the first case was way before. It’s also, and Mrs. Emerson’s a medical professional, I’m not, but it’s clear that when we talk to a variety of people across Springdale who have been impacted, some of the cases that the World Health Organization announced that 98% of cases are mild. So, we know that most people who’ve had it had no symptoms or they had very mild symptoms, they may very well not been aware. Now, with the antibody testing, we’re going to find that most people who test positive, were not aware they had COVID-19. There’s a question out there floating around as to what percentage of our general population has already been exposed. We don’t know that, and we won’t really know that until testing becomes more common.

President Vanover: I want to echo too that, outstanding job of the information string. I get phone calls from people outside the area, what have you heard, this type of thing. It makes us look good, but, thank you.

Mr. Clayton: My pleasure.

Mayor Webster: Just to share a story with Council here. We had one of our City employees that got a phone call from his doctor. He’d gone to the doctor about two weeks
Mayor Webster (continued): before that, with a strep throat and his doctor said, “Just wanted to let you know we got the test back and you did have strep throat and you also tested positive for COVID-19.” He had absolutely no symptoms, and he had worked the whole time, the whole two weeks and hadn’t missed a day, and continues to work to this day. Of course, it scared the hell out of his co-workers, so we got about six of them went over to Mrs. Emerson and got a test, I don’t know how they managed to do that, (laughter) but they knew somebody over there that let them have a test. Fortunately, everyone tested negative, but I wonder how many of us have had that over the winter, and you don’t even know it? We’ve recovered from it and I’m anxious to get tested just to see if I had it and recovered from it. I know I’ve recovered from it (laughter).

President Vanover: That's got you thinking Mr. Clayton.

Capital Improvements Mrs. Emerson - No report

O-K-I

Mr. Anderson: OKI did meet virtually last week Thursday; no significant action to report.

Mayor’s Report: I've got several things, but a couple of them I want to hold off because you've got legislation on the agenda that deals with them. But, I'd just like to hit the high points of the things that I've done the last four weeks I guess with the executive authority that you've given me. First off, going to talk about the Rec Center a little bit. As all of you know, we brought all of our full time staff, not just the Rec Center, but the City’s full time work force back on May 4th. We also brought back a few select part-time people, but most of our part-time people at the Rec Center, all of the ones at the Rec Center we have not brought back. They will be brought back on the 26th. The 26th we open the doors of the Community Center, but there’s still some restrictions, but we also open the pool on the 26th. That was a real shock to us that the Governor said we could do that. So, we’ll see all of our part time people will be brought back next week. I’ve got some information about what some of the restrictions are if anybody wants those, I’ll be more than happy to copy on those. There are restrictions on the, I don’t see any on the pool, but there’s restrictions on some of the other rooms and so forth. A couple of the areas will still not be open.

Also, I took some action on the staffing of the Fire Department and you’re going to have an ordinance before you this evening, I think, Ordinance No. 17-2020 that deals with that and so I'll hold all my comments until the Ordinance comes up and also fill you in where we stand on the staffing complement of the Police Department, because that was also an issue. Another thing that I did. I needed to get the engineering started on Northland Boulevard and so I used my executive authority to go ahead and do that. We followed that up with a resolution that's before you tonight. We very much need that before we can submit the application, there has to be a resolution by Council, but we needed to pick up those eight or ten days of engineering so that we could get that application filed on time. So, Jeff Agricola is with us this evening so, once we read that resolution, I'd like to ask him to step up and give a presentation on that.

The other thing that surfaced late last week was the Governor announced that we could start outdoor dining and so you’ve got an ordinance on the books tonight that I wanted to make that available to our restauranteurs over the weekend. Unfortunately, only one of them took advantage of it or even made an application, but we have the ordinance tonight that sort of spells out what I did in my executive order. So, you guys can pass that, rescind my order, or you can reject it or do what you may, but, anyway, we feel very strongly about that that none of these places are going to be struggling just to keep their doors open and even though the inside dining takes effect tomorrow, it’s still going to be a limited capacity. So, if we can give these restaurants the opportunity to add some tables and chairs outside, without having to jump through a lot of hoops, we’d very much like to do that and I think what we’ve outlined here allows us to do that. They still have to submit a sketch to the Building Department, they have to go out and send an inspector around to come and inspect it and make sure it's safe, and then they can be issued a no charge permit and, but everything is strictly temporary. Once this covenant thing goes away, if they want to continue that operation, they have to go through the normal process, so all bets are off once the covenant
Mayor Webster (continued): is gone. I’ve got a couple of proclamations I want to read.

Also, I just want to, while I’ve got the floor, I’d like to remind all of you that we are going to have our Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at 1:00 this coming Friday, the 22nd down at the Veteran’s Memorial. So, you’re all invited to take part in that.

We also have a resolution on the agenda tonight honoring the Princeton Seniors. Let me just give you a little background on that. I was out walking I guess two weeks ago, and on my route, I saw two residences had big signs in the yard “Princeton Graduate 2020”. I got to thinking. You know, these poor kids have really had to forego a lot of activities; prom, spring sports, I understand some scholarship opportunities have probably escaped some of those students. These kids have gone to school for 12 years for this big day and all of the sudden, it’s snatched from them. So, my idea was, okay, let’s have Springdale City Council pass a resolution and send a certified copy of that to every Springdale senior at Princeton. Talked to Mr. Vanover and Mrs. McNear to make sure she was willing to sign that. Anyway, we ran into a roadblock because the school is not allowed to give out that information. If you can believe that, and so, I’m sure if the Superintendent could let us have that, he would, but after a few days, he finally said, “we can’t give that information out”. However, now Princeton has passed a proclamation, which I signed today, and I have a copy of it here, so they are going to send all the Mayors, all six mayors that have signed this proclamation, and that’s going to be mailed out with the diplomas on Friday, I believe it is, or one day this week. So, anyway, they will have that proclamation, and then we will pass this, hopefully you guys will pass this resolution tonight and if any student or parent wants a certified copy of it, please contact us. We’ll be more than happy to supply that. I was hoping we’d have a 150 or 160 of them tonight for Kathy and me to sign, and Tom, but, we couldn’t pull it off. Is there anything else I mentioned in the last couple of weeks that I didn’t cover here this evening?

President Vanover: Not that I can think of. I think you’ve pretty well got it covered Mayor.

Mayor Webster: Okay. Alright, with that I’d like to read these two proclamations.

WHEREAS, the City of Springdale is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depend on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster; and

WHEREAS, our confidence in the structural integrity of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians – building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers and others in the construction industry – who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings; and

WHEREAS, our nation benefits economically and technologically from using codes that are developed nationally, through a voluntary consensus development process, and these modern building codes include safeguards to protect the public from natural disasters such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquake; and

WHEREAS, Building Safety Month is intended to remind the public about the critical role of our communities’ largely unknown protectors of public safety – our local code officials – who assure us of safe, efficient and livable buildings that are essential to America’s prosperity; and

WHEREAS, “Safer Buildings, Safer Communities, Safer World,” the theme for Building Safety Month 2020, encourages all Americans to raise awareness about the importance of safe and resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation, and new technologies in the construction industry. Building Safety Month 2020 encourages appropriate steps everyone can take to ensure the safety of our built environment, and
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recognizes that the implementation of safety codes by local and state agencies has saved lives and protected homes and businesses; and

WHEREAS, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, Americans are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments and fire prevention bureaus in protecting lives and property.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Doyle H. Webster, Mayor of the City of Springdale, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2020 as

BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to recognize the contributions which building departments and fire prevention bureaus make every day to our health, safety, comfort, and quality of life.

At this point, I’d like to ask Carl Lamping, our Building Official to step forward.

Mr. Lamping: Thank you Mr. Mayor, I appreciate it.

Mayor Webster: We’re going to shake hands, so, don’t report us. (laughter) Carl, thank you very much.

Mr. Lamping: Thank you. (applause)

Mayor Webster: This young man has been with us almost six months now, but he still doesn’t want to get rid of the handle of new guy, so we don’t call him Mr. Lamping, we call him “new guy”. New guy, thank you very much.

Mr. Lamping: Thank you. Appreciate it.

Mayor Webster: The next one is National Public Works Week.

WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of the City of Springdale; and

WHEREAS, these infrastructure, facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers and employees at all levels of government and the private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving and protecting our nation’s transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders and children in Springdale to gain knowledge of and to maintain a progressive interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, the year 2020 marks the 60th annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association.

