

City of Springdale Council

July 15, 2020

President of Council Vanover called Council to order on July 15, 2020

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

Mrs. McNear provided the Invocation.

President Vanover: Council, before we do roll call real quick, just because of the necessity of recording our minutes and trying to keep them as accurate as possible; when you get to a report and you've got something to say, you can pull your mask up, or unmask so we make sure that we get an accurate record of that.

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

The minutes of the July 1, 2020 meeting were considered. Mrs. Emerson made a motion to accept the minutes; Mrs. Ghantous seconded. The minutes were approved with seven affirmative votes.

Committee and Official Reports

Civil Service Commission

Mr. Coleman: Do I need to take my mask down? Can everyone hear me okay? The Civil Service Commission met on July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. We changed our meeting time to accommodate the schedules of all of us who are retired, rather than meeting in the evening (laughter). We thought this makes a lot more sense to meet during the day. I think we're going to continue meeting at 2:00 on the first Thursday of each month. One of the topics discussed was firefighter/paramedic hiring process. On this past Saturday, there were 24 applicants for the position of firefighter/paramedic and 18 of the applicants actually sat for the test. The reason that we anticipated a lower turnout is because we require the individuals to have the certifications coming in, rather than being hired and then go through the process of getting the certification. We think that is a cost saving for sure. Next item was we discussed the maintenance worker job posting and the timeline for the Public Works Department due to the individual resigning in June, it was necessary to hire someone as a replacement. We did, in fact, approve the job posting and the timeline for the hiring process and that process is moving forward. The employment application process; under Rule 5-applications for Civil Service rules, it generally, in the past, required that an individual complete a written application. But because of this being new age with electronic media and so forth, individuals are now able to make applications by electronic applications. So, we changed the language to reflect that "the application blanks for the examination shall be furnished by the Commission and shall be in such form as directed by the Commission". So, now we can receive applications in a PDF file format. Next item of business was a request to revise Rule four which had to do with the way positions are advertised. Up until this point, all of our positions were advertised in the local newspapers and other media. So, rather than just limiting the language that says, "advertise in local newspapers", that language was amended to indicate that the requirement is to be with "advertising venues" in order to be all encompassing. So, now we can advertise through a number of different genres. That concluded our meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. here at the Municipal Building. Any questions? (None)

President Vanover: Thank you Mr. Coleman.

Mr. Coleman: Thank you.

Rules and Laws	Mrs. Emerson	-	No report
Finance Committee	Mr. Hawkins	-	No report

Planning Commission

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission met yesterday. We did vote to table the old GE Park. They came with another request for tabling. This was the third time that we've tabled it and we don't usually do that, but, there was a storm that actually did damage and it caused a delay and so this wasn't something that was because they weren't ready, it's because of a natural occurrence, and we felt it was necessary to go ahead and delay that until they were

City of Springdale Council

July 15, 2020

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup (continued): ready to move on. We also discussed our Code 153.302; Off street parking standards of compact cars. It's Section Two. In our code, it reads, "All off-street parking facilities, including entrances, exits, circulation areas, and parking spaces shall be in occurrence with the following standards:" and then, the first part says that, "Compact car spaces may be permitted in the office building (OB), in the General (GI) Zoning Districts to following standards and approval by Planning Commission" and then there's five standards here that you have to go by, and Mr. Lamping had brought up he wanted to know if we needed to keep "and approve by Planning Commission" in there or if we should send it to Mrs. McBride for possibly taking that part out if someone, if a company comes in and they're already in compliance of A, B, C, D, and E, why would they need to come before Planning (Commission) as well if they're already in compliance of that. So, that was something that was discussed and Mr. Lamping is taking all of what we said last night under advisement. He'll talk to Anne McBride and that will be forthcoming, I'm guessing, when we look at the Code again. But, that was, all that we had discussed last night, unless you have anything Mr. Ramirez. (Nothing) Thank you.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Mrs. Ghantous: Board of Zoning Appeals met on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. We only had one application and that was from the owner of 543 Grandin Avenue. He was requesting a variance to construct a covered front porch. The porch did not extend any further into the yard than the existing concrete walkway that was there for years. The roof the porch was only one foot further out than the Code allows. So, all of the Board members voted in favor of that, so it passed with a 7-0 vote. That was all we had, unless Jeff (Anderson) has anything to add. (Nothing) That concludes my report.

