

City of Springdale Council

March 19, 2014

President of Council Tom Vanover called Council to order on March 19, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.

The governmental body and those in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

Mrs. McNear gave the invocation.

Mrs. McNear took roll call. Present were Council members Diehl, Emerson, Harlow, Hawkins, Knox, Squires, and Vanover.

Mrs. McNear noted that Mrs. Harlow has indicated corrections to the minutes of March 5, 2014. Mr. Knox made a motion to adopt with corrections; Mr. Hawkins seconded. The minutes, contingent upon corrections, were approved with six affirmative votes; Mrs. Harlow abstained.

Committee and Official Reports

Civil Service Commission - Mick Higgins
The Civil Service Commission met on March 6, 2014 with all members present except Mr. Coleman. Mr. Thamann was also present. The Patrol Officer's exam was administered on February 22nd with 188 applicants taking part in the test. The next step will be the physical fitness test tentatively scheduled for April 5th.

Mr. Fogel completed his background check and began working for the City on March 10th. He is the new Account Clerk in the Tax Department.

The Commission received correspondence from Mr. Thamann dated February 14, 2014, announcing the permanent appointment of Brian Losekamp to the position of Firefighter/Paramedic. The Commission also certified the top three candidates for the position of Police Lieutenant. The Commission also reviewed and approved the timeline for the Sergeant's promotional process. The Examination notice was posted on March 7th and the test is scheduled for June 9th.

Rules and Laws - no report
Finance Committee - no report

Planning Commission - Mr. Diehl
We had two items and met last Tuesday night. One was for Harbor Freight; they're moving into town over at the Town Center. They wanted a sign that was 49% larger than what was allowed. After a lot of discussion, it was tabled; they will be coming back with a better concept. All the board members voiced objection to the large sign.

Another item was Panera Bread; they wanted to redo the outside of their building and come up with corporate paint. That was passed 6-0.

Board of Zoning Appeals - Mr. Hawkins
Board of Zoning Appeals met on March the 18th of this year; all seven members were present. There were no matters of old business; had one matter of new business. The owner of 1150 Century Circle North requested a variance to allow 3,000 s.f. of outdoor storage area on the property. The variance is from Section 153.494(A)(1), titled Enclosures; all permitted main and accessory uses and operations, except off-street parking and loading, shall be performed wholly within an enclosed building or buildings. All raw materials, finished products, and other equipment shall be stored within the enclosed buildings. That variance was granted with a 7-0 vote with the conditions that storage may not exceed the height of the fence; screening would take place within the fence so that you couldn't see these items; and the items were going to be limited to five things that they had indicated to the Board of Zoning. It was important to note that there are some different elevations in relation to their neighbor so it's hard to see into that property anyway. It's surrounded basically by industrial buildings.

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Mr. Knox – We also noted that waste materials should be stored properly and removed regularly.

Board of Health - Mr. Squires
The Springdale Board of Health held their meeting on March 13th. Under unfinished business, the big item was the Infectious Disease program. Considerable discussion was offered about that; some of it was repeated in the Council meeting prior to that; some of it was different testimony but we'll discuss the needle exchange program fully later on in the agenda tonight, so I'm not going to get into any additional detail at this moment. The 2014 Public Swimming Pool had its' third reading and it was adopted unanimously. There was no new business. There were several events going on: ServSafe food safety training program, the mammography van, and the Children's Health Fair will be at the Community Center on May 9th, 2014. The next Board of Health Meeting will be on April 10th.

Public Utilities - no report
Public Relations - no report
Capital Improvements - no report
Public Welfare, Safety & Education - no report
Housing Board - no report
Public Works - no report
O-K-I - no report

Mayor's Report - Mayor Webster
I would like to report that tomorrow we are going to welcome a new corporate citizen into the community, a company called Ewaste; it's over on Northwest Boulevard, 35-40 jobs. We will be cutting that ribbon at 11:30 tomorrow, so we welcome those folks in. Under Ordinances and Resolutions, have the opportunity to welcome in another corporation in the city, Clarke Fire Protection Products. I think the treasurer is here, somewhere in the back with Jeff, so we'd like to also welcome those folks into the community.

Clerk of Council/Finance Director - Mrs. McNear
Two quick items: First of all, for elected officials, this is another reminder to please file your financial statements by April 15, 2014 and secondly, I will be providing the quarterly financial statement for the City at our April 17th meeting.

Administrator's Report - Mr. Parham
I have a few items for you. On Friday, March 14th, bids were opened for the dump truck replacement items. As you recall, we had two separate bids, one for the cab / chassis, the other is for the upfit. There were three bids submitted for the cab / chassis. The apparent low bidder at this time is Freightliner in the amount of \$75,156. There were two bids for the upfit equipment; one is Henderson and the other is Kaffenbarger. Staff is currently reviewing those two. I believe at this point they've met with both of those entities and are having discussions with them to make sure their bids are accurate and calculations are correct. At the April 2nd Council meeting, we hope to have a full recommendation. If you recall, Council approved the lease-purchase agreement to borrow \$270,000 from US Bank to purchase of the two new dump trucks. It appears whether we add either of the two upfit companies, we still will fall beneath the \$270,000 amount. We think this has been a successful process for us.

I've placed in the Pending Legislation report, information on the Ashmore Court and Woodvale Court rehabilitation project identifying the need for a Resolution of Necessity. As we are all aware, over the last couple of years as we have begin to engage in major road improvements, we have required the residents to improve their drive aprons if they meet certain qualifications or criteria. Right now, there are three property owners on Ashmore Court we have identified and they will need to make improvements to their drive aprons. On Woodvale Court, there are eight property owners that will need to make improvements. The uniqueness about this particular project is the City, as part of the project, will need to raise the curb. Because of that, there are five additional properties on Ashmore that will need to have their aprons adjusted. The City will pay for that work, because it is our responsibility and requirement the curb be raised. We are requesting legislation at the April 2nd meeting for the driveway apron process (Resolution of Necessity), if Council adopts that. As you recall, following the adoption of the Resolution of

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Necessity, the residents will be identified and each resident on Ashmore and Woodvale will receive some sort of correspondence. Some of the correspondence will simply indicate the project is getting close to starting. Other correspondence will indicate that your apron has been identified as one required to be replaced or repaired. It will also identify the cost of the work. More importantly, the letter will notify the residents that they have 21 days in order to appeal the process. If anyone appeals, then it goes to a Board of Equalization. If no one appeals, then we will begin to move forward with the process. The residents can either hire their own contractor to make the improvements or they can use the city's contractor. Based upon the low rates we have been able to obtain from our contractor, over the years, most residents have used our contractor. The next step would be those residents who do not make their payment for the improvement to their apron, will have the cost assessed to the tax bill later on in the year. Hopefully, Council will adopt the legislation assessing the cost.

The next item I have for you is one in which we were contacted by First Baptist Church on Walnut Street. They apparently have reached a deal to sell the church and the church property. (Mr. Parham passed around a CAGIS view map of the church property). There are two buildings on the property. You have the church itself and the educational building. The property where the church and the education building sit, as we look at it on CAGIS, shows a regular view, like it's one clean piece of property. You see here that it is actually divided into six different plats (plat numbers indicated on handout). At some point in the past, there was an alley over in that area called Oak Alley. Between plat 0056 and 0074, that particular alley was not abandoned. It was abandoned between the other four plats. The title company for the church has asked them to sort of clean this process up. As a result, their representative has come to us and asked us to adopt legislation that would essentially vacate Oak Valley between 0056 and 0074. We would ask that at the April 2nd meeting, legislation be brought forth to essentially vacate Oak Alley to allow them to proceed to sell their property.

Mr. Hawkins: Do you need an emergency clause with that?

Mr. Parham: Yes, sir. In fact, there should be an emergency for all of those ordinances.

Law Director's Report - no report

Engineer's Report - Mr. Shvegza

A couple updates from last month on the Municipal Building, the repair on the damage there. All the punch list items have been completed except for there's some issues with the glazing gaskets around the windows. The Public Works Department is working with the contractor on that. The other update is on the Ashmore/Woodvale reconstruction. We did have a preconstruction meeting on March 11th and the contractor has submitted their schedule and they will begin work the week of April 28th.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. McNear: We have quite a stack of communications this evening. First one I have is a letter from the Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control regarding permit renewal objections. This is to notify us that all of our permits to sell alcoholic beverages will expire on June 1, 2014. In order to maintain those privileges, each permit holder must file a renewal application. If anyone wants additional details, it will be in my office for review.

The second item I have is a letter from the Hamilton County Dusty Rhodes Auditor and as you may recall Mrs. Harlow brought up an item several meetings ago regarding the Homestead Act. There are a couple of different qualifications, one for 2013 – to qualify you have to have owned your home as a principle place of residence on January 1, 2013, you must have turned at least age 65 in 2013 or be permanently and totally disabled, and you can still apply for that exemption for 2013. However, for 2014, there are new requirements – and it does impose a gross income of the homeowner, maximum income, for the homeowner plus spouse, must not exceed \$30,500. The benefit, if you do

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qualify, is that you can save a minimum of \$347. to a maximum of \$741. If you have any questions, you can call Hamilton County at 946-4050 for additional information. Please note that if you do have this exemption of \$350 to \$740, it does not result in a loss of taxes to Springdale. The difference made from the reduction is made up by the State.

Kathy McNear: I do have quite a few emails to read. Bear with me as I make my way through this pile. The first email that I have was addressed to Mr. Parham from David Okum. He resides at 11985 Springdale Lake Drive in Springdale, 45246.

I am writing to you in reference to the upcoming decision for the sidewalks on Kemper Road. Frankly I just heard about it last Tuesday at Planning Commission.

This is and has been a long time concern for safety along Kemper Road to both pedestrians and bicyclist along that corridor. In fact it goes way back to when I served as a Council member here in Springdale.