NOW THEREFORE, I, DOYLE H. WEBSTER, Mayor of the City of Springdale, do hereby proclaim the week of May 17 through May 23, 2020 as

“NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK”

In the City of Springdale and call upon all citizens and civic organizations to acquaint themselves with the issues involved in providing our public works and to recognize the contributions which public works officials make every day to our health, safety, comfort, and quality of life.
Mr. Agricola would you please step forward.

Mr. Agricola: Thank you Mayor.

Mayor Webster: Thank you very much. (applause)

Mayor Webster: I just have two other quick items here. As I have done the last couple of weeks, I did not campaign for this executive authority that you guys bestowed upon me back in March. However, I will say that it has proven invaluable to us in the last few months, especially with the way, and I’m not criticizing, but the way that everything’s changed from day to day. The Governor gets on the radio and television, makes these pronouncements, and the next day comes back and amends those, and John (Jones) and I and now Brian (Uhl), we try to relay that to the Departments and say, “Here’s what we have to do”, then the next day we have to go back and say, “No, forget what we said yesterday, you’ve got to do this.” So, after a while, the people look at us and say, “You don’t know what the hell you’re talking about”. Well, we do know what we’re talking about, but, unfortunately, it’s a fast-changing environment, so, I would, even though I didn’t campaign for it initially, I would respectfully request that we leave that order in place at least for another two weeks. Things are calming down and, hopefully, two weeks from now, I’ll stand here and say, “I don’t need this” “I can’t bear this awesome responsibility anymore” (laughter) It’s weighing me down. Anyway, I’m willing to shoulder it for another two weeks.

Also, as far as requests and announcements, I would like to see us get back on a regular schedule and have the June 3rd Council meeting. I understand that Mr. Clayton, … did he leave us? Well, he has said that we do not have to continue this distancing with one another. As a matter of fact, after we had the chambers all set up this afternoon, he said, “You don’t have to do that”. Well, had it set up, so we went ahead and did it. So, unless one of you people want to see us continue to do that, we’ll go back to normal seating arrangements next meeting. So, maybe we’ll have to issue everybody a mask, but anyway, but we can talk about that. But, if you feel strongly that we need to continue to do it, no big deal, we’ll do it. Thank you very much.

President Vanover: Thank you Mr. Mayor.

Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Mrs. McNear: I do have two reports this evening. As you may recall, at the last meeting, it was too early in the month for the reports to have been generated. So, this is the General Fund Report through March 31, 2020. For receipts, we have a budget of $22.359 million dollars, and we’ve received $5.585 million dollars, or 25% through the end of March. Those receipts are made up of five general fund receipt sources which are Earnings Tax, Real Estate Taxes, Paramedic Services, Local Government Funds, and Mayor’s Court for a total of $5.286 million dollars, which is 95% of our receipts. On the expenditure side, we have a net budget of $20.172 million dollars. We have spent $5.039 million dollars, which is 25% and the General Fund ending balance as of March 31, is $2.521 million dollars.

Moving on to the April report through April 30th for receipts; net budget of $22.359 million dollars. We have received $7.731 million dollars, which is 35% of the anticipated budget. Also, with the same five general fund receipt sources, Earnings Tax, Real Estate Taxes, Paramedic Services, Local Government Funds, and Mayor’s Court for a total of $7.269 million dollars, which is 94% of our receipts. For expenditures, net budget of $21.172 million dollars and we have spent $6.915 million dollars which is 33% of the budget. That brings us to General Fund Summary Balance through April 30, 2020 of $2.851 million dollars, and that concludes my report. Thank you.

President Vanover: I’ll be happy to report to you that Governor Dewine happily accepted my $35 charge, so, I’m in.
Administrator’s Report

Mr. Jones: I’m going to make an introduction, and then, after that, I’d like to go back and then finish out my report. Elected officials, it is my pleasure to introduce to you tonight a new addition our staff, Assistant City Administrator, Brian C. Uhl, sitting to my right. Mr. Uhl was chosen from an applicant pool of 48 applicants; very qualified candidates. His first day on the job was back on May 4th. Some of you obviously know that now. Brian acquired a strong foundation that has prepared him for this position for which he now holds. I want to take just a few minutes here to give you a little bit about his background. He spent the last 23 years in Springfield Township and most recently served as both the Administrative Lieutenant in the Police Department there as well as the Director of the Office of Innovation and Sustainability. He worked across the various different departments and worked on projects promoting government efficiency. Brian possesses a Master’s Degree in Public Administration, and a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice. He has served on the Board of Zoning Appeals and Comprehensive Plan Committee with Liberty Township, which is now his place of residence. But more importantly, he is married and his wife is here with us tonight. Her name is Jen. Say, “Hi” Jen. This couple has three children and their ages are 13, 11, and 6. Mr. President, if you don’t mind, generally you ask if they have something to say. Would it be appropriate at this time?

President Vanover: Bring him on.

Mr. Uhl: Thank you very much Mr. President. I would just like to thank Mayor Webster, and Mr. Jones for their confidence in me to take on this task and this position. I’m excited to work with Council and for the residents of Springdale to continue to push their initiatives forward. I’m excited to be a part of this team that the Administration has assembled. But, I would also like to thank my wife, Jen for allowing me to pursue this passion, and be super supportive along the way to help me accomplish my goal. So, I appreciate that.

President Vanover: Welcome (applause).

Mr. Jones: So, the latest census update provided by Ms. (Stephanie) Morgan, within our office is the National numbers are 59.7, the Ohio numbers, this is as of this morning, are 64.8, and then today is 64.9, and Springdale has moved today to 65.3, so we’re staying above National and Ohio averages, which I gotta tell you, I’m very pleasantly surprised about that report. So, that’s good news that our residents are taking it serious and responding well.

Mr. Karle from the Community Center, and Parks and Recreation gave me a pretty detailed list of some things he’d like for me to update and I’d like to do that. As the Mayor mentioned, the Wreath Laying; the Mayor and Sergeant Tod Sams, U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain Assistant, will honor those who served and sacrificed so much for the freedoms we enjoy with a wreath laying at the Veterans Memorial on Friday, May 22nd at 1:00 p.m. Regarding the re-opening of the Community Center and the pool. We get a lot of questions on this so, here it goes. Opening May 26th. I know a lot of you have heard that by now, but, just want to confirm. In accordance with Governor Mike DeWine’s plan to reopen Ohio, Springdale Parks and Recreation will resume the following operations on Tuesday, May 26, pool fitness center, walking track, racquetball courts, studio, senior lounge, adult billiards and gymnasium for scheduled activities only (no basketball) and outdoor tennis courts and pickle ball is okay. Current closures will continue to be the computer lab, game room, saunas and meeting rooms (for 10 or more), basketball courts and playgrounds. For questions or details on re-opening protocols please contact the Community Center or refer to the City website.

Pretty popular here in our community is the Document Shredding Event. You can do that on Saturday, May 30th, from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. A little bit different this year. We had a recommendation some time back actually by Kathy McNear saying, “Why don’t we do it more often? It’s not all that expensive.” I believe that they had originally scheduled three for this year now. So, a little different than what we’ve done in the past. It’s pretty popular.
Mr. Jones (continued): We have employment opportunities at Parks and Recreation. Part-time maintenance workers, part-time custodians and lifeguards. For information, please call the Community Center and all that information will be on the website for contact and so forth. Swim lesson registration. The pool is opening as you know on the 26th and it’s time to think about safety in and around the water. Registration for swim lessons at the Community Center begins June 1. Lessons will be available for ages 3 through adult. Fall youth sports registration we’re looking at fall youth soccer and volleyball programs begin June 1st and, again, highly encourage you to contact the Community Center for any more information or can also look on Facebook and the website. It won’t do you a lot of good to call us, because all we’re going to do is refer you to the recreation center. Appreciate Greg (Karle) providing that information because I think getting that out there, and I sent an email out this afternoon to the Council and elected officials basically just saying, this is some steps that our Parks and Recreation is taking pertaining to being as safe as we can and the distancing and sanitizing and so forth within our Recreation Center, and actually at the pool and so forth. So, you should have received that today. The public will see something a little bit different on the web page and the Facebook page, but, we wanted to let you know some of the steps that we’re taking. That’s all this evening. Thank you.