Board of Health

Mrs. Emerson: They remain on summer leave.

Mrs. McNear: I just wanted to bring this article to the attention of everyone here tonight. This is from the Cincinnati Enquirer on Tuesday. It's the front page article and it's about the Coronavirus pandemic and it says, the title is, "Contact Tracers try to keep us healthy", and I'm going to read two paragraphs, because it applies to Springdale. "Health Officials say they're getting good response. As infections have surged across the Cincinnati region, local public health officials have expanded their pandemic teams of contact tracers with help from the State and are running them seven days a week to track the Coronavirus. In the City of Springdale, Health Commissioner Matt Clayton recruited Spanish speakers already known in the community to work as contact tracers." That's all I'm going to read about the article, but I just thought it was a nice "shout out" to Springdale and to Matt Clayton in particular, and our Health Department. Kudos to the Health Department and I'm going to drop this copy in Matt's mailbox tonight so he'll have it suitable for framing. Thank you.

Capital Improvements

Mrs. Emerson - No report

O-K-I

Mr. Anderson: The OKI July meeting was cancelled, so no report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Webster: Just a couple of things. As you all know, we have cancelled all three of the summer concerts and all the other future events that are scheduled this summer and fall are subject to the same thing, but, we're waiting and hoping that things change. But, it doesn't look like they're going to. By August 1<sup>st</sup>, we will make a decision on the (ComeUnity) Bash and also on the Junior Olympics and the Goldfish Swim. If we had to make a decision today on those three events, they would also be cancelled. I think the State would not allow us to have any of those. The Administration has zero items for your consideration for August 5<sup>th</sup>. No one shows up, it's not going to make us mad (laughter). That's all I have. Well, while we're right here, is there any objection then to cancelling the August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting? (None)

Mrs. Emerson: Do I need to make a motion?

President Vanover: Yes. To keep everything square.

## City of Springdale Council

July 15, 2020

Mrs. Emerson: I'd like to make a motion that our August 5<sup>th</sup> Council meeting is cancelled.  
Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Second.

Motion to cancel the August 5<sup>th</sup> Springdale City Council meeting passes with seven affirmative votes.

President Vanover: Administration, will you do the advertising of that for us, or Legal?

Mr. Jones: Administration will handle the advertising.

Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Mrs. McNear: The General Fund update for receipts through June 30, 2020. Based on the Net Budget of \$22.359 million dollars, we have received \$11.171 million dollars. That balance is made up of five general fund receipts resources which are Earnings Tax, Real Estate Taxes, Paramedic Services, Local Government Funds, and Mayor's Court for a total of \$10.323 million dollars, which is 92% of that receipt balance. On the expenditure side, we have a net budget of \$20.172 million dollars. We have spent \$9.956 million dollars, which is 47%. The ending General Fund balance, as of June 30, 2020 is \$3.101 million dollars. That concludes my report. Thank you.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Jones: Our Parks and Recreation Department continues to accept applications for part-time parks maintenance worker and part-time custodian. On Tuesday evenings, there is an Adult Corn Hole League starting up. It's \$25 per team, it starts in September. The Sailfish Swim Team will hold a sunset swim Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup> from 8:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. It will be a fun swim, cheap entertainment with lights and music, and it's \$5 per person, \$20 per family. Registration continues for fall soccer and volleyball. Then, our Springdale Neighborhood Yard Sales; they're encouraging residents to participate during the August 8<sup>th</sup> date with the recommended time frames being 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. On to the Census updates. Nationally, we're at 62%, Ohio is 66.5%, and Springdale residents are responding at 66.6%. That's all I have this evening. Thank you.

Mr. Uhl: Just a quick update on the some of the hiring processes we've been involved in with, specifically with our Parks and Recreation Director. We are conducting second round interviews tomorrow. We will have some further discussion after the second round to determine candidates for the next stage of the hiring process. Also wanted to provide a quick update on the Technical Services Administrator position currently occupied by Debbie Dunfee. We conducted six interviews this past week. We'll also have some further discussion later this week on the next phases of that hiring process as well.