As you know I serve as a member of your Planning Commission and also serve as the Municipal appointee to the Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission. I also serve as their representative to the Executive Committee of OKI, the regional transportation authority and the SRPP committee which is the Strategic Regional Policy Plan. I work with professionals from all areas and Communities in this regard.

The reason I mention these Commissions is my personal exposure to the rationale and reasoning for Safe Pedestrian Walkways and Bikeways in our Community. This is and continues to be a major emphasis of most every Community in this region and in fact most of the Country. More and more people are walking to and from and where better apply this than Kemper Road.

In your consideration of the preliminary plan for Kemper Road, I ask that you do it once and do it right for the benefit of the future of Springdale. I realize this may not be a popular issue in some regards, but good planning for the betterment of the entire community and its citizens sometimes imposes on those that are directly affected. Done nicely with mounding, landscaping and trees as a separation could give us a beautiful corridor for the residents and the public.

I would suggest that a plain 5' sidewalk rarely accomplishes the above needs of our Communities.

I have attached references of good planning considerations that have produced significant public support and great success.

I encourage you to speak with the Planning Department in Anderson Township and Summer at the OKI offices for further information.

Kathy McNear: He provides a couple of links for that information. He is unable to attend tonight due to a trip for his son's pending wedding. He respectfully submits this information.

Kathy McNear: The next item I have is from Mildred L. Sears, 272 West Kemper Road, Springdale, 45246. This is addressed to the City of Springdale:

May I give my view on a potential sidewalk on West Kemper Road?

I have been in my home at 272 West Kemper since October 1955, 58 years. All these years we have managed very well without a sidewalk. I am not opposed to progress or safety concerns. But, why now?

I believe the money that it would cost could be used in another necessary project. Thank you for listening.

The next item is directed to Mayor Webster from Tracy Meiners of 542 Grandin Avenue:

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I am writing to voice my opposition to the NEP (which is needle exchange program). Please convey my vote to remove the NEP from our (MY) community during the City Council meeting tonight. I have also sent an email to Holly Emerson requesting the NEP be removed from Springdale. Thank you.

Kathy McNear: I have another email; this one is addressed to Mrs. Emerson from Colleen Kerns at 587 Observatory, Springdale 45246:

As a resident of Springdale twice in my life (once during the 70's for 13 years and now for 11 years) I am concerned about our elected officials wanting to pass a Needle Exchange Program.

What in heaven's name for? It would encourage the use of drugs and more drug dealers in Springdale and the surrounding area. I have to tell you that the area has deteriorated a lot since we lived here the first time in the 70's. I was very distressed about the increase of minorities who do not take care of their properties and their families since we lived here in the 70's. Since the bust of the housing market our property value has plunged about 30% and we have not recovered property value like many other communities. This is also distressing me. Forest Park, which is in my back yard has house after house that is deteriorating. This is affecting my neighborhood in a negative way. We seriously considered moving out of Springdale the first five years we were back here. Now Tri-County mall is not doing well and Cincinnati Mills mall has all but closed.

I am urging you, Ms. Emerson, to vote against the NEP program for the good of our citizens. Best regards.

The next email that I have was sent to Mayor Webster from Lauren Wallace at 609 Glensprings Drive, Springdale 45246. This one states:

I am writing this letter as support of my opposition for the Needle Exchange Program. I am unsure whether I can be in attendance tonight during the meeting, so I wanted to express my concern in this matter. As noted on the article I read on this subject, which is attached, I agree with all the concerns. I have been a Springdale resident for many years and we currently are raising five children here ranging from 4 months to 15 years old. I understand the heroin epidemic that is currently taking place all over the United States. It is very tragic! A few of my other questions or concerns are as such:

- 1. Why not offer this program in a hospital or rehabilitation center instead of a parking lot in Springdale?*
- 2. In the reading I have done this morning, most of the support of this subject is inconclusive, outdated, and insufficient.*
- 3. Where are the needles disposed of that are turned back in and or used directly after receiving? Are we going to end up with needles all over our community?*
- 4. There is no literature, that I read, that states whether people will come more than once to receive a clean needle. In the need to get high, people will use what they have and not come to get another clean needle.*
- 5. How do they monitor, if at all, who they are giving needles to? With many users without a license of State ID, could they be providing children with these needles and not realizing they are underage?*

I do agree that something has to be done about this epidemic. Maybe more money spent on education and rehabilitation would be part of the answer. Having said that, I DO NOT want a Needle Exchange Program in my community especially with the lack of statistics that prove my concerns wrong. Thank you in advance for all you do. Best Regards.

Kathy McNear: The next item is another email. This is from Ron Salerno sent to Mayor Webster and all of the Council representatives regarding the Needle Exchange van:

I just wanted to voice my concerns to you since I am unable to attend tonight's Springdale City Council meeting. This concerns the Needle

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Exchange van at Olde Gate Plaza. I am a Springdale resident living in Olde Gate.

Needless to say I am not pleased with the current situation. (I won't even comment on what I think about the concept of a needle exchange program, but trust me, I am not an advocate!)

- Why is it that Springdale is the only community in Hamilton County to allow this?

- Is the drug problem much worse in our community that this is the location it needs to be in?

- If it needs to be in Springdale, why are participants brought in from outside our community?

- If we are such a caring community, why don't we place the van in front of City Hall, the Police Station, or the Recreation Center?

I am really concerned on how this got approved in the first place. I can go on and on...

I hope City Council will come to its senses and rectify this situation. Again, I apologize for not being able to attend tonight, but I am available if this item needs to be discussed.

Mrs. McNear: Mr. Knox did respond to Mr. Salerno (via email) and he said:

Tonight, unless a suitable location has been found for the van in question, I intend to introduce a resolution to remove the van from our city. The only reason that I voted against removing it on March 24 was to give them the 30 days that they requested.

Mrs. McNear: Mr. Salerno responded to Mr. Knox, copying the Mayor and the other Council members:

Appreciate the help. I just wanted to voice my concerns since I can't attend tonight. Appreciate the quick reply.

Mrs. McNear: Another email that we have is addressed to Mayor Webster and this is from Carol and Lambert Seiller at 553 Observatory Drive:

Please voice our opinion on the needle exchange program suggested for the City of Springdale. We do not want this program operated within the city limits of Springdale. Thank you.

Mrs. McNear: The next letter I have is from Daniel J. Mastrullo at 518 Lafayette Avenue, Springdale 45246:

This letter is to express my feelings about the last Council meeting March 5th, 2014.

First I would like to say thank you to Kathy McNear, Clerk of Council/Finance Director, for her true definition of a Council member, which is to uphold what residents have communicated their wishes to be in their community. A Council member is voted in their Office by the citizens of the city, to work for the citizens of that city.

Council member Holly Emerson had the nerve to read minutes of other Council members and Administration members' statements. Then because they changed their views or votes, because of views and statements from residents.

She labeled them as having no leadership quality, because they could change. She needs to learn that our City Government is of the people of Springdale for the people of Springdale! And Council members' jobs are to carry out the mission. I live in District 2 of Springdale. For the last 4 ½ years, this District is a part of the City of Springdale without any real representation since Randy Danbury was on Council. He was a neighbor to everyone and a hands-on Council member. Most residents in District 2 have no idea who is their Council member or what they look like.

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Talk about leadership, a real Council member would show their face in their District, more than when running for office.

In closing this letter, I would like to say thank you to our Administration and City Council for a job well done during the hard times and keeping our heads above water.

Mrs. McNear: I have another email that was sent to Mrs. Harlow from Megan Sargeant:

I am writing you to encourage you to support the Syringe Exchange Program in Springdale. As a direct service provider working with individuals who are HIV positive, I have seen the dramatic rise in heroin use and addiction in our region. I have witnessed the struggle that occurs with connecting addicted individuals to available treatment options and believe that the Syringe Exchange not only provides a one-for-one exchange (which isn't placing additional needles in the community), but also provides a safe space for HIV testing and connection to care. I hope that as a community we will not only support those with addiction and encourage them to enter treatment, reduce their harmful behaviors and prevent overdoses and death, but I also hope that we use cost effective interventions to reduce the public health burden to care for so many additional cases of HIV and Hepatitis C.

Mrs. McNear: Additionally she (Megan Sargeant) said: *My address is 1046 Delta Avenue, Cincinnati 45208. While I do not live in Springdale, I am employed through Caracole and have been overwhelmed to see firsthand the increase in HIV and Hepatitis C as a result of local heroin usage. Hope you find this helpful.*

Mrs. McNear: The next email I have is addressed to Council members from Carol Quinlan-Hall, Olde Gate resident:

Unfortunately I am unable to change my work schedule to attend tonight's meeting.

I know I have corresponded with each of you at some point regarding the status of the needle exchange van; my feelings are unchanged and I am still opposed to the initiative. Noble cause, wrong place.

Our Board of Directors will be present to address Council on behalf of Olde Gate residents this evening; I hope that no more valuable Council time is allotted to van proponents since they have had ample opportunities to state their case on multiple occasions.

It is time for Springdale residents and taxpayers to have their concerns heard and to keep our neighborhood safe. I simply ask for your support in this matter.

Thank you for your time and attention and for tolerating my persistence!

Mrs. McNear: The next item I have is addressed to Mrs. Harlow regarding the needle exchange program from Dan Shroyer, 249 Ruskin Drive, Springdale, and it states: *I was not present at the recent Council meeting to hear the entire discussion regarding discontinuing the needle exchange program.*

However, I do have some thoughts and concerns regarding several comments made by individuals that seemed to be aimed at justifying their current opposition to the program, even some who were originally in favor of it. I read a comment to the effect, "it is a good program but we don't need it in Springdale."

I disagree. Communities like Springdale are exactly where we need it. I would encourage you to contact the Fire Department and request statistics for how many heroin overdoses they have responded to in the past four years. Not only do I think the number will surprise you, the increase from year to year should also be a concern.

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This program will not draw or serve the long term, downtown, down and out addict. They are buying and using several times a day, do not likely have transportation and/or any desire to come to Springdale for a clean needle. A clean needle is very low on their list of priorities.