Law Director’s Report

Mr. Braun - No report

Engineer’s Report

Mr. Shvegzda: Three projects to update you on today. On Landan Lane, the project will begin May 26th, initially with saw cutting of the pavement. On June 1st, they’ll begin the removal of the pavement on the west side of the roadway, because they’re going to maintain access in and remove it down to the base and remove the curb and gutter and they’ll bring it back up to the new aggregate base. Then, June 15th they’ll work on the east half. They’ll do the same thing, only they’ll bring it up and then pave the whole area with the base course and the intermediate course. June 29th, they’ll be doing the driveway apron work, July 13th, they’ll start on the grading and topsoil work behind the curb, and then July 30th they’ll be doing the asphalt surface course, the rejuvenator, and the pavement markings and then they’ll plan on finishing up July 31st on that project. On Beacon Hill, obviously the project has started. They did the SAMI work last week. They had planned on doing the final course asphalt this week, but, obviously they have been unable to do so. So, we’re hoping that that will take place next week. On East Crescentville Road, the preliminary right of way plans have been submitted to ODOT and all of the right of way acquisition is taking place in Butler County. Stage 2 plan development is underway. We have had a conference call with the utilities just to kind of see what their plans are for the project. We did find out that Greater Cincinnati Water Works will be replacing the water main for the whole length of the project so that will be incorporated to the work that’s done during the roadway work. That concludes my report.

President Vanover: Just a quick question since that Issue 7 passed. Is there any word of increase infrastructure funding available to us?

Mr. Shvegzda: There will be. They’ve set aside $30 million dollars for infrastructure work that will be done for roadways that interact with the mass transit, the buses and what not, and obviously, that’s available there for Northland Boulevard as well.

President Vanover: Good.

Mayor Webster: It’s interesting that you bring that up. I think Mr. Agricola will touch on that when he talks about Northland Boulevard. That’s one funding source we’ll reach out to. In addition to the one we’re going to apply for the grant.

President Vanover: Okay. Good.

Communications - None

Communications from the Audience - None

President Vanover: Council, before you this evening we have a request to add Resolution No. R13-2020 to the agenda. So, at this point, I’ll take a motion to add it.
Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I’d like to make a motion to add Resolution No. R13-2020 to tonight’s agenda.

Mrs. Emerson: Second.

The motion to add Resolution No. R13-2020 to the May 20, 2020 agenda passes with seven affirmative votes.

Ordinance and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 15-2020
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A JOINT PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE AND THE CITY OF FAIRFIELD RELATED TO THE RESURFACING OF PORTIONS OF STATE ROUTE 4 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Ghantous made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 15-2020; Mr. Anderson seconded.

Ordinance No. 15-2020 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 16-2020
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE, DISPOSAL OR TRANSFER OF PERSONAL PROPERTY FROM THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE

President Vanover: Council, you’ve heard the reading Ordinance No. 16-2020. It is a first reading. Is there any discussion this evening?

Mr. Anderson: Just one question, if we can get answered. We list a firearm simulator from the Police Department. I apologize, I’m not sure what that is and I probably should have known coming in. Do we know what a firearms simulator is?

Mr. Jones: I can answer that. I asked the Chief (of Police, Chief Wells). Apparently that was an item donated many years ago. The simulators are generally supposed to make it as a real situation as it can and puts officers under pressure to force them to make decisions under that same pressure. Unfortunately, in this case, it was donated, but it was actually never used because it was broken and, to this day, it’s never been used. So, they’re going to move it along.

Mr. Anderson: So, this isn’t like a simulated weapon or like a false firearm. It’s a system that’s used to create an environment?

Mr. Jones: And, maybe Mr. Uhl would be better responding to this, but the one that we had in Trenton was like an oversized videogame. Literally, it puts you in scenario situations and then it forces you to make quick decisions and, generally you have a supervisor and co-workers there and there’s yelling and screaming going on trying to make it as real as possible and put you under that pressure to see how you respond. So, some agencies use it as a tool to help screen applicants. But, in our particular case, we do not have a working one and that was donated to us and it does not work.

Mr. Anderson: Thank you.

Mr. Hawkins: Along those lines, I just wanted to check and see with regard to the firearms simulator and I was more interested in the Police trunk packed with the Kevlar. Are those things that are open to the public or are there some limitations with regard to who’s able to bid on those items?

Mr. Jones: It depends. Certain items; weapons we don’t ever put out there. But, like the simulator, and things like that, originally, and I don’t think it’s changed unless Brian (Uhl) you tell me something different, we were going to try to find another agency that might be
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Mr. Jones (continued): able to use it. But, it’s just not a benefit to us at this time. Most of the items that we are able to sell, we sell on a site, and then we pay a small commission for that and then we auction them off and yes, it’s open to anyone.

Mr. Hawkins: I just wasn’t sure with the Kevlar if that was limited. Thank you.

Mr. Ramirez: My question was basically along those lines on the internet auction, do you have a government site that we use for that auction?

Mr. Jones: Yes. It’s goveal.com.

Mr. Ramirez: When is it determined that it doesn’t go to auction and it’s disposed of instead?

Mr. Jones: Generally, if it has no monetary value and we cannot get anything for that, but, a lot of items, the beauty of an internal agency’s cooperation is you can donate to another agency. If it’s outlasted its usefulness for you, but anything that we believe we can get money for, we will go ahead and attempt to auction off. A lot of times by the time we are done with computers, keyboards, things of that nature; they pretty much have exhausted their usefulness. And, generally, require too much money to update them, so nobody will buy them.

Mr. Ramirez: Understood. Thank you.

Mr. Jones: You’re welcome.

President Vanover: We’ll see this at our next meeting.

Ordinance No. 17-2020

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 36.03 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE, OHIO ESTABLISHING FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING LEVELS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 17-2020; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Mr. Hawkins: I was just going to say through discussions with the Mayor and Administration, and the Finance Committee previously, I think this is going to save the City money. That’s accurate.

Mayor Webster: I’ll try to make this as brief as possible, but it’s somewhat convoluted. As you can tell, we’re amending a lot of ordinances and I won’t stand here and apologize. We should never have let these complement ordinances, Police and Fire go this long without having those updated. Those should, especially the Fire, should have been updated last year when we authorized the Lieutenants. Council authorized Lieutenants, we added those positions to the pay table, and we established compensational levels, but we did not go back and do the complement ordinance which we should have done. But, anyway, through the last update, we have one chief, one assistant, three captains, three lieutenants from last year, 15 full-time firefighters, one full-time inspector, and 13 part-time firefighters. A total of 37 people. Now, that’s what’s in the budget. So, all 37 of those positions are budgeted. Today, we have 36 and we have one person, tomorrow, which we would like to convert from part-time to full-time and this is the one that Mr. Coleman talked about that they approved this conversion at their last civil service meeting, would take us up to 21. Now, what we’re asking for is to take that number up to 22. So, the new complement, as it’s spelled out here is one chief, one assistant chief, three captains, three lieutenants, 22 full-time firefighters, one fire inspector, and we’ve reduced the part-time people down to ten. Now, right now, we don’t plan on adding ten, as a matter of fact, we only have today, seven. Tomorrow, that number will be down to six. So, there will still be four people in there and the money is in there in the budget for those, but we have absolutely no intention of doing that, but, here again, we’d like to leave that in there. That part-time firefighter is a very fluid thing; it’s tough to get those people and when you get the opportunity to add a good one, you need to be able to do that. So, we’re asking that you take that number from 13 down to ten, but to leave the “slough” in there because, as
Mayor Webster (continued): of tomorrow, we’ll only have six, so, we’ll have the slough in there for four. Same way with the full-time firefighters. We’d like to have that at 22; right now that’s at 20, but the one we would convert tomorrow to bring it up to 21, and we’d like to have the ability to add another one in there because we know, for a fact, we’ve already been given notice that one of our Captains is going to be leaving later on this year. We’d like to be able to add a person before the vacancy is actually there and that’s what started this whole conversation two or three meetings ago was that in the Police and Fire both, we’d like to be able to have a “buffer” in there, if you will, that gives us Council’s authorization to add that person. Now, if it’s not in the budget, then we’re going to have to go back to Finance Committee and ask for the appropriation. In this particular case, there’s going to be no budget action needed. There’s money in there to accommodate this because we’re not going to add all those part-time firefighters. So, I would urge you to pass this ordinance. Now, the only other question is on the Fire because I’ve got an update on the Police.