Law Director's Report

Mr. Braun: I just wanted to report that I'm continuing to work with Mr. Clayton and Administration on any of the orders from the Governor as they've come down. Particularly as they relate to the ranking of Hamilton County. Additionally, non-COVID related, I wanted to let Council know that I did file the paperwork this week to preserve our share of any opioid pharma funds from the Purdue (Pharma) bankruptcy, and we're continuing to monitor any others should we get some paperwork on that. But, I did protect our interest should there be any funds that, eventually will trickle down to Springdale. That's all I have to report.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Brueggemann: Landan Lane Construction; happy to report that that construction should be wrapping up this week with the final asphalt surface, the pavement rejuvenator, and the striping, so, hopefully construction will wrap up here this week. Beacon Hills Subdivision; that, as you know, the project, the construction has been completed and we have also completed our inspection of the work and the contractor has addressed the final item, so that is another project that we'll be able to wrap up. New project, the Community Center re-roofing; that project is scheduled to advertise and open bids July 24<sup>th</sup>. Will open bids on August 20<sup>th</sup>, the report will come to Council on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, and we anticipate construction starting towards the end of September, with a substantial completion date of November 5<sup>th</sup>. The last project was the East Crescentville Road, and there's no update from last month. Thank you.

President Vanover: Thank you sir.

## City of Springdale Council

July 15, 2020

Communications - None

### Communications from the Audience

Congressman Chabot: Good evening, I'm Congressman Steve Chabot and it's an honor, a great pleasure to be here in Springdale this evening. It's great to see you all in action. You seem to work much better together than we do in Congress, that's for sure (laughter). Glad to see you all doing that. If I could ask Councilman Tom Vanover to perhaps step down here to the podium for a couple of minutes. As I say, it's truly an honor to be here this evening. Tom's father was a Korean War veteran and he was a survivor of the Chosin Reservoir Campaign. One of the most brutal battles that took place during that war. He was in the United States Marine Corps and we just wanted to do something special for him and Tom wanted to honor his father and we want to honor both of them. We had a flag flown over the United States Capitol Building on Sergeant Cecil Vanover's birthday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> last year. We had wanted to do this a long time ago, but, unfortunately, an impeachment got in the way, a pandemic got in the way, and the stars had to line up between when you all were in session, and Congress wasn't in session, and those stars lined up this evening. I would like to present this flag that flew over the United States Capitol Building to Tom Vanover to honor his father, Sergeant Cecil Vanover.

President Vanover: Thank you sir. (Applause)

Congressman Chabot: This is a certificate that verifies what I just said, is true.

President Vanover: I want to thank your office and Mr. Abner, and also, Rosalind Fultz was a huge help in working through this and, unfortunately, it's like you said, between the craziness outside, it took a while, but, it was done, and that's all that matters. Thank you sir. I appreciate it.

Congressman Chabot: Your father's birthday was the same day as my late brother who passed away about a year ago, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. God Bless the Vanover family, and God Bless the community of Springdale. You're a great community. We're lucky you're in our congressional district. It's one of the finest communities in our district. So, thank you for everything you all do. Let us know if we can be of any help. Thank you.

President Vanover: Thank you.

Congressman Chabot: Thank you. (Applause)

President Vanover: Thank you Council.

### Ordinances and Resolutions

#### Ordinance No. 23-2020

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CONTRIBUTIONS TO CERTAIN HEALTH ACCOUNTS OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE RELATED TO THE CITY'S HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Ghantous made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 23-2020; Mr. Hawkins seconded.

Ordinance No. 23-2020 passes with seven affirmative votes.

#### Ordinance No. 24-2020

ADOPTING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION/ESTIMATED RECEIPTS ORDINANCE TO ADJUST APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES AND ADJUST ESTIMATED RECEIPTS FOR THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE, OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020

City of Springdale Council

July 15, 2020

Mrs. McNear: Mr. President, if I could make some comments. This may sound very familiar to everyone up here because we had such an appropriation not too long ago. This one is an addendum so that we can include, in the General Fund Balance, the CARES Act Grant that we received for the \$236,000 and change. So, we do want to include that and it is appropriate and necessary for us to make this adjustment, so, we'd appreciate your support. Thank you.