I believe the people who will be served by this program are the suburban, newly addicted individuals who realize they have started something they cannot stop. For them this program provides help to them while help is still possible. Heroin is a hole that the addict just keeps digging deeper. At some point the hole is so deep that very few programs can help. This program gives these people a first step when they are afraid of other avenues for treatment that may expose them as a drug user.

The concern was raised that "these people" commit crimes to support their addictions. While the statement may be true, who are "these people"? Again, I will contend that they are our friends and neighbors, newly addicted, supporting their habit by working and likely exhausting their savings and other avenues. They are not addicts coming to Springdale to rob and steal on their way to get a free needle, so that they can return to wherever home is with our possessions and a clean needle. I will agree however, that with no intervention or treatment options, at some point, with their savings and other options depleted, our friends and neighbors, now desperate, will have to consider any option to support their addiction. I believe the police department would tell you that people commit crimes close to where they live.

A statement was made relative to the businesses being unhappy with this program and we need to keep them happy to protect our budget. I believe it is a dangerous precedent to base Council decisions that more clearly impact the city's residents than the businesses on any impact the decision may have on the budget.

As the past fire chief with responsibility for enforcing the fire code, I have been confronted with businesses who, in response to our insistence that they abide by the code, have 'wondered' whether we really wanted their business in town. I have always known the city's position to be that we would follow the path we felt was correct, not base decisions on protecting the budget.

Finally, I think it is unfortunate that some have taken to social media to not only voice their position but to attack elected officials, referring to one council person as "her sorry self".

I know each of you personally and respect you as intelligent dedicated public servants doing your job in a manner you believe best serves the people you were elected to represent.

The location of the van seems to be the issue. Let's focus on that issue, not use it as a reason to end the program. To immediately decide there is no other possible location is short-sighted.

I prefer to voice my opinions directly to you, our elected officials. I will respect whatever final decision the majority of the council makes. In exchange I only ask that you consider all aspects of these type issues and vote how you truly believe, regardless of who else is for it or against it. We elect seven non-partisan individual council members hoping to get seven independent votes.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE - none

Public Meeting – West Kemper Road Sidewalks

Mr. Parham: Following the last meeting, there was discussion about the location of the potential sidewalk. At that time, the initial proposal was to place the sidewalk roughly about 15 feet, plus or minus, off the edge of the pavement on the north side of West Kemper Road. After hearing concerns from the residents, that proposal was rejected. The Mayor then made a suggestion that we look at a five foot stretch of grass area from the edge of pavement and then add a five foot wide sidewalk. So the engineers

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took a look at that option and put that in place. As a result, what we have here this evening shows how that option would appear as well as give some costs estimates on what the sidewalk would cost the city. Again, there's already a project that is scheduled for West Kemper Road. It is the West Kemper Road Rehabilitation Project. Earlier this week, I shared with each of you an email providing you with additional information in preparation for this meeting. The Rehab Project is going to pave the roadway. It is also intended to improve the drainage system (the storm sewers). That work alone is a pretty hefty portion of the cost of the total project. At the same time, we've been extremely fortunate to have received approval for SCIP funding in the amount of \$515,000. We hope, in the next week or so, to have the final approval for the Municipal Road Funds in the amount of another \$225,000. Then for the remaining part of this \$1,074,000 project, again these are estimates; our portion is \$332,000.

Mr. Parham begins slide presentation: In this area, you will see a five and a half foot grass area. It's five and a half feet because it also includes the curb. The dip is the swale that we've talked about. If you recall in the original proposal, the swale was closer to the roadway. Because we now have the grass strip area and the sidewalk closer to the roadway, we have had to push the swale out to this location. Where it says EX12GM, that is the existing 12" gas main. Right below that is the EX8SAN, which is the existing 8" sanitary sewer. Finally, we have the EX12STM that is the existing 12" storm sewer. You can see where each of these utilities is currently located.

As part of the original proposal, we were intending to use the existing storm sewer. Looking at the sidewalk sort of helped us see some different things that would make this project a much more effective and efficient investment for us. In this instance, as I pointed out in the email, we would abandon the existing storm sewer and where you see the swale, we would insert yard catch basins. This would help us to better capture the water off of the properties, the sidewalk, and off of the road. I'll talk now about the sidewalk. It's a five foot sidewalk. The curbs were not a part of the original Rehab Project but they would be a part of the installation of the sidewalks. The purpose of the curb is that we would then insert approximately seven pavement catch basins to capture the water off of the road. If you put just the curb in, it is just going to puddle up on the roadway. So we need to place the pavement catch basins in to catch the water. The pavement catch basins, in conjunction with the swale catch basins, are intended to capture all of the water in the area and then funnel it down to our storm sewer. With the yard catch basins, we will also construct a couple of manholes. When our staff is out cleaning the storm sewers, the manholes will give them easier access to better clean the storm sewers. One other key point to make is, in the original design we were trying to avoid any conflict with the Metropolitan Sewer District's (MSD) sanitary sewer. What this new design will provide for us, is it moves our storm sewer away from the sanitary sewer. If at some point in the future, MSD needs to replace that sanitary sewer or make any improvements to it, under the old proposal, more than likely they were going to hit the storm sewer. Needless to say, we would then have a conflict with MSD and they probably would not want to pay us for the damage to our storm sewer. I would rather not fight with them. Therefore, our plan now is to move the storm sewer away from their sanitary sewer.

This is what we're now proposing for you, very similar to what we discussed at the last meeting. I guess one of the first things I need to say to you is that there's no guarantee that we will receive the funding. This process is about presenting an option and an opportunity to decide whether we actually want to apply for the funding. The funding would cover 80% of the construction of the sidewalk. Unfortunately, we have been informed that the pavement catch basins that we would need to put in place would not be covered by the grant. The grant, thank goodness, will cover the curb work. Right now the engineers have provided an estimate of \$34,500 for the curb work and when we then look at 80% of the curb work, that means we would receive about \$27,600 in grant dollars; the city's portion would be \$6,900. That is for the curb work.

Because the pavement catch basins are not eligible to be covered under the grant, the estimate for the pavement catch basins of \$37,500 would be 100% the City's responsibility. In the first proposal, when we had requested information on the cost of the sidewalk, we were given the number of \$117,000. Unfortunately, that number really should have been \$101,800. What occurred then is the Engineer had calculated into the process the cost of the yard catch basins. The yard catch basins were never part of this

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sidewalk process. They have always been a part of the Rehab Project. So taking the \$101,800, the city's share of that is \$20,360. The grant would be in the amount of \$81,440. When I total the entire cost of the sidewalk, we come up with \$173,800. Of that, 37% would be the city's cost of \$64,760. If we choose to apply and are successful, we will receive Transportation Alternative (TA) funding in the amount of \$109,040. With that, we present you the information and I'll answer any questions you may have.

Mrs. Harlow: Mr. Parham, when you talk about the yard catch basins, how many of our residents would have a catch basin in their front yard?

Mr. Parham: There are about sixteen properties on the north side; there's just about a yard catch basin that's going to be needed at just about each of those properties, at the driveways.

Mrs. Harlow: At the driveway?

Mr. Parham: Well, there are sixteen driveways; there'll be approximately about sixteen of them.

Mrs. Harlow: I'm not familiar with the catch basins, are they like the ones that in the park that have the domed, what are they like?

Mr. Parham: Sometimes you may see a sort of grate, where water simply trickles down to that area, captures it, and takes it down to the manhole, then takes it to the sanitary sewer. That's the nontechnical version. Don't?

Mr. Shvegzda: Basically, there are two options. One is a 2' x 2' square metal grate area.

Mrs. Harlow: Is it flat?

Mr. Shvegzda: It is flat. The other option would be a circular version of that.

Mrs. Harlow: How far back on the residents' property will this be?

Mr. Shvegzda: They would be back within the centerline of that swale, so it would vary from property to property.

Mr. Parham: If you look at the photograph, that tells you it's about five and a half feet in the grass area, another five feet is the sidewalk, and then you see this area where it's about three and a half feet, so that's about 14 feet from the edge of pavement.

Mr. Parham responded to a question concerning the location of the utility poles: The utility poles are going to be located approximately to the right of the swale.

Mayor Webster: Next to the sidewalk.

Mr. Vanover: Mr. Parham, you mentioned carry the water to the sanitary sewer, but it would be through the storm sewer.

Mr. Parham: Through the storm sewer.

Mr. Knox: Normally 30% is what the municipality or the entity would contribute to our fund. By giving 37%, does it make it more likely that we would get the federal funding?

Mr. Shvegzda: Actually the minimum amount is part of the funding agreement that the local community would have to supply would be 20%. It may, but the thing is, those particular elements aren't eligible for funding anyway so I don't know what overall impact it would have on their selection process.

Mr. Parham: In some of the applications for grants that we apply for, there's some flexibility. With this program, there is no flexibility. It is an 80/20 split. The reason that it gets to 37% as Mr. Shvegzda indicated, is because we then have to account for those

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things that we would responsible for at 100%, which are the pavement catch basins which are not eligible for this grant. So if there were no need for pavement catch basins, that number would be a much lower number, as part of our share.

Mayor Webster: We had a meeting Friday on this. My first reaction was, we're getting 80% funding on this and it's still going to cost us \$64,000 for 1600 feet of sidewalk. How are we ever going to afford to put this sidewalk system all the way over to Kenn Road, which I'd like to see happen one day. But I'm assured that the water handling system mechanics, the sewers and all that, are in place on everything west of State Route 4. So that's already been done. So, if and when we ever want to extend the sidewalks, we should not be looking at this kind of expense, assuming we can get the 80% funding. I personally took one look at the first cut of this thing, with the sidewalks in the middle of the yards and said I don't want any part of that. I'm glad Council rejected that; I'm sure the homeowners are happy about that. This, I think, is a much more palatable situation, at least for me. Of course, I don't live there. At the same time, I'm a little disappointed that we started out with a project that was going to cost us \$23,000 and now all the sudden we've tripled that. That's the bad side; the good side is that, if we do extend this on further west, we will not have to bear that kind of cost. I guess the other comment, Mr. Diehl, you asked we look into having one on both sides of the street and I think the cost really gets out of touch with what we've got to spend. This is a project that was not budgeted. You know \$23,000, we figured we could suck that up, and I'm sure for the \$64,000, we would find the money to do it if that's what the council desires. We put this off and put this off; this is sort of the official cut off date night. The application has to be filed by the 28th of March so we really need to make a decision on whether we want to spend \$64,000 to put the sidewalk along that section of Kemper Road.