Mr. Anderson: As I understand it, the Fire Department has a strong preference that all their firefighters come in with the MTP as paramedic certification as Mr. Coleman mentioned. I know the older ordinances allowed for lesser certification for people who had been with the department for a while, and, I believe we still have at least one of those firefighters isn’t EMTP yet.

Mayor Webster: Right. That’s true.

Mr. Anderson: I just want to make sure.

Mayor Webster: Some people are grandfathered in there.

Mr. Anderson: Correct. I just want to make sure that the ordinance we pass tonight wouldn’t change their status or ability to continue to work for us.

Mayor Webster: Yes. Absolutely, it will not change.

Mr. Anderson: Thank you.

Mayor Webster: Any other questions about fire?

President Vanover: No.

Mayor Webster: Okay. Let me give you an update on the Police. After looking at the police, and that’s what started us down this road to start with, but after looking at where we are on the Police complement, we’re not asking for anything to be changed there. Where we are today, we have one Chief. We do not have an Assistant Chief, we have not filled Chief Wells’ position that he vacated when he got promoted. We have three Lieutenants, we have four Sergeants, 22 officers, and three in-training as Mr. Coleman indicated, they are in various stages. We also would like to add another one to that complement. The budget calls for 34 Police Officers this year, and so we still need to add one person and we have a person that’s waiting, I asked them to wait, not to make the offer until I presented this to Council this evening. So, even though we’re not asking for any legislation, we be adding that other person to the staff to bring us up to 34 that we had budgeted. So, here again, no budget action needed. The complement, the authorized complement calls for one Chief, one Assistant, four Lieutenants, four Sergeants, and 30 Police Officers. Now, at this point, we’re not asking for 30 Police Officers, but, the complement is there. I think it’s a total staff of I believe it was 40 people. So, the complement calls for 40; we have 33, we want to add another one to bring us up to the budget number of 34. There’s still a cushion of six people in there. We have absolutely no intention of adding those. If we exceed this 34, which is budgeted, we would have to go back before Finance Committee and ask for more money to do that. I know next year the Police Department has indicated they do want to add one officer to the staff, which will bring that staffing up to 36. We’ve told them that will be up for discussion at budget time. That’s where we stand. Any questions on Police? (None) Thank you very much.
Ordinance No. 17-2020 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 18-2020
AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING FOR TEMPORARY OUTDOOR DINING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Emerson made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 18-2020; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded the motion.

Mr. Anderson: I’ve just one concern about Section 5 how this ordinance ends. We’ve already heard tonight that the Governor in his wisdom will change some of the decrees and capacity requirements and rules on a day to day basis. My concern is for the restaurants that might want to use this. If, tomorrow, the state of emergency is lifted, that would mean anyone who built it would need to tear it down that same day in order to stay in compliance with the building code. I’m wondering if it would be better if we put a date after it comes to an end to give the restaurants an opportunity if they wanted to maintain it that they could maintain the services that they would have set up. I didn’t know what other people thought about that. I’m just concerned we’re just going to cause more problems for these restaurants if they take us up on it and then the next week we have to tear it down.

Mayor Webster: I don’t think there’s anything we can do. If the Governor says if he changed his mind, I don’t think we can protect those people.

Mr. Anderson: But, isn’t it still then down to our Zoning Code? Our Building Code? So, right now, the ordinance remains in effect until the restrictions, in their capacity are lifted. Are we able to change that to say, “30 days after they’re lifted” in our ordinance or are we trapped? Or is it just a question of we just don’t enforce it for a period of time?

Mr. Braun: I think the reason that we put this in there is that we want to be very clear that if, at some point, it changes, and they want to continue doing this, we would want our Building Department to have the ability to come in and see if what they were doing, even if they want to continue it, is safe. If, at some point, because what should happen here is if dining capacity inside is increasing, they should take down the outdoor seating. If you’re saying, do they want to be able to increase indoor and keep outdoor, I really do think the intent of this, and what’s being recommended by the Building Department is then they do need to go back, and that’s why I listed it in the ordinance, and comply with “a)” through “g)” as quickly as possible. I wouldn’t want to wait 30 days simply because we would want to make sure that it was safe.

Mr. Anderson: But, would it be possible for them to make a change. If they have to go back to Planning Commission to make a change, that’s already a one to two month process. So, in essence, we’re saying this is truly temporary and it could come down with basically no notice.

Mr. Braun: I see what you’re saying. So what you’re saying is are you wanting to establish a grace period where, until Planning (Commission) would approve or disapprove of it, it could remain in effect. Is that right?

Mr. Anderson: It is. And even if that grace period would stipulate that they notify the Building Department to start the process to maintain it, right, so it’s not just “rogue”. I’m just concerned that we’re going to make it more difficult and why would a restaurant want to do this then? Do you see the problem?

Mr. Lamping: Yes sir. I do see the problem. My opinion, the temporary nature of this outdoor dining is simply what we foresee them to do is move the tables away from each other and spread out. Once these rules are lifted, they’re simply going to be able to move them back to where they were. That’s the basic idea of how I think this is going to work. An existing restaurant has 20 outdoor seating in their existing outdoor patio. Well, they want to maintain those 20 tables, so, to meet the rules, they have to spread them out. So, we’re giving them the room to spread them out, but then, once the orders are lifted, we feel that they can just move them back in. That’s the idea that we have. I don’t think there’s going to be a lot of construction for this temporary outdoor dining. I don’t think there’s going to be a lot of things
Mr. Lamping (continued): that they can’t do once the orders are lifted, if that makes sense. Then, if they want to go back to the higher number and spread out into that area, they will need to go through the two months, as you pointed out. You would be right, they’d have to go through that process to get the Planning Commission approval. I hope that answered your question.

Mr. Anderson: It does. Describing it as moving existing tables and spreading them out; it frames it a little differently. I’m still concerned about, you start to talk about adding umbrellas and temporary fencing, there’s an investment that’s being made, and I want to make sure that’s protected, if possible for some period of time and overnight, now move everything back in.

Mr. Lamping: I don’t think it would be overnight we would be ordering that. That’s the way that the ordinance would be, but it wouldn’t be something where we’d go out there tomorrow and say, “Hey, you’ve got to take this down”. That would not happen.

Mr. Jones: Mr. Anderson, when we’re referring to fencing, it could be as simple as yellow caution tape or something to that affect. It doesn’t really have to be a fence barrier. So, it’s really a temporary, put up/take down seating for you as a convenience. As soon as the new order comes into place, that can come back down.

Mr. Ramirez: I’d like to commend the Administration and the Building Department for coming forward with this proposal. We all know it’s very important that the businesses not only here in Springdale, but elsewhere are really struggling with being shut down. I think anything that we can do without hurting the environment or injuring folks in being able to carry on business, I’m totally in favor of it and, as we know, the City of Cincinnati just did this adding outdoor seating to accommodate some of the diners out there. Some of these people are going to be afraid to go inside and sit next to somebody else, so, if you can have an outside dining area and spread people apart, I think that will help these businesses bring in more business. Thank you.

Mayor Webster: If it makes you feel any better, last Wednesday, Anne McBride, our City Planner, sent Mr. Lamping an email. She goes over all these outdoor dining regulations, there’s seven of them which are spelled out in the ordinance. “I would suggest that existing restaurants be allowed to operate outdoor dining areas until COVID-19 and pandemic statewide restrictions are lifted without being subject to the standards of Section 153.253. Restaurants designed to open with outdoor dining should be required to get a zoning permit, but would not be subject to the standards of Section 153 or the review and approval of Planning Commission. Outdoor dining should not encroach into the public right of way, or block access to a public sidewalk. Those restaurants, which already maintain outdoor dining following the lifting of the COVID-19 would be subject to provision of Section 153.253 and the review and approval of Planning…” and all that is applicable, but, on day one, if the Governor gives us some relief here, then they can move their tables back in. They don’t have to maintain the distancing inside. So, they’re going to be back to where they were before the epidemic even hit.