Mr. Braun: I just want to remind everyone on Council this is the funds that came from the Federal Government that we received our allocation of. It spells out; there's a lot of detail on what this can be used for, but there's broad discretion for us to use this, unlike some of the FEMA funds and other things that we received in the first two opportunities for spending. So, I wanted to let Council know these are things that can be used to address the pandemic now, in the future, and deal with things in preparation for, hopefully, not having to deal with this in the future, but, it does give us a lot of broad discretion, unlike the other funds. I should also let you know that any funds you don't spend, we have to return.

Mrs. Emerson made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 24-2020; Mr. Ramirez seconded.

Mr. Anderson: To Mr. Braun's last point about spending the money and moving it into the General Fund. Last meeting we talked about looking for ways to do that. So, we're moving the full amount over, is it our belief now that we will find uses that will meet the CARES Act so we'll be able to spend this?

Mr. Uhl: Yes. That's correct. We've been currently working with all Department Directors to brainstorm on different ways that we can better enhance our services, maintain continuity of operations, sanitize equipment. Looking at a variety of options to maintain safety as it relates to COVID, and also continue the communications aspect that we would need to maintain our government offices and meetings and what not. We're still in the preliminary stages of developing a list of items, and then we'll go through to make sure that the items that we have kind of brainstormed together are acceptable items under this CARES Act funding.

Mr. Anderson: And we believe we'll use the full amount?

Mr. Uhl: I believe so. There's some high ticket items on there when it comes to communications especially, but it's hard to say at this point because we're still getting the items back from each department right now.

Mr. Anderson: That's fair. I just want to make sure we're going to use everything we've transferred in to this allocation. That was the point of the question. Not to nail down the specifics. We believe we're going to use it all.

Mr. Uhl: Yes.

Mr. Anderson: Thank you.

Mr. Hawkins: Along the lines of what Mr. Anderson, I think, was asking, is there any penalty if we move funds into the General Fund, don't use them, and then move them back, or redistribute them back to the Federal government. Is there any penalty for moving them from Grants fund into the General fund if we don't end up using it for some reason?

Mr. Uhl: To the best of knowledge, and the discussions I've had with Mr. Williams, is that the monies would have to be returned with any interest. As far as penalties, I'm not sure exactly. I don't believe there's any penalty for not using, but any interest that would be accrued over that period of time would also have to be returned with any unused funds.

Mr. Anderson: Thank you.

Ordinance No. 24-2020 passes with seven affirmative votes.

City of Springdale Council

July 15, 2020

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Meetings and Announcements

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in these chambers.

Mrs. Ghantous: Board of Zoning Appeals will meet Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the chambers here.

Communications from the Audience - None

Update on legislation still in development

Mr. Hawkins: As you review your Internal Memorandum, Item Number I was addressed with Ordinance No. 23-2020; An Ordinance Authorizing the City to Fund the Employees' Health Savings Accounts in 2020 and Declaring an Emergency. That passed with a 7-0 vote. Item Number II was addressed with Ordinance No. 24-2020; An Ordinance Adopting supplemental Appropriation/Estimated Receipts to Adjust Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures and Adjust Estimated Receipts for the City of Springdale, Ohio During the Fiscal year Ending December 31, 2020. That passed with a 7-0 vote. All other matters are forthcoming.

Recap of legislative items requested for next Council meeting

Mr. Hawkins: There's a request for An Ordinance Reducing and Recertifying Special Assessments Levied for the Purpose of Constructing Certain Improvements at Pictoria Island and Declaring an Emergency. There's also a request for A Resolution Authorizing the Filing and Continuing Disclosures Related to the March 2017 Street Improvement Bonds. That's it unless there's anything else from Council or the Administration.

Adjournment

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adjourn; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded the motion and Council adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear  
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:  
Tom Vanover, President of Council

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