Mrs. McNear: And that's \$64,000 if we get the grant.

Mayor Webster: Correct.

Mrs. McNear: If we don't get the grant, then we have to pay for the entire \$173,000.

Mr. Parham: If you don't get the grant and you want to put a sidewalk in, then your number is \$173,000. If you don't get the grant and you don't put a sidewalk in, there's no cost.

Mr. Vanover: At this point I will open the floor up for discussion on the West Kemper Road sidewalks. I ask when you come to the podium that you sign in, introduce yourself. Please try to speak into the microphone. Would anyone like to address Council on the sidewalk issue? Please come forth.

Mike Heitz, 266 West Kemper Road: Good evening Mr. Chairman. My name's Mike Heitz. I'm a 40-year resident of Springdale. I live at 266, on the north side of the street. You've heard me before, in the last two meetings. First I'd like to thank you for listening to us and particularly for marking the route twice for the project. I don't quite understand the need for the project. More than that, I don't understand the need for such a headlong rush to make a decision right away. I've worked for 34 years for a public utility and the best plans weren't pulled out of a hat like a rabbit. It took time; it took back and forth between the people and discussion happening at the detail end of the design stages. Early on my very first question had to do with the elevation and grade. I asked our Engineer and pointed out some of the challenges that would be there; they're still there with that project. I think others and I would still like the opportunity to discuss how that goes. That being said, I guess I would just like to point out that my preference is that no sidewalk be constructed. Way in the third place is the northern route, which I would vigorously oppose any way I could. The second route, this route, I think I could probably live with but I would really like to see the details before we go forward, especially recalling the comments that Mr. Knox made at the last meeting about reviewing the property maintenance code and ordinances; I think that would be a good thing to do. That's my summary for the evening, thank you.

Jane Huber, 282 West Kemper: After the first public hearing, I was against it. At the last meeting, we were given a proposal placing the sidewalk on the south side of the utility poles. That is nothing but danger, danger! I wouldn't let an adult and certainly not a

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child walk on a sidewalk on the south side of those telephone poles. And we're going to cut down the trees and I know that we're no longer a tree city. Was there any thought given to people who are going to lose trees that have been there for a long time, for replacement? I am just very adamantly opposed to the sidewalk, period.

Genevieve Scheibly, 210 West Kemper: Even though you guys moved the stakes, I still don't want it on my property. I don't want the extra foot traffic. It still is not comfortable for me. I've been living there for 20 something plus years; we didn't have the sidewalks, and like the one person said, we got along fine without the sidewalks. I don't want the change, so I am opposing the sidewalk. Plus that money could go to something else.

Mr. Diehl: As I indicated in the last meeting, I'm in favor of having sidewalks throughout the whole city where they make sense. I would like to see at this point an overall plan providing sidewalks throughout the city. Someday I hope to vote on having sidewalks on Kemper Road and other places and I would like to vote yes on that, but tonight I am going to vote no on this because I think we're jumping into this kind of in a hurry just to make deadlines. I refer to the email that Mr. Okum sent us and I agree with him that we need an overall master plan, not to mention we don't have this money budgeted in the budget. Like the mayor said, if we wanted to find the money, we could find the money, but we do have a budget and we should live with that budget. I'm going to be voting no on this.

Mrs. Harlow: When I originally heard about the sidewalks, I immediately called my neighbor who lives behind me, Mr. Heitz, and another one, Mr. Bremanis, and asked them how they felt about it. I knew how Mr. Heitz had felt about it because we had discussed this probably 15-20 years ago. I had said previously that we can go home at the end of the day, after we make our vote but our residents are the people who have to live with the decision that's made and I would be listening to my residents in my district; I would be listening to their voices and I've heard nothing but we don't want the sidewalk, so my vote will also be a no.

Mr. Hawkins: First off, I appreciate the residents for coming out tonight and the last meeting and the meeting before that with regard to this issue. I think it is important, as it's been stated, to listen to what the residents have to say. I also think it's important, as Mr. Okum had indicated in his email, to look at what's in the best interest of the city overall. This is a matter that's been discussed, over and over again, ten years, ago, twenty years ago; it'll be discussed ten years from now if there's no sidewalk put in there now for this stretch of land. I think ultimately the destiny for this stretch of land, there's probably going to be a sidewalk there at some point in time. I think in terms of right now, I've got a concern, also hearing what the residents say, but I've got a concern too in terms of the finances with regard to this and what we've budgeted for. Based on the totality of everything right now, while I would love to see a sidewalk there, I don't think it makes sense today to do that. I do think it's going to be discussed again; I think it's going to be revisited and I think at some point in time there will be a sidewalk that's going to be there.

Mr. Vanover: I will bring up; we've touched on it a couple of times. This is a biannual cycle; so, in two years, given finances, we'll have a chance to go after that again, so this is not a do or die as far as this money at this point. I guess now we've had discussion; there are no further lights. Council, I will call you to your decision.

Mrs. Harlow made a motion to not perform the West Kemper Road Rehab Project and Sidewalks.

Mr. Parham: I hope you don't vote not to do the Rehabilitation Project. If you're going to vote not to do anything, you vote not to do the sidewalk; you have already received funding for the Rehab Project that we desperately need.

Mrs. Harlow: I make a motion that we vote on the West Kemper Road Sidewalk Project.

Mr. Hawkins seconded.

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Mayor Webster: Let's make sure everyone clearly understands the motion. The motion is to proceed with the sidewalk. Since the motion has to be in the affirmative, that means if you want to continue with the sidewalk project, you vote yes. If you do not want to see this sidewalk built, you vote no.

The West Kemper Sidewalk Project motion was denied with a 0-7 negative vote.

Mayor Webster: We had to put stakes in your yard to get you to come out and talk about this. So the next time we send you a letter and you don't want stakes in your yard, you better show up at the next meeting. Seriously, this is truly democracy at work. I think Mrs. Huber, dear friend of mine, made the comment that "it's a done deal; we're going to get sidewalks". Well you found out, you took on city hall Mrs. Huber, and you won, so congratulations.

Mr. Vanover: We will now move into the discussion on the Health Initiative. First I want to make a couple of points I'll reiterate: When you come up to speak, I ask that you sign in, state your name and your address, and also since we have been through this dance a couple of times now, there's very little argument about the merits of the program, but it is the location and I would ask that the comments be directed at the location, for or against. We've heard it numerous times and I think in fairness to everybody, we don't need to redo the entire presentation. With that said, that's the way we'll precede.

Mayor Webster: I would like to make some comments and part of this is an Addendum to Mr. Squires' report from the Board of Health meeting from last Thursday. I think maybe it would help all of us if we just go back and follow a timeline from the very beginning as to how we got to where we are this evening. On May the 9th of last year, Dr. Feinberg met with the Board of Health. The Board of Health consists of five medical people; there's a retired veterinarian, two nurses, a pharmacist, and a retired testing lab tech on the board. Also in attendance were the Police Chief, a representative from the Fire Department, along with the Health Commissioner, Mrs. Mitrione. Dr. Feinberg gave a very compelling and very convincing story about drug addiction, the needles, and the entire process; I think we were all somewhat spellbound by what we heard. However, no decision or emergency was declared; no epidemic was declared but the Board of Health instructed the Administration, the Health Commissioner, and myself to go ahead and pursue this endeavor, this health initiative, but only if we had support of the Springdale City Council.

The Board of Health also suggested Dr. Feinberg attend a Council meeting and explain this problem to them. Dr. Feinberg did so on June 19th; presented the same convincing argument to City Council; she alluded to a church site as a host site down on Route 4, which turned out to be a huge mistake. The Council voted 5-2 to proceed with the program. One church was in attendance at that meeting on June the 19th. A few days later, they called and said no, we do not want to be the host site for this. On July 24th, Mrs. Mitrione, Derrick, and I met with the pastor and associate pastor of the other church. They indicated they needed to meet with their board; as a matter of fact, I encouraged that they do that. We left that meeting and based upon their comments with regards to their concern about the young people and the condom distribution, we were convinced that they were not going to host this operation. They never got back to us. As a matter of fact, I attended a 99-year old birthday event on January 29th of this year and the associate pastor called me aside and he said how's your heroin program going? It doesn't sound like they supported the project, does it? And his parting comment was we will pray for you. Mrs. Mitrione and Dr. Feinberg continued to look at other sites. The Planned Parenthood site, who is a sister organization of this organization, was approached by Cammie and maybe Dr. Feinberg; I'm not sure exactly what part Dr. Feinberg and her group played in this. Cammie had some conversations with the owners of that plaza and they said yes. They rent facilities to Planned Parenthood and they have no problems with the needle exchange or the exchange van being there. I'll be honest with you, residents out there this evening, no thought was given to the residential section of Olde Gate plaza or the office complex next door. Operation in this van began somewhere around the first of February. Right off the bat, within the first day, maybe second, Mr. James Cohen from CMC Properties placed a call to Mr. Parham, Mr. Tulloch, our Economic Development Director, and myself. We started getting calls from Olde Gate residents, and they also called some of the Council people. I attended the Olde Gate residents meeting on February the 27th and heard their concerns firsthand.