Mr. Anderson: I understand. I support the idea. I think they should be allowed to. This relief, I think, is important. My concern is that there will be people. They’re fighting a public perception that it’s not safe. Not just the Governor saying it’s safe to go back out. So, some of these restaurants might find the ones that have outdoor seating might find that people prefer that and might want time to migrate that temporary seating into a more permanent setting in order to maintain that group of people that would be coming out for it. This is a great step. I think it’s important to do. I’m just wondering if we could, is it possible to put some relief there for people who would come forward and say, “Hey, I want to maintain this. This has been really helpful for me. Do I really have to move the tables back while I go through the process to keep it?” That was the question is; is there a way for us to write the legislation, the ordinance in order to allow for somebody who is in process, discovers it’s helpful, wants to maintain it from temporary to permanent, do they really have to tear it down and go through a two month process to put it back out? I’m just trying to find a way to make that possible. But, I don’t want to hold this up in order to do that. I just
Mr. Anderson (continued): wanted to see if there was a way that we could make that easier for them if they find it’s helpful. Thank you.

Mayor Webster: No, we would prefer to pass it the way that it is.

Mrs. Ghantous: How will the restaurants find out about this opportunity?

Mayor Webster: They already know that. I used executive authority last Thursday, and so, immediately, Matt Clayton sent all the restaurants in the City an email, so, they’re well aware of it.

Mrs. Ghantous: That’s great.

Mayor Webster: I think 20 minutes later Mr. Lamping’s phone rang and one of them wanted to take advantage of that.

Mrs. Ghantous: That’s great.

Mr. Hawkins: I, as well, agree with some of the statements that this is a great step for the restauranteurs. I do think along the lines of the point that Mr. Anderson’s making. Because things do change relatively quickly with the Governor and orders that are coming down, I think it makes sense to give a 30 day grace period. I wouldn’t go much further than that. I wouldn’t say 60 days or anything like that, but, to implement that for multiple reasons. One, as Mr. Anderson is indicating, there may be some, albeit minor, but significant infrastructure changes that those restaurants may make, but, also along the lines of something Mr. Ramirez indicated that there may be some individuals that are going to feel more comfortable with that spread out seating. I wouldn’t let it be anarchy and let them just do it forever. I think it’s important for them to comply with out building codes and the Building Department, but, to give a little bit of latitude there I think makes sense just in terms of, again, trying to help the restaurants out as well as trying to make the folks in our community feel comfortable as they are going through this process. Thank you.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I hear what you’re saying that you want that grace period in. What I had understood was that you guys aren’t coming out the very next day in the Building Department, am I correct? You’re not coming out the day after the orders come over and saying, “Take this down right now, or your fined”. You were already planning on giving some sort of a buffer as far as the Building Department is concerned. You weren’t necessarily saying you’re going out the very next day to make sure people knock their stuff down. You were planning on giving them time to take down these things, correct? That’s what I was hearing. I wanted to make sure, even though it’s not in this, I wanted to make sure that that was the intent of all this was. That you weren’t trying to do a “gotcha” thing.

Mayor Webster: I don’t see a problem in the 30 days. I would not want to continue it on because we are letting them use sidewalks in the front of shopping centers, and, in some cases, maybe parking lots, so, it’s not the ideal situation, but I think it’s a measure of relief for those restaurants and so I think once this is over with, the sooner we get those rectified and get them out of there they’re better off. But, if you want to put a 30 day grace period on there for them to get back to normal, I don’t’ have a problem. Do you see a problem with that? (addressing Mr. Lamping)

Mr. Lamping: No sir. I do not.

Mayor Webster: Okay.

Mr. Braun: If someone wants to make an amendment to adopt it, Section 5 could be amended to read, “This ordinance shall remain in full force and effect now until thirty (30) days from the temporary restrictions . . . ” and then it will continue.
Mr. Anderson: First, I wanted to make one comment back on the grace period and the idea of unenforced ordinances. I feel very strongly that if we pass an ordinance it should say what we mean it to say without any kind of aside. I think selectively enforcing building code is confusing and could be damaging in general, so I would not want to just do it on a handshake or with an understanding. I certainly have full expectation that the Building Department and the Administration would work with the businesses as they always have to be as accommodating as possible. To that end though, I would like to make a motion to amend Section 5 as Mr. Braun mentioned to include the language of now to include a 30 day grace period after the end of the temporary ordinance, or the temporary restrictions.

Mr. Hawkins: Second.

Motion to amend Section 5 to include 30-day grace period passes with seven affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 18-2020 with the amendment to Section 5 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Resolution No. R10-2020
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE’S PARTICIPATION IN THE OHIO ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC TREASURERS 2021 WORKERS’ COMPENSATION GROUP RETROSPECTIVE RATING PROGRAM

Mrs. Ghantous made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R10-2020; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Mr. Ramirez: Were we not part of the 2020 Workers’ Compensation? We were?

Mrs. McNear: I believe we have been for many, many year. Correct me if I’m wrong, but I think that’s the case.

Mr. Ramirez: What I’m asking, is this just like a renewal?

Mr. Jones: Yes.

Mrs. McNear: Yes.

Resolution No. R10-2020 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Mrs. McNear: I’m just very happy I only have to say “Group Retrospective Rating Program” once a year (laughter).

Resolution No. R11-2020
A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THAT ALL CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDING RECEIVED BY THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE SHALL BE EXPENDED ONLY FOR SUCH COSTS PERMITTED UNDER SECTION 5001 OF THE “CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT”

Mrs. Ghantous made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R11-2020; Mrs. Emerson seconded.

Mr. Hawkins: For the sake of the public, what type of things can the “CARES” act funding be used for?

Mr. Braun: Mr. President, if I may, this was just to give a little history as well. This was passed by the Federal government that then carved out money for the individual states and then each individual state is required to pass legislation that will ultimately distribute the money to us. In Ohio, the Ohio Senate has already passed the legislation; we’re waiting for the Ohio House to pass the legislation. Once they do so, to answer your question Mr. Hawkins, it can be used for essentially COVID-related expenses. There are a series of
Mr. Braun (continued): subsets; they’re pretty broad. They apply to all public entities, essentially for Fire, EMS, Administration, all the way down to things like the engineering for reconfiguring service windows. Anything that you can attribute to an expense that you incurred but for the Coronavirus, then you would be able to use those. What our vendors have begun to do already, and our Finance Department has begun to do is segregate those funds on their balance sheets in preparation of Council passing this. We did have an opportunity already for some State funding to apply for reimbursement. This is a second opportunity for us to apply for funding for those expenses which were not covered by the first allocation. The allocation, by the way, is based on population.

Mrs. Emerson: Would that include employees that have been furloughed, or the Health Department has been spending a lot of extra work hours trying to track this virus and check on people who are quarantined. Does that money pay for those hours also?

Mr. Braun: It can be used and that’s if Administration decides to use this allocation for that. For expenses that are incurred above and beyond their regular salary. Employees already paid for a lot of the work that they are doing, but any additional work that was incurred, even overtime, things like that….

Mrs. Emerson: Because I know the Health Department has been putting in massive hours.

Mr. Braun: Mr. Clayton and his staff have been working, as you heard, doing the contact tracing, so, those are all things that would be eligible, if it’s what we apply for.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay. Thank you.

Resolution No. R11-2020 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Resolution No. R12-2020
A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PRINCETON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2020

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R12-2020; Mr. Hawkins seconded.

Mr. Anderson: Just one question on protocol, when we take the vote on the resolution, will a “Go Vikes” count as an “aye” or do we need to actually say, “yes”. (laughter)

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I do want to thank the Mayor and the City Administration for this before we even go into this. This was a big deal to have done. I know that this year has not been the very easiest for our seniors. We have quite a few seniors both at Princeton and at other schools that have achieved high honors in their schools and I for one am very, very proud of each and every single one of them. I know it’s not been the easiest, and if this is something that we can do to just make it a little nicer for them, I’m all for it. Thanks.

President Vanover: I’ve still got that pack of refills ready, so.

Resolution No. R12-2020 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Resolution No. R13-2020
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO FILE A FUNDING APPLICATION FOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT FUNDING THROUGH OKI FOR THE NORTHLAND BOULEVARD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R13-2020; Mrs. Emerson seconded.
Mayor Webster: If we could ask Mr. Agricola to come up and give us a brief overview of what we're talking about here.

President Vanover: Sure.