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In the meantime, we had hired an executive search firm to try to find a replacement for the retiring Mr. Tulloch. The second candidate that this search firm reached out to questioned whether they really wanted to apply for a job in the city that hosted a needle exchange program. You talk about a gut shot. That's the reputation that we had. This person, they were from somewhere up north; had no association with the city but they had heard about this and they questioned whether they really wanted to work at a place that hosted a site. I listened; I observed what it was doing to our community. I read where other elected officials didn't want this program. As a matter of fact, they wrote a letter asking the governor and the Hamilton County Commissioners for the law to be changed to prevent a needle exchange van be located in their community. I would like at this point, please bear with me; today's edition of the Tri County press, there are two headlines. One congratulating our Lady Vikings, which I think we should take some action on, and the other headline was: "*Local officials oppose needle exchange*". I'll read this as quickly as I can:

A month after southwest Ohio's first needle exchange started operation in Springdale, with the idea of reducing the health impact of the heroin crisis, some local officials are pushing back. The program, which survived a 3-3 Springdale City Council vote last week after protests from a group of residents and an office complex in Springdale, has raised concerns about safety and zoning. A letter, sent by email to Governor John Kasich and Hamilton County Commissioners Greg Hartmann, Chris Monzel, and Todd Portune, opposes the distribution of clean needles to addicts and expresses concerns about the lack of zoning requirements for the mobile van.

The Cincinnati Exchange Program, which rolled into Springdale February 10th, had distributed about 50 needles as of March 5th, according to Springdale's Health Commissioner Cammie Mitrione. Health officials say that distributing clean needles protects public health by fighting the spread of diseases such as Hepatitis C and HIV, which intravenous drug users can get by sharing needles and which they can pass on to non-heroin users through sex. The needle exchange, which requires a person to turn in a used needle to get a clean one, also gives users an incentive to not discard needles, which also poses a threat, particularly to children who might step on dirty needles or pick one up.

Springdale City Council, which had voted 5-2 last summer to support the program, held a second vote last week after residents of a nearby condominium complex and representatives of an office building next door complained to city officials. Several residents and businesses who addressed the City Council on March 5th said they were concerned about the potential for an increase in criminal activity near their homes and businesses. After hearing input from several residents and business representatives as well as representatives of the Cincinnati Exchange Program, the Springdale Council deadlocked 3-3 on whether to pull its support of the program. The van will continue to operate at the Olde Gate Plaza on Northland Boulevard on Mondays and Thursdays, offering counseling, testing for HIV, Hepatitis C, and pregnancy, and swapping dirty or used needles for clean, unused ones.

Authored by Deer Park City Councilman Charles Tassell, the letter was signed by 17 elected and appointed officials from 10 municipalities, including Sharonville, Reading, Silverton, Mariemont, Anderson Township, Sycamore Township, Evendale, Cheviot, and Colerain Township. "Please consider, that we the undersigned oppose the free needles for addicts in our communities and desire a legal means to address concerns of zoning, participation, and distribution" the letter said. Tassell said Ohio Law authorizes local Boards of Health to establish needle exchange programs but does not address the zoning issue. We want to raise awareness that there are serious concerns by municipalities and members of these municipalities about the issue of needle dispensaries", Tassell said. "There's a larger picture from the zoning of it and the impact on people around us to recognize that fact that heroin addiction is a very serious issue. Maybe that's not where we should focus" he said of the needle exchange. "Maybe we should focus on prevention. If you have one of these facilities, it's drawing those kinds of folks, the addicts, in, and you are going to increase the likelihood of criminals, thefts, and blight," Tassell said. "That's what is going to happen around those facilities. We don't have a solution yet, but there needs to be an ongoing battle on this," he said. "We've got to step up and be strong around it."

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Springdale Police Chief Michael Mathis said police have had no calls related to the mobile unit. "The program is still relatively new," Mathis said, "however, we have had no calls for service that I am aware of."

Hamilton County Commissioners have not taken a formal position on the issue, but there's good likelihood they wouldn't be able to; counties can't override state law. Hamilton County Board of Commissioner President Monzel said he's concerned about the program and is personally against it. "I don't know that it's proven to be effective, it allows for unlawful behavior and brings potential blight," Monzel said. "This issue strikes at the core of our community." Monzel said two issues have brought such a large consensus among communities.

Mitrione, the Springdale Health Commissioner, commended the letter's authors for their timely concern about this epidemic in Ohio. "These exchanges provide and dispose of syringes and encourage appropriate treatment and provide information to protect the users and their lives from blood-borne pathogens for Hepatitis C and HIV. The program, one of only three in the state, does a one for one exchange only", Mitrione said. "It is not giving away needles as stated incorrectly in the letter. Isn't it naïve for us to believe that our communities aren't already negatively impacted by the epidemic? Check your local fire, police, and EMS departments and see how many runs they are doing for unconscious patrons who have overdosed at a stoplight, in a parking lot or at home. Ask the police how much crime is due to drugs, where people are robbing and stealing to feed their addiction. Get the facts and let's talk about the public impact."

Mayor Webster (continues): So I think that article is very fair; I think it gives both sides of the argument, but that's where we are, in the headlines of the paper. Our Economic Development Director is out there daily competing against the ten communities that I just rattled off. Don't you think that the Economic Development Directors and departments from these ten communities are using this argument to get Springdale if they're out there competing for business?

So yes, after hearing all of this, I caved. That's right, Mrs. Emerson, I caved. I changed my mind. I can admit that I made a huge mistake. I completely underestimated the stigma that's attached to this program and I apologized to this community for that mistake and the part that I played in it. I negotiated with Dr. Feinberg for an orderly exit from this city as of March the 24th but that actually was not supported by this Council. So instead of leaving, Council member Emerson and the needle exchange folks attended the Board of Health meeting on March 13th to convince the Board to support the program. In 42 years of public service to this community, I have never attended a more contentious, bitter, and nasty meeting. This meeting was not only to convince the Board of Health about the merits of their project, but it was to discredit the Mayor, the Health Commissioner, and the entire City Administration. Anyone who dares oppose this van being in this city is to be destroyed. They are ignorant. But there's hope for all you folks out there, because they have volunteered to educate you. They will educate you so you no longer will be ignorant. In talking to some of the board members, they've expressed my exact feelings and that it was absolutely unbelievable the lack of respect these people have for not just the City of Springdale, but for the residents that reside here, especially those in the Olde Gate Condominium Association. You're just ignorant; you don't understand. It was a complete embarrassment. Mrs. Emerson, you are a discredit to this city. You dishonored the office in which you hold. It was a complete embarrassment and you should be ashamed of yourself. Just this Monday, Ms. Barnum, who I think is in attendance this evening, called Rich Mountel, sitting here in the front row, and asked him if he would organize, on a 24-hour notice, 124 condominium units; so that you wouldn't be ignorant any more, they were offering to conduct a class, so that you could come to the meeting tonight informed and intelligent; you no longer would be ignorant. Isn't that nice of these people?

One of you Council people voted not to support my recommendation last meeting because you wanted to see if the Showcase Cinema site was available. I talked to the General Manger; he talked to with the corporate offices and their response was no thanks, we try to create a family atmosphere here. Another one of you wanted to give more time for them to orderly relocate. My recommendation tonight addresses both of those concerns. This program should be moved out of this community because of the negative

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residential impact, the negative economic impact, and the negative image it is casting upon this city. I am convinced that the negative aspects of this project far outweigh the positives and I would like to recommend its' removal from the city as of March 31st, 2014. Thank you very much.

Mr. Vanover: The floor is open.

Mr. Squires: You heard the Mayor mention that one person held out for Showcase Cinemas; that was me. When we found out that just wasn't available, it just wasn't. I've had communications with Mrs. Quinlan-Hall, very nice lady. I've never met her but she writes well and it's a pleasure to communicate with someone that has that command of the language that she has. I'm sorry that I put us in this position that I did. As I told Mrs. Quinlan, I wanted the program but I will not force it so that means that I won't pursue it, to stay there in Olde Gate. It's just too many negative aspects of this thing. A lot of us up here wanted the program, but it's the location; it's not working out and it is just too much negativity on this thing. Were mistakes made, yes, but we're to the point right now where we have to act. That's the reality of the situation. The Mayor looks at it from a totally different point of view sometimes than Council members do, and that's why he's Mayor. I will be supporting his motion to withdraw. Thank you.

Dr. Feinberg: I am Dr. Judith Feinberg. I'm a professor of Medicine at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. I am an expert in Infectious Diseases and I am the Medical Director of the Cincinnati Exchange Project. I do not live in Springdale, but I do live not far away in the greater Cincinnati area. What I'd like to do before there's any more fireworks about this, I would just like to share with you Mr. President, members of Council, Mayor Webster, some facts. We're in Springdale to work on this Public Health initiative because Springdale has a problem. There is injection drug use here. There are overdoses here. According to police reports that involve heroin overdoses or needles, those reports have risen from two in 2008 to 41 last year. The number of times that the EMS and fire people have had to administer Naloxone, which is the drug that reverses overdoses and prevents them from being fatalities, has increased steadily since 2011. There have been 33 new cases of Hepatitis C in the 45246 zip code since 2009. Obviously, the response to a problem as huge as an injection drug epidemic around narcotics and heroin has to be multi-faceted. Nobody is even dreaming that this program that we proposed and that was originally approved was going to tackle all of the issues involved.

Of course there has to be control of the amount of drugs being sold, there has to be law enforcement against traffickers, there has to be an increase in the number of treatment programs, which are woefully small in the greater Cincinnati area and can not accommodate the addicts who are looking for drug treatment. They're usually told there's a wait of at least two to several months to get into these programs. So there are many, many different parts of this problem that need to be addressed. The proposal that we have and that we've put into place here was just to address the safety of the community, to get these needles off the streets and out of public spaces and to assist people who are addicted to stay healthy and alive until they're ready for drug treatment. There are needle exchanges in 189 other cities. Many, many studies have shown syringe exchanges do not increase crime, they do not increase drug use; they do not bring people into injection use, who hadn't done that before. In fact, they decrease drug use because they encourage people to get into treatment; they decrease rates of Hepatitis C and HIV markedly because by providing clean syringes, people don't share and spread these diseases that way. The Police and EMS Departments here in Springdale are still in favor of this project as far as I understand. The ultimate result of this project would be a healthier and safer community. To address some of the concerns that have been voiced, I note that Mayor Webster congratulated two new corporations who moved into Springdale just in the past month or so, so it doesn't seem like people are shying away from Springdale because of this syringe exchange.

We did a bunch of research. We looked at eight cities in the United States that have syringe exchanges that have similar characteristics to Springdale and the one that's closest to Springdale is a city called Hermiston, Oregon, whose population is 17,000 and Springdale's is a little over 11,000. In fact, the violent crime rates are lower in this city; they're at 83.1, compared to 160 here in Springdale. Property crimes of 301 the rate, compared to 330.4 here in Springdale. Home costs are almost identical. The median

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income is \$2,000 less in this Oregon city. The proportion of people who live in this city who are homeowners is greater, 61% compared to 58% here in Springdale. The poverty rate in this Oregon city is lower, 17% compared to 23% in Springdale. In terms of overall population and other characteristics like the home cost and the median income, there was a very good match.

We have so far served 24 individuals. All of them but one are between the ages of 20 and 41. Seventeen of the 24 have exchanged fewer than 10 syringes and only four of those individuals have exchanged more than ten. Sixteen of the 24 asked for and were educated and received a prescription for Narcan, the drug that prevents overdose. Two individuals came, one for her son and another for his wife, and the only reason they came was to get the Narcan. We've had six treatment referrals to drug treatment programs. We've tested four people for Hepatitis C and HIV. Two of the people who came already had Hepatitis C. Two thirds of the individuals, 16 out of 24, are employed, two are disabled, one is a student, and five are currently unemployed. One of the employed individuals drove up to the syringe exchange in a Bentley, so I don't think we're talking about people who are a criminal element or riff raff. We're talking about what this epidemic is like in this region, which is that it is white, male, and middle class. That's who we've been serving. There was a study that was published that compared two big cities, San Francisco, which has syringe exchanges, and Miami, which does not. They did walk-throughs of comparable neighborhoods in the two cities and found that the needles that could be visually easily seen and could be picked up. There were eight times more needles found in the city without the needle exchange, Miami, than the city with the syringe exchange, San Francisco. I just thought it would be helpful to talk about some of the facts. I think you alluded, Mayor Webster, in an unkind and untrue way, that the people supporting this project think that the citizens of Springdale who oppose it are morons. We do not think that but I am sure that many people are not aware of the facts around syringe exchanges. They actually make towns and cities safer, cleaner, they do not affect property values, and they do not increase crime rates. In fact, there's a tendency to do the opposite. I just thought it would be useful to hear those things and I think it's time for the residents of Springdale to speak up.

Mayor Webster: For the record, I never used morons; I used ignorant and the term ignorant was used repeatedly.

Dr. Feinberg: Nobody said those words, sir. And most of the things that were said that were nasty and that were insulting came from you.

Mr. Vanover: In deference to Dr. Feinberg, I allowed her to give us another fact check. From here on, we will focus on location. That is the issue. If we can't stay on it, then we will close public comment.

Daniel Mastrullo, 518 Lafayette: She took the words right out of my mouth. The point that she said that zone 46, the bottom line is, drugs are everywhere and it doesn't go by zip codes and we all know that. We know we have a problem in every zip code, in every 50 states of the United States; we know we have a problem. We're not discrediting this lady or the program. We're talking about the location. It's not the proper location for this van. And Springdale doesn't want it, bottom line.

Julie Matheny, 669 Park Avenue: For the audience, Council is aware of this, but a full disclosure, I am also the Executive Director of the Springdale Chamber of Commerce; however, these are not the reflections of the Chamber of Commerce; they are my personal comments. You know, from Day 1 that we've had this van voted on in this city, I have always been against this, very passionately against it. When I ran for office, everybody said oh, you would always agree with your father. No, I don't and I told him so. But here we are, we got the thing, it's like a houseguest that won't go away. You know, you take them in, you give them a home, and they won't leave. This program, has had, and will continue to have, a severe impact on the business community, the residential housing, and everything else. It just has no place to be in Springdale. If it's such a grand program, Dr. Feinberg, Mrs. Emerson, you work in a hospital, why isn't it parked up there at your location, Bethesda North Hospital, if that's where all of these people are being transported to? We're not ignorant.

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Thomas Hall: Good evening, Mayor Webster, Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Council, my name is Thomas Hall. I've lived in Olde Gate for over 20 years. I'm a retired sworn law enforcement officer for over 25 years. I hold a Class A Private Investigator's license issued by the State of Ohio. I'm the Vice President of the Eastern Hamilton County Fraternal Order of Police. I am Vice President of Olde Gate Condo Association. I'm not here this evening to discuss the value or the nonvalue of this needle truck. We all have decisions to make in life and some people made them. Although we do agree it is a noble program and a noble cause, it is inappropriate to our city and especially inappropriate to the neighborhood. As our Mayor has indicated before, Springdale has a high density of residents in this community. The Olde Gate community is also a predominantly senior community. It is a well-kept, well-maintained, safe, secure neighborhood. The main street of Olde Gate is proudly maintained by our community. The Board of Directors does not even permit yard sales to keep the traffic to a minimum to maintain the property values and the integrity of our community. The needle van is currently located within 500 feet of over 500 residents, homes, right now. It's also located within 50 feet of the bus stop where people get on the bus and exit daily. I'm certainly sure I don't have to remind you – that's it's just been a few weeks ago two ladies were mowed down at the bus stop, waiting for the bus by a drug user that was high on drugs and sadly, one lady was killed. This is picture of the defendant; he's under indictment right now, in the Hamilton County jail.

Across Olde Gate Drive, there are over 400 apartment homes with parents, children awaiting school busses on a daily timeframe. When they are met at the end of the street by the stop sign, there is this van there with a sign, "Welcome, today we have needles, syringes, and other drug paraphernalia". Ladies and gentlemen, how do we defend that to our second and third graders on the school bus? What they're seeing, when they stop at the stop sign, I don't see how that has any defense. While walking the other day in Olde Gate, I was stopped by one of our senior residents. He asked me what was going on at the end of the street. I said, "There's a needle truck that goes down there and they exchange needles for drug addicts." He went on to say "you know I always kept my garage door open, but I'm so concerned now that I keep it closed, seeing the traffic that's up and down Olde Gate Drive". Our residents of Olde Gate shouldn't have to feel threatened by transient traffic on our private street. There's a reason why the other municipalities turned them down. I think the Mayor covered that this evening, so there's no need to go through that again. I will address Dr. Feinberg's comments, because in a local interview with a TV station on February 11th, she stated "Springdale wasn't the ideal location for this program, but it was the most receptive." Also, along with the same interview, was her Program Director, Adam Reilly. He states, "Addicts take extreme risk". So we're importing this from different communities; we're importing this, to set ourselves up for crime and failure. In closing, on behalf of the Olde Gate Board of Directors, acting for the Olde Gate residents; they're my constituents and I'm here for the safety, security for those folks. We realize that many Council members and the Mayor had been contacted by the residents of Springdale and specifically Olde Gate, explaining their objections in detail, so we respectfully request this evening that Council take appropriate measures to eliminate this needle exchange van this evening. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Kyle Wallace: Good evening, I'm Kyle Wallace. As you heard earlier, my mom Lauren Wallace emailed the board. I know I don't have many years behind me and I haven't seen what's Springdale has had in the past, but I haven't heard much about the view from kids. I'm not talking third graders, fourth graders; I'm talking high schoolers. Me and my friend, I can't drive yet, so we walk a lot in Springdale and we walk a lot over there and I do not feel comfortable walking past a place where addicts can regain what they've been using. I just don't think it's even smart to have it half a mile from a school. It's not very far from Springdale Elementary. I don't have one of those long essays that they've written. Quite frankly, I think what needs to be said is the obvious. What are the benefits to it other than they can get clean needles? I have three younger brothers and one younger sister. The second oldest in my family is eight and he asked today, because me and my mother were talking about it, what is heroin? My mom had to explain it to him and it wasn't the most educated explanation but I thought it's about right. I just hate knowing that there are heroin addicts near my little brothers and sisters. As the oldest, I have to be protective of them so I am opposed to the needle replacement in Springdale. That is all.

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Mick Higgins: Good evening Mr. President Mr. Mayor, members of City Council, and City Administrators. I put together a presentation that at this point, based on the comments of the President; it's very fact-laden; it doesn't contain anything that I've reviewed before in this Council. In lieu of your recommendation, I won't go through it but I will leave it with you because I put a lot of time and effort into putting it together. I will touch on just a few points that I think are very relevant to the location. First of which is on page 7 and my comments for that page is I want to talk about property values in needle exchange areas. Would it surprise you that property values are down near needle exchange programs? No, property values are down everywhere. However, five properties near the Baltimore needle exchange programs were sold between 1990 and 1992. The same properties were sold again between 1995 and 1997 during the housing boom and after the needle exchange programs began operating. Cumulatively, these houses suffered a reduction of 7.8%. Now it's very difficult to find facts and figures as to what it's going to do to the property value here in Springdale but we can look at this, what took place in Baltimore, and extrapolate it out. It's not going to help the residents of Springdale or our property values.