Mr. Agricola: Thank you Mr. President, Council, Mayor. Just to kind of give you a little background on what we're looking at here. The last time we worked on Northland Boulevard was back in 2010. That was a rehabilitation project that totaled $1.1 million at that time. Basically, it was a mill and overlay with a lot of repairs to the underlying concrete. A little bit of storm sewer work and some minor sidewalk and pedestrian type upgrades. We were lucky back in 2010; that was actually funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. That was a 100% reimbursement of all our expenses, excluding our cost overruns. Our original contract, our original estimate for that project was $834,000 and some change. Unfortunately, we had quite a large cost overrun with regards to the underlying concrete and a lot of full depth repairs. So, we actually didn't anticipate spending $305,000, but we did to make those corrections. What that highlighted was we have very, very deteriorated concrete. It's from the mid 1960's. It's original to the road section. It's basically falling apart. It was in 2010; it's worse now. Every year, we are seeing full depth failures. Luckily, this past winter, with the mild winter, we didn't see many of them. We do have some issues out there, however. So, we know it's just a matter of time before Northland kind of really slips and goes south on us. We need to be prepared for that and I think this is an opportunity for us to get out in front of this.

Our initial internal estimates on the reconstruction of Northland were right in the neighborhood of $5 million dollars. Quite a lot of money; money that I know we don’t have and we're not going to have at that last minute when Northland kind of catches up with itself. So, we started looking for funding opportunities. This STBG opportunity has come along. Applications are due this June. June 5th actually. What this program offers is basically it’s an 80/20 funding opportunity. So, it’s 80% funded, 20% local match. Basically they look for trying to increase safety and performance, pedestrian type upgrades and all that. That's kind of what the focus of the program is. As Mayor Webster mentioned earlier, because of the tight timeframe for this application, we spoke towards the end of April and he was willing to move forward with a purchase order for CT (Consultants) to begin the conceptual design that would be required for this application. So, that work is underway and that’s a lot of what I’m presenting tonight is kind of where we’re at, at this point. So, if we move forward with this application, we will have word on approval by October of 2020. The funding cycle for this would basically wouldn’t be doing this work until 2024. So, it’s out a number of years; keep in mind, Northland is going to continue to deteriorate in that time period, and, I think we’ll be in a position where we will actually really need this work by 2024.

An overview of the scope; kind of what we’re looking to do out there. It’s a complete removal and replacement of the existing four lanes of roadway. As I said, the underlying concrete is basically, it’s failed at this point, so, we’ve got to take everything down. That would include full curb replacement throughout the entire project. We're looking at adding sidewalks, basically where they do not exist. That totals over 5,000 lineal foot of additional sidewalks on Northland. Basically, the entire south side is devoid of sidewalks currently and about a 1/3 of the north side is. We would also look to add some additional connectivity to the bus stops and so forth and I think all this would increase the businesses and pedestrians getting to and from either mass transit, and/or individual businesses. Also, as part of this, we’ll be upgrading signals at two intersections. Northland and Tri-County Parkway is currently our oldest mast arm installation in the City. So, it would be a full upgrade of that intersection. Also, Northland and West Kemper, there would be a pedestrian crossing added to that intersection so there would be upgrades to the control systems there.

Another opportunity that I see that we have here with this project is working in green infrastructure for storm water. Quality as well as quantity treatment. This will be accomplished by utilizing the center median of the boulevard. What we’ve been able to identify through the conceptual design is we have the ability to provide treatment for about five acres of land that is basically made up of Northland Boulevard. In that center median, we would look to develop approximately 1,800 lineal feet of bio-retention cells. This green
Mr. Agricola (continued): infrastructure, as I said, would be in the center median, so there’s no additional right-of-way needed or anything like that. We can do it within our existing right-of-way. The bio-swales; essential they collect the rainwater from the pavement, they then infiltrate that storm water and because of the overall scope and the fact that we believe we can, at this point, capture about five acres, we would be treating approximately 50% of Northland Boulevard’s runoff, or have the opportunity to treat about 50% of it, which is very substantial for a project when you can achieve that type of number. The bio-swales would be then landscaped with native low shrubs, grasses, and native trees. The thought is to get some of those lower landscape shrubs and grasses in there while the trees mature, as this matures over time, and years down the road, some of those shrubs and those grasses could then be eliminated, eliminating future maintenance as the trees take over, they would shade anyway, so, I think that would work well. Bio-swales then also would be lined with creek rocks, and stone outcroppings and so forth. It would kind of take the on the appearance of a natural streambed running down the center.

Earlier this evening, I handed out two separate handouts to everybody. One of them is a fact sheet that was put together by Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD), for a very similar project that they have done as part of their overall Lick Run project, but this was kind of a sub-project that they started with and it was up in the Rapid Run Park area and it’s very similar to what we’re looking at with regards to the bio-swales and the pictures in there kind of help you understand what we’re looking at. Then the plan that I handed out; the 11 x 17 document; is kind of just a cross-section. The typical cross-section of what you may see in that median. So, the right hand side, are traffic lanes, the left hand side are traffic lanes and then in the middle there is that median. It kind of gives you representation of kind of what we’re going for with a slight depression, lined with natural material, then you have the green plantings and so forth that they kind of add to it.

At this point, as I said, we have moved forward with conceptual engineering and conceptual cost estimate. At this point, and keep in mind, this is 80% funded; 20% local match. But, at this point, the construction estimate, and this includes two very large contingencies; we’re required to work contingencies into these applications; we have a 15% general contingency on the entire estimate, and then we’re specifically required to put a 12.5% contingency for inflationary factors. Since this is off three years, they require that. So, the construction estimate, at this point, is $6.8 million dollars for this project. As I said, 80% of this is “fundable”, so that’s roughly $5.5 million dollars. Twenty percent would be our local match, and that’s roughly $1.4 million dollars. The design side of this has also been estimated at this point. Clearly, it’s a very large, very intense project. There’s a lot going on out there. So, engineering also reflects the size and so forth of the nature of the project. So, overall, the design and construction engineering at this point is estimated at about $1.6 million dollars. That includes, not only the design and the drawings and all of that, but, the geo tech work on the front end, survey work on the front end, and then the additional thing, it also incorporates is a requirement with ODOT (Ohio Department of Transportation) that you pay them to perform an inspection or you have a third party perform inspection. We can’t actually do the inspection in-house, nor can we hire our engineer to do the inspection. It needs to be a third party. So, there’s about two thirds of that number is design side engineering and about one third of it is actually construction engineering. The engineering that is performed when the work is actually going on.

So, there are also some additional funding opportunities that we will clearly be looking at. There are five or six that are pretty possible I think. One was mentioned earlier. The SORTA sales tax that was just passed here. There is $30 million dollars per year that is slated and set aside for funding roadways that influence the mass transit system. Northland has two Metro routes on it and it also has a Butler County regional route on it as well. So, I think, once again, we have an opportunity there to potentially help offset some of our local share. There are clearly OPWC funds, there’s MRF funds, there’s a number of additional funds that could help us. One also is the Ohio EPA. Since we’re doing this green infrastructure, this is a pretty unique project. Clearly, it would receive regional type of a look because there’s nothing to this scale that I’m aware of in the region. I think the EPA would also be interested in a project like this if it was presented appropriately in an application. Then, say, moving forward if it were unfortunately not successful with this current STBG opportunity, moving forward with the stimulus packages that are coming out post-coronavirus, sooner or later it would be likely that
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Mr. Agricola (continued): there would be a stimulus package for transportation-related items. If we already have conceptual engineering done, we’re that much closer. If we could even move closer with beginning actual engineering, it would put us in a better light for that potential future opportunity. It’s the exact same opportunity that we received in 2009. We had this design sitting there because we had applied for OPWC the year before, and we were unsuccessful. The design was sitting there, it was really quick to turn it around and apply and, as I said, we got, at that time, $834,000, and there’s a potential on this project that we could get $5.5 million dollars. So, any questions?

Mr. Hawkins: Were you talking about all of Northland in Springdale. Are we going like from Kemper to Route 4?

Mr. Agricola: Actually, the corporation line is just west of Route 4, so it would be the corporation line with Forest Park all the way to Kemper Road. And, as I said, there would be some limited modifications there at the Kemper intersection to include pedestrian crossings and then we have also looked at, and included in the estimate, continuing the sidewalk from that intersection east on Kemper to the existing bus shelter that is at Sweeney Place. Just to complete that connection there.

Mr. Hawkins: Is there an estimate on how long the project would take to do from start to finish?