Now there's a lot of information in there that I would like Council to review and look at, not the least of which is the HIV numbers. They contain numbers from the Ohio Department of Health. In Hamilton County, there were 155 new cases of HIV reported in 2012. The mode of transmission for intravenous drug users was three. There were two females and one male; three individuals, zero from Springdale. I understand this program is there to help those individuals but at this point in time, you can see from the reports, HIV rates dropped amongst intravenous drug users between 1988 and 1991 from 35,000 down to 8,000 by the time the first needle exchange opened. Needle exchanges have not played a part in the reduction of the HIV population, education has. I think that's the important thing we need to get out. I'll turn to the conclusion of this and I'll just point out that, especially with the young gentleman before, the most important reason to get rid of this program is because we run the risk of sending the wrong message to our children, that this type of behavior is okay. It is not; it is criminal behavior, it should be treated as such and it should not be allowed in Springdale. One other comment I wanted to clear up because it had come up is I did think that this was very important; there really has not enough put out to the residents; that they have a voice and a say in this matter. Some people questioned whether I was behind the letter that went out to the residents in my neighborhood and the answer is yes. I gave out 300 copies of a letter, inviting people to come tonight to voice their opinions on it, relatively open, one way or another, so Council could hear that, so that our representatives could hear that. I didn't want there to be any confusion as far as who left the letter on your door; that was me and I appreciate those that turned out tonight. Thank you very much. Any questions?

Kate Harrow: My name is Kate Harrow. I am not a resident of Springdale. I am the President of the Board of Visionaries and Voices, which is an arts organization in Springdale. I'm not here representing them; I'm representing my own personal views. I would just say that I agree with a lot of the concerns and statements that people are making. I wish that young man hadn't left. I don't want his little brother around heroin addicts either. But the fact of the matter is, his little brother is around heroin addicts, and unless we address it and try to help them and help the problem in some way, it's just going to get worse. I don't think the answer is to move the syringe exchange. I think it's helping where it is. They've already referred nine people and I think that if there's a concern about the economic impact, a lot of that could be addressed with how questions about that are answered. If someone says, how's your heroin program, you say well, actually, we've greatly reduced the drug usage in our community. Actually, it's going great; we've referred nine people. People are healthier and safer. In the San Francisco study that Dr. Feinberg referenced, they found 44 syringes per 1,000 blocks in San Francisco where there was a syringe exchange program. In Miami, where there was not, they found 371 used syringes per 1,000 blocks. These problems are here, whether we address them or not. So I would just encourage you to think about. I realize it is illegal activity and it's not something to be condoned, but to try to address it in a positive, helpful way. That's all.

Renee Wright, 560 Observatory: Hi, I am Renee Wright and I am a resident of Springdale. I have a 19-year old son that just graduated from Princeton who has three friends. He's a musician. He played in band for eight years, played jazz band for seven; he has three friends because they're clean and sober. He didn't get his driver's license

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until after he turned 18 because he didn't want to be out on the road with people who used drugs. A lot of people don't realize but heroin users, a lot of them, don't even use needles. So they've exchanged needles for 20 people. Two, 50%, are already infected. The answer is education; it's not having a needle exchange. That's my opinion. And I don't want it here.

Carolyn Ghantous, 11806 Neuss Avenue: Hello, I'm Carolyn Ghantous. I've been a Springdale resident for a little over 20 years. I'm also a realtor. I got my license in 2004 and I'm concerned that the presence of the needle exchange program will make Springdale undesirable to many buyers. I feel sure of it. I'm happy to report that the residential real estate market in Springdale is improving. We sold 31 more homes this past 12 month period than we did the previous 12 month period. And our average sale price is up 12%. I'll take it. But if the desirability of our area is negatively affected, the sale prices are going to ultimately go down and every homeowner who wants to sell could suffer. That's a fact. What I'm asking is maybe just a little bit different than some of the other comments that have been made tonight and that is that the Council look at this through the eyes of an outsider, the eyes of a potential buyer, somebody who has limited knowledge about our community. They don't know it's a great place to live; they're just checking it out. All they know about our community is what they read on the internet because that's the way people get their information today. I think if you could step back and look at it from that point of view, you would see that this needle exchange program is not attractive. It is not going to attract buyers to our area. It's just not a good selling point. I believe that there will be people who will not buy homes here because of the needle exchange program. In fact, I'm sure of it because people are very prejudiced about those kinds of things. They really don't even care about the facts and information; they just don't want to live in an area where there's a perceived drug problem. So I'd like for you to please, if you could, step back from some of the emotion and just look at it from a total outsider, as if you've never been here before; you don't know it's a great place to live; would you really consider buying a home here, with this program in place? Not that there's anything wrong with the program itself; it's the perception of the program that is going to prevent people from buying homes in our area. Thank you.

Jackie Heim, 11775 Neuss Avenue: Mayor, Council, Citizens of Springdale. I'm Jackie Heim, at least a 26-, 27-year resident. I had something prepared. I would like to culminate what all has happened here. Flyer or no flyer, I can't imagine that we'd have a whole flock of people coming out to say I love the needle exchange program; let's keep that van right where it's at. I think that education is very, very important. I'd like to support what Mr. Shroyer said in his letter to Council - let's focus on the location. We've already stepped out; you voted it in. It's already here; we're in the forefront. So let's make good of it. We are helping people. I can imagine that each and every one of us in this room has drug addiction in our families; it's directly affected my loved ones. It's in everybody's family. Let's address the issues now that it's here and stick to, if it's the location that's the problem, let's stick to the location. But let's find a way to make it work, because it's already here. I think we're kind of trailblazers and the program is functioning and working in 189 cities as Dr. Feinberg said. Let's just find a way to make it work. It's already here. Put everything else aside and let's help the people that need help. It's your brothers, your sisters, your husbands, wives, moms, dads, aunts, uncles. It's everywhere. That's all I have.

Dan Tudor, 519 Lafayette: I'm dead against the needle exchange. If it's such a great program as they say, then why isn't it in their community; why is it in ours? Take it in their community if it's so great. That's all I got to say.

Goldie Berssenbruegge, 521 Lafayette: I am educated in drug use - I have it in my family; I lost my sister to drug use. Everything that I learned in all of my education and how to help my family was to not condone it and to do everything that I could to prevent them from using and try to encourage them to get help. By exchanging needles, that is enabling them to continue what they choose to do because we were taught that they have a choice. They have a choice and they have made that choice and you can not make them unchoose that; that has to be their decision. But we're showing children and young teenagers it's okay if you choose to use heroin and continue to use it because you can go to this little truck and you can get new needles and that's not going to keep Hepatitis or HIV from being spread because they're going to continue to do it; they're going to lie to get it. I've seen my family members lie to get it and do whatever they have to do, include

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destroy their family, to get it. It doesn't matter whether they're going to get their needles somewhere anyway. This needs to get moved out of Springdale.

Doug Stahlgren, 704 Park Avenue: Good evening Board. I've lived in Springdale since I was 5 years old. I think it's clear that the needs of the addicts, and I'll call them injecting drug users, can not be neglected but the needs of the community, and I will say the state of Ohio, also need to be balanced. We've had a lot of conversation this evening about the efficacies of this program. I think, and what I've read, that the studies indicate that there is insufficient evidence that these programs prevent the transmission of Hepatitis C and HIV/AIDs, or even reduce the incidence of that. Again, based on the information that I have researched, there are 221 programs in the United States, three in Ohio. That means that Ohio doesn't want this. We don't want it in any of our communities, let alone in a conservative state like Ohio. I agree with, let's put it at a hospital. There are a lot of different avenues and places where this can occur. I think it's very clear and I think you have no choice, based on the messages that you've received, based on the people that have spoken tonight, that this has to be rejected; it can't continue. Thank you.

Dan Jacobs, 509 West Kemper: Good evening. I just wanted to make a couple of quick comments. Mr. Mayor, I don't think you have anything to apologize for. I think you're responding to your community and that's what you are supposed to do. I think you took a chance on a program and you gave it a shot. As was stated at the last meeting, representatives are supposed to speak for the people in the community and the overwhelming message is pretty clear. I visited the van; I spoke to the people there. I question why the supporters would want it in a community where there is no support for it. This support has come from outside the community and I'm still bewildered that they haven't wanted to leave the community because the support just isn't here. At the last meeting, I think you showed leadership. You had talked about how you had found possible alternate locations. What happened with that? That seems like a proper approach. So again, I don't think you have anything to apologize for; I think you've done a good job on this issue. Thank you very much.

Betty McVey, 11502 Rose Lane: My name is Betty McVey and I am a resident of Springdale. I have a granddaughter that's on heroin but I'm telling you we're not going the right way with these people. We have to help them, not enable them, and exchanging needles, that's all we're doing. We're not trying to pick them up; we're keeping them down. Can't anybody help us get these people up and not just exchange needles to keep them down? They're not going anywhere; they never will. My granddaughter is going to die. She needs help but she's not getting it. Where are our health people at? Please somebody, don't just exchange needles for them; help them! Help them; please help them, because they're not being helped that way. It doesn't matter if they exchange a needle. There could be three or four using the same needle; once they got the drug they could care less. Here, you can have mine. Exchanging the needles is nothing. I want to see somebody pick them up and help them, not enabling them and that's all we're doing, we're keeping them down. And that's all I got to say.

Linda King-Edrington, 639 Cloverdale: I came in late, I apologize. My name is Linda King-Edrington and I want to speak on behalf of folks who are so focused on needle exchange and forget that that van has avenues to therapy, to Naloxone, to save people's lives. It's not just about a needle exchange; that's a very small component of the whole program. My husband was a firefighter; my son was a firefighter here in Springdale. I worked at Mercy Hospital; saw many drug cases dropped off at the ER doors. I have experience; my children have experience. To this day, they still have experience. We have four sons in the fire service and we have four nurses. It's a suburb issue. I just think it's important for us to hear not just hear about the needle exchange, but really hear the fact that they're making referrals to get people into rehab and that not only are they testing them, but they're educating them on what to do to survive. There's so many parents and husbands and wives that show up with broken hearts and helplessness, like I heard hear tonight, that receive the Naloxone, so if their loved one did overdose, they have a chance of life, a chance of getting help again. I hear so much on needle exchange but that is such a small component of this program. I would not be for it if I thought it was a proponent. I have dear friends who have lost loved ones, found in the middle of the field, of being overdosed and starved and dead and having not only AIDs but HIV and Hepatitis C. You know the whole problem is that the problem is pervasive. It's pervasive and I really hope

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that we become more caring and can reach out to folks who are in a desperate situation. This is a white collar crime; this is not just your children. Just think of the CEO that was just arrested for having a habit of over \$500 a day and was embezzling; it's not what we think about criminals. It is a white collar crime. Unfortunately, it's easy to get into. There are ways to reach out. People drive 100 miles just to get here. You can say this is a conservative state but the drugs are still here. The usage of the drugs is still here. So we can put our blinders on or we can reach out to those folks who need help. Thank you.