Mr. Agricola: Not at this point. We haven’t gotten to that point. It would be a relatively long project and one thing we’ve looked at and, clearly it’s reflected in the estimate is how do we maintain traffic during a project that is as substantial as this. The estimate reflects modifications to all three traffic signals along Northland, so, basically, you would be putting say east and west bound traffic on one side of the road, so each traffic signal has to have temporary traffic signals installed for the duration of that and then you get basically two thirds of the road constructed; you flip traffic over here; once again, new traffic signals at all three traffic intersections while you do the final third.

Mr. Hawkins: So, the businesses on the Frame USA side, if you’re doing construction through that, would they not have any kind of ingress or egress while that’s going on?

Mr. Agricola: No. All businesses would be maintained with access at all times. They could, if they have two entrances, or two drives, they may be limited to a single drive for a period of time. Clearly, there will be some delays and inconveniences, but access to all businesses will be maintained at all times.

Mr. Hawkins: And then, lastly, what’s the cost for engineering estimated at?

Mr. Agricola: At this point, $1.6 (million dollars).

Mr. Hawkins: Okay.

Mr. Agricola: That’s total design, as well as construction engineering.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you.

Mr. Anderson: I for one, I love the look of it; the bio-swale and making it the natural look. I’m not sure how it would look on Northland with the industry around it, but I like it in general. This is great work. My question is have we had any conversations with Forest Park about continuation? It may be a rather abrupt change in Northland, once you leave that section that you described. Have we engaged with them at all or is that a future consideration?
Mr. Agricola: I have had considerable conversations with Forest Park. Not necessarily with the continuation of the design into Forest Park, but specifically about their turn lane as it goes from the eastbound to northbound left hand turn lane. When we designed the project previously in 2008, and 2009 and eventually constructed it in 2010, we tried to work with Forest Park about extending that lane because there’s not enough stacking room in there and you get two semi’s in there and maybe a car, and now that left hand thru lane is now obstructed. So, we’ve actually worked with and we’ve talked to them about that. They clearly recognize the issue as well and they’re interested from a concept. It all comes down to available funds and priorities within their own road network. That particular piece of this overall project has been estimated at roughly $200,000 for the extension of that turn lane and all that work would be in the City of Forest Park. It really comes down to their ability to, and desire to move forward on that. We have that $200,000 estimate for that work included in our overall project budget. It will be submitted to OKI in that fashion. So, if we’re successful and the project moves forward, they still have an opportunity to take advantage of that. Clearly, they would be responsible for their 20% match for that. But, the 80% from the government would be there in the grant to basically achieve that.

Mr. Anderson: So, if we got the surface grant from OKI, they would have the opportunity to do some of these other funding mechanisms to join up and do some joint work along that space either with the turn lane, or dovetailing with the design a little further on their own. They would still have several years to make plans once we knew that we were moving forward.

Mr. Agricola: They would. That is correct. Now, they fairly recently did do a streetscape on their section of Northland, but, yes, they certainly would have the opportunity.

Mr. Anderson: Thank you.

Mrs. Emerson: On the $1.6 million dollars for the design, does that include the conceptual engineering that we’re doing now to put out?

Mr. Agricola: No, the conceptual engineering was done under a separate P.O. (purchase order).

Mrs. Emerson: And what did that cost us?

Mr. Agricola: That was $33,800 dollars.

Mrs. Emerson: And that can’t be applied toward the grant? That’s just out of our pocket?

Mr. Agricola: That’s out of our pocket as well as all the engineering for the future project. Engineering is 100% local. There is no match for it.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay.

Mr. Agricola: There is no match for engineering on this particular funding opportunity.

Mrs. Emerson: And what’s the total on that then on the engineering portion?

Mr. Agricola: $1.6 million dollars.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Agricola: Yes.

President Vanover: Jeff, correct me if I’m wrong, but wasn’t part of the decomposition of that concrete base because of water retention in that soil?

Mr. Agricola: It’s clearly a direct application of concrete over subgrade; there’s no granular, so, it certainly could have contributed to it. It also could simply be the age of the
Mr. Agricola (continued): concrete or the workmanship of the concrete, not necessarily the placement, but, how it was put together. It could have been material issues. We’ve never actually taken a core and actually had engineering review on it to see why it was obvious in some of the joint repairs that we were doing in 2010 that the bottom of the existing section was more deteriorated than the top. So, it certainly had the impression that it was bottom up, but, was that also influenced by other things? We don’t know. One thing that we have in the conceptual design and in the estimate is we have substantial amount of underdrain. We also have a granular base under this pavement. So, we have underdrains to take care of it, moisture on the outside, we have granular base under, and then we have the bio-swale, which is essentially designed to be lower than the subgrade. That would allow drainage as well.

President Vanover: Good. I too like the look and the design. Let’s hope we’re not only good, but lucky.

Mr. Agricola: There you go.

Mayor Webster: I was just going to say if Council passes this, we can then turn this over to Jeff since he’s (inaudible) and I’m sure he’ll (inaudible).

Mr. Anderson: Go ahead and pencil it in. I mean, I’ve got a lot of sway of one of 300 people down there. But, to that point, certainly, if there’s something I can do, I know we also have other representatives from Planning that are standing committee members there. If there’s something we can do in addition to the work you already do with OKI, just obviously let me know. I’d be happy to talk to whoever.

Mr. Agricola: Alright. Thank you.

Resolution No. R13-2020 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Old Business

President Vanover: We’ve got a note here on the agenda; discussion of State of Emergency resolution. Mayor, did you want to make any comments on the State of Emergency resolution at this point? It’s in our discussion of Old Business right now.

Mayor Webster: As I said in my comments, I’d like to see this extended two more weeks.

Mr. Anderson: I just want to say I appreciated the fact the comments you made about how it’s been useful. I’ve seen it too. I also appreciate you adding the list of actions to the Administrator’s Report. That makes it more visible, which is great to see. I know I have no problem continuing at least until our next meeting. Especially, if we’re going to continue to do things like giving us the opportunity like on the temporary restaurant order to have a chance to weigh in on that too. I appreciate it. It shows that we’re working together on it. Thank you.

President Vanover: Anybody else? (None). Then consensus of Council is we’ll leave it in place for at least two more weeks.

Mayor Webster: Thank you.

President Vanover: Anybody else? (None). Then consensus of Council is we’ll leave it in place for at least two more weeks.

Mayor Webster: Thank you.

President Vanover: Alright. You’ve got it. While we’re at that, discuss that we’re at that time of the year. What’s Council’s feelings on adopting a summer schedule?

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I feel like we’ve had plenty of summer schedule so far. I feel like we’ve had a lot of breaks. I for one would like to see us getting back to the two meetings per month if that’s okay with everybody else. That’s my opinion.

President Vanover: Council? Anybody else? I’d just like to find somebody that can take a vacation or have someplace to go that they’ve got reservations.
Mrs. McNear: I appreciate what you said and I agree with that. However, do we have need to have both meetings? A lot of times we don’t have a lot of activity in the summer, so Administration, perhaps, you could give us some advice on is two meetings per month advisable for this year? Or is it recommended that we go to summer schedule?

Mayor Webster: My recommendation would be that we continue to have two meetings per month. If we get to July and we see we don’t have a whole lot of stuff, maybe we could consider August only having one or something, but I’d like to see us plan on having two per month with the way stuff is coming out of Columbus, as you can tell with the stuff that we have today, some things we didn’t even know about two weeks ago, or five weeks ago, I guess. So, I would recommend we continue with two meetings per month.

Mr. Ramirez: I pretty much agree with Mrs. McNear. If we have something, I certainly think we should meet and discuss it, but if there’s nothing to discuss and the schedule is empty, I don’t see a reason why meeting. Similar to what they do on the commissions with Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals.

President Vanover: That’s fine. I know in the past our summer schedule has created headaches for the Administration because they have to adapt and survive and I’m like Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup; I’m ready to get back to a reality, whatever that is at this point in time. So, I’m taking what I’m hearing is we’ll move forward with our standard schedule, unless otherwise.

Mr. Anderson: My comment is actually a new item. So, if you’re done with that. I just want to make sure. We had tabled last meeting a discussion from Mr. Coleman about adjusting the pay rates for some of the commissions. We don’t have to take that on tonight. But, I would encourage us to put it in for the agenda next time. Maybe we could take that up if things have calmed down a bit. I’d like to get that addressed.

President Vanover: Actually, I reached out and had a discussion with Mr. Coleman this week prior to the meeting tonight just to let him know where that stood and he was in complete agreement and things are just too crazy right now. Let’s get to a point where we can see what affect in real dollars this has had. So, yes, I have no problem with at a very near point, we will pull that up.

New Business

Mrs. Ghantous: I don’t know if it’s really New Business, but it wasn’t really Old Business either. So, we talked about opening the pool, and I had two residents question about restrooms and what the requirements would be for sanitizing or cleaning the restrooms and that wasn’t included on any of the information that we got in the email or what was discussed tonight. So, I’m just wondering about that.

Mr. Jones: Mr. President is it okay?

President Vanover: Sure. Go ahead.

Mr. Jones: So, I’ve spent my share of time with Mr. Karle and Mr. Clayton from the Health Department. They will greatly increase their cleaning of the facilities on a much more regular basis. Hand sanitizers, mounted sanitizers and both pumps and different things are available. They picked up 800 sets of gloves this week from us and some other supplies. There’s a lot things that’s going to happen that it’s really going to increase what we’re doing, but, overall they feel very comfortable. In fact, if Matt Clayton wasn’t comfortable, we wouldn’t be opening the pool, in spite of what the Governor was saying. So, we feel very confident that they addressed that and we’ve had multiple meetings on it. We feel real comfortable where we’re at and Matt (Clayton) and Ella (Jergens) will continue to inspect on a regular basis right up to the point that we’ll not open until they pass final inspection.

President Vanover: Any further New Business to bring forward?
Mrs. McNear: Yes. This is actually under Old Business. It’s just the monthly reminder to file your Ohio Ethics Commission annual financial statement. It is due July 15th. Thank you.

Mayor Webster: If I might address Mrs. Ghantous’ comments. Here’s the document that Greg (Karle) put out regarding the pool. I think these were sent out to all of Council this afternoon.

Mrs. Ghantous: I saw it and they didn’t have anything about the bathrooms in there.

Mayor Webster: No. Locker rooms will be spaced out, lounge chairs will be spaced out every ten feet. Water slide is currently not permitted. Pool chemicals will be properly balanced and maintained to provide a safe environment. No equipment will be loaned to users, such as goggles, life vests, or kickboards. All lost and found items left in the aquatic facility will be disposed of nightly. But, no, there’s nothing in here about the bathrooms.

Meetings and Announcements

Mrs. Emerson: The Board of Health is going on their summer session, so we’ll be back in session on September 10th at 7:00 in the conference room adjacent to here. Thank you.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wise: Planning Commission will be meeting on Tuesday, June 9th at 7:00 p.m. in these chambers.

Mr. Hawkins: The Princeton School District is still providing food for those that are in need. They have a number of different locations where they do that. One of them is the Colony Apartments in Springdale. They’re doing that the second and fourth Saturdays of the month, that’s May through August from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. I think they have that information on the website as well. Thank you.

Mrs. Ghantous: Board of Zoning Appeals is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, May 26th at 7:00 in the chambers here.

Communications from the Audience

Mr. Coleman: I just wanted to clarify the staffing aspects in regards to the Fire Department that I referenced earlier in my report. And, again, it’s two different scenarios that I was referencing. One involves new hires for which the timeline is referenced to and the other one regarding the certification, the three certification restriction is in relations to promotions only. So, I wanted to make that clarification that anybody that heard the report via the t.v. or in the room, that when I said the three certification restriction, that has no application for new hires, only for promotions. And, again, with the new hires with the new certification requirements, that’s in an effort to move things forward and to get us some qualified candidates at the time of the hire. Thank you.

President Vanover: Great. Thank you.

Mayor Webster: Have you address the U-Haul public hearing? Did I miss that?

President Vanover: Not yet. We’re coming to that. Well, while it’s right here in front of us. I have a letter. I’m sure all of you do, from Planning Commission on May 12th the Planning Commission held a public hearing on a major PUD for the property located at 11750 Commons Drive, formerly the Champion Window factory and formerly Sofa Express and Front Room, and being the Council members on Planning Commission deemed it a major modification, it is being referred to Council, so we will need to schedule a public hearing on the first available, which would be the June 3rd meeting. Administration, I guess get it to you to do the proper advertising and we’ll look forward to seeing that on the June 3rd agenda.
Mr. Hawkins: As you review your Internal Memorandum, Item Number I was addressed with Ordinance No. 15-2020; An Ordinance Authorizing a Joint Project Funding Agreement Relative to the resurfacing of State Route 4 Between the City of Springdale and the City of Fairfield and Declaring an Emergency. That passed with a 7-0 vote. Item Number II was addressed with Ordinance No. 17-2020; An Ordinance amending Section 36.03 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Springdale, Ohio Establishing Fire Department Staffing Levels and Declaring an Emergency. That passed with a 7-0 vote. Item Number III was addressed with amended Ordinance No. 18-2020; An Ordinance Allowing for Temporary Outdoor Dining and Declaring an Emergency. That passed with a 7-0 vote. Item Number IV was addressed with Resolution No. R11-2020; A Resolution Affirming that all Coronavirus Relief Funding Received by the City of Springdale Shall be expended Only for Such Costs Permitted Under Section 5001 of the "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act". That passed with a 7-0 vote. Item Number V was addressed with Resolution No. R12-2020; a Resolution Recognizing and Honoring the Achievements of the Princeton High School Class of 2020. That passed with a 7-0 vote. Item Number VI was addressed with Resolution No. R10-2020; A Resolution Authorizing the City of Springdale’s Participation in the Ohio Association of Public Treasurers Workers’ Compensation Group Retrospective Program for 2021; that passed with a 7-0 vote. Item Number VII was addressed with Ordinance No. 16-2020; An Ordinance Declaring Certain City Property as Surplus Property and Authorizing the City Administrator to Dispose of Said Surplus Property. That was a first reading. We also had Resolution No. R13-2020; and that matter dealing with Block Grant funding through OKI for the Northland Boulevard Reconstruction Project passed with a 7-0 vote. All other matters were forthcoming.

Mr. Ramirez: I thought that maybe I could shed some light on the U-Haul situation. I spoke to a couple of Council members. All this stuff is in the minutes from our meeting, but, in essence, what happened was previously what we would do is somebody comes before us if there are a number of things on there that we did not approve, we would give a negative and not pass it. Well, with the prodding of Mr. Galster; well, first of all, we did, Mr. Okum put up a resolution or an amendment ordinance and everybody, before we voted on it, Mr. Galster asked if we could withdraw that. And, instead, vote yes with more stipulations. So, this way, it gave that applicant a means to move forward with this property over at the Front Room, but, with stipulations that he had to meet before it could go any further. Also, there are a few things on there that needed to go to the BZA (Board of Zoning Appeals). But, if you just look at this, it looks, like we said, "Yes, go ahead", but indeed, what happened was we really said, "No" and then turned around and said, "Yes, but you have to meet all these other stipulations." Just for a little clarification.

President Vanover: Okay. Thank you sir.

Mrs. Emerson: Mr. Ramirez, with that said, how were they in acceptance to those restrictions that you gave them?

Mr. Ramirez: In quite a long discussion, they were not in acceptance of anything that we had to say. So, that’s why we ended up putting the stipulations on there. If you want to do it, this is how you have to do it.

Mrs. Emerson: And, we went ahead and passed it that way. Even though they’re not…

Mr. Ramirez: We passed it that way with the stipulations.

Mrs. Emerson: But, they’re not going to follow those stipulations. Is that what they said?

Mr. Ramirez: We don’t know until next meeting.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay. Thank you.
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Recap of legislative items requested for next Council meeting

Mr. Hawkins: We have a request for a second reading with Ordinance No. 16-2020; An Ordinance Declaring Certain City Property as Surplus Property and Authorizing the City Administrator to Dispose of Said Surplus Property. There’s also a request for An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk of Council/Finance Director to Enter Into an Agreement with Leo Brielmaier for the Police Department Locker Room Renovations Project and Declaring an Emergency. There’s a request for Three Separate Ordinances Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk of Council/Finance Director to Execute Agreements with Amberley Village, the Village of Evendale, and the Village of St. Bernard to Provide Prisoner Confinement. There’s also a request for An Ordinance Approving a Major Modification to the Tri-County Commons Planned Unit Development (PUD) and Approving the Preliminary Development Plan at 11750 Commons Drive (U-Haul Development). That’s all I have 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 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:
Tom Vanover, President of Council

___________________________, 2020