Jim Edrington, 639 Cloverdale: Good evening. We've heard a lot of arguments tonight, about the pros and cons of this but not once have we addressed the issue of educating the people of Springdale. We tried to get set up to educate some classes at the Community Center. We were denied space when they had space. The only thing I got to say is people out there wanting to know about it - your PTA, your Girl Scout leaders, so let's do something and educate everybody on this problem and quit being so negative about where the van's at but educate the citizens and try to stop this epidemic. Thank you.

Louise Bower, 466 Grandin Avenue: I've lived in Springdale now for only about 15 years, so I can't say I grew up here; I can't say I have lived here all my life. My children all graduated from Princeton High School, so I've certainly lived in this area. I have a couple of reactions. As someone else said, this program is here. It was originally voted in because we believed, and the Council believed, that it was the right thing to do. If we think we're in the wrong location, then let's work together to find a location that will be satisfactory, that won't fight you people away. We do need to be educated about this. Mr. Mayor, I was at the Health Department meeting and I don't think that anybody, when they talked about education and people not having the facts, was being as insulting as you are implying. We simply understand that a lot of people simply don't know all of the facts. We're operating on a lot of emotion and not factual information. I was really proud to think that I lived in a community where we were willing to do something like this for the area. Why is it never the right thing to do the right thing, just because it's the right thing to do?

Mr. Vanover closes the public discussion.

Mrs. Emerson: Good evening. First of all, Mr. Webster, I'm questioning whether you were at the same Board meeting I was at.

Mayor Webster: I was.

Mrs. Emerson: Okay, because I think that the understanding of how that meeting actually went; I don't think you got it.

Mayor Webster: You don't think I got it?

Mrs. Emerson: No because the only one acting nasty was you. I first want to say that I stand behind my convictions and my vote. I placed my vote in June 2013 and again on March 5th. I believe in the needle exchange program and that helps people. These are people just like you and I who have children, jobs, and needs. We can again tonight, vote again, for the third time; third time's a charm, I'm thinking; on this program tonight but I think everybody up here and Administration or whoever has misled everybody. The truth behind it all is it's not up to City Council. It's not up to the Fire Department; it's not up to the Police Department. The Ohio State Law states the Board of Health and Health Commissioners control the outcome of this program. The City Council was brought on board because Dr. Feinberg and her coworkers brought the program to the Board of Health and asked their opinion of placing the program in our community, Springdale. The Board of Health and the Mayor supported the program and out of courtesy, thank you, and them knowing what a feat they had ahead of them if they brought it into the community, because of the stigma it carries and the need to educate the public; they felt it important for the City Council to also support it. With this said, I'm not sure as to why we are voting on it again because we, the City Council, have no control over this program, never did.

In our June meeting last year, the Mayor states, and I quote, "The State Law allows the Board of Health and the Health Commissioner to institute this program without City Council's approval". I thank the Board of Health and Health Commissioner on including the Council and asking for input, which we have given twice now. I attended the

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Board of Health meeting on Thursday and even some of the board members were boggled by the complete change of opinion about the program and why people were against it now, especially since the program actually only was in our community for five days as of that date, to operate, and no negative events had occurred from it. Tonight's discussion and vote doesn't come down to me winning, you winning, the Mayor winning; it comes down to the individuals who need our help. This may be your family member, it may be your neighbor, it may be a stranger; it's their loss. I will continue to support this program here or in another community because I believe in it. The drug problem is here; it's not going away and eventually, we will not be able to, as a community or an individual, to ignore it because it continues to grow and become a bigger issue throughout all of our communities.

Mr. Hawkins: Mrs. Emerson addressed part of the issue that I wanted to make sure was clear. There's been some miscommunication and the perception is not quite accurate in terms of what some of the folks have indicated in this meeting. Some of the folks indicated the last meeting in talking about City Council, vote this out of your city. As Mrs. Emerson said, the City Council doesn't control that. When this program came in, the discussion was, and rightfully so, the Board of Health, the Health Commissioner, and Administration wanted to have City Council's input and support with regard to the program; makes sense. It's important that the public understands whatever City Council votes tonight, that is not indicative of necessarily what happens. It doesn't work like we vote tonight, whether you vote for or against the program; that is not the end of the process or procedure with regard to the future of this Cincinnati Needle Exchange Program. Ultimately, that recommendation goes to the Administration and the Board of Health, and they'll have to make that decision; they'll have to vote on that. Same way to bring it in, same way if they decide to take it out; that's the process. So obviously, as city officials, elected officials, we're going to get the input of the residents of the city, constituents and that's appropriate but it's important to understand process-wise, what happens with the vote tonight and that is not inherently determined what happens with the program. With that, in going back to the Board of Health meeting, Mr. Squires, Mr. Mayor, or the Administration, Mrs. Emerson, whoever was at the Board of Health meeting, what I want to know is, with the discussions that took place, what was the position of the Board of Health at that time? I understand that position may change based on input that comes from Council, but I think that's a very relevant thing, based on the fact that, how the program is allowed to exist comes from the Board of Health.

Mr. Squires: The Board of Health, in a word, is disappointed that it isn't working out. But they asked, as a body, the Mayor to negotiate with Dr. Feinberg a release date.

Mayor Webster: An exit date.

Mr. Squires: In light of that, Mr. Hawkins, the Board has expressed their opinion on this. They're deeply disappointed that it didn't work out but they recognize the problems that are coming up with it, and they are on board with an exit strategy for it. Does that answer your question?

Mr. Hawkins: Yes, thank you.

Mr. Knox: I was originally a member of the majority of the 5-2 vote. That was based on a representation that we would have the needle exchange in a parking lot of one of our large churches. I envisioned it being away from children, away from businesses, and away from residents. That didn't turn out to be. The second time, on the 3-3 vote, I voted no because I asked the gentleman from the exchange program how many days did he need and he said 30 days, so I wanted to give them 30 days. What the Mayor has just presented here, saying 31 March gives them almost exactly 30 days. So I will be making motion, if I can, about this in a little bit.

Mrs. Harlow: I'm probably one of the people up here on this dais that has been most impacted by drugs. I lost my middle child on January 3, 2011 because he was addicted to opiates and he chose not to live his life that way anymore and he took his life. So I wanted this program to come in and I wanted it to be a resource for people who were addicted to drugs, who had an opportunity that they might get resources. I don't have a problem with the program. I have a problem with the location and if we can find a different location, which I think that they've all been scouted out and talked about and we

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don't seem to have one. Perhaps it could be in Springdale but it would have to be away from the schools, the children, and the residents and because we're so densely populated, I think six square miles, something like that, we just don't have a place that would work. I originally supported it because I hoped that it would help at least one person be able to turn their life around, but I have been called by many residents, by businesses, and again, same as the sidewalks, I have to listen to what the people in our community say and they don't want it at that location; they don't want it in Springdale. Thank you.

Mr. Diehl: Mr. Forbes, would you kindly chime in on what the legal status is on the Health Board?

Mr. Forbes: I think what Mr. Hawkins said is correct and that's been consistent with what's been said all along; that this is really a Board of Health issue. As I understand it, when it was first presented to the Board of Health, the support that they gave to the program was contingent on City Council's consent, I would call it, or at least approval by City Council. But at the end of the day, it is a Board of Health final decision.

Mayor Webster: When this proposal was first presented to the Board of Health, the Board of Health was in favor of it but only if it was presented to the City Council. The City Council supported it and thought we should proceed with it. If City Council did not support it, they thought we should not go forward with it. I think the Board respects the wishes; you people are elected by the citizens of this community. The Board of Health is appointed by the Mayor, so it's not like they're an independent board out there that's just going to willy nilly do what they please. They wanted to make sure that Council was on board with this program before we proceeded with it. So I brought it to Council. We heard Dr. Feinberg; we've heard her a couple times I believe, so you guys have been a partner in this since Day 1. We've not moved forward with this without your concurrence out of respect to this body. If we went into this as a partnership with you guys, I think we need to unwind it the same way and this is where we are; we're ready to unwind this thing and cease operations and we'd like to do it as of March 31st, but we would like the concurrence of this Council since we sought your concurrence going in, we'd like the same thing going out. We could have not even come here to end it; we could have done that going in. We could have just put this program in place without consulting the City Council, the people's elected representatives, I think needed to be heard and needed to be a part of this decision and you guys were a part of it. You're a part of it now. So I urge you to be a part of that process and let's go back the same way we came in, together.

Mr. Knox made a motion that the Cincinnati Exchange Program find a location suitable to the Health Department and to the City Council by 31 March, 2014. Failing that, the Cincinnati Needle Exchange shall cease operation in the City of Springdale as of 31 March 2014. Mr. Squires seconded.

Mr. Hawkins: Can you repeat that for me please? I just want to be clear on the motion in terms of who would have to grant approval for the location; you said Board of Health?

Mr. Knox: I started with the Board of Health and then the City Council, since we have been brought into this, rightfully so, by the way.

Mr. Squires: Mr. Knox, to my way of thinking, the Board of Health made their feelings known as of Thursday last, when they asked the Mayor to get with Dr. Feinberg for an exit date.

Mr. Knox: I prefer not to change my motion because they asked for 30 days; we'll give them 30 days and then, one way or another, we'll be done with this.

Mayor Webster: I would like to take this back the same way we came in. If Council passes Mr. Knox's motion, we will have a special session of the Board of Health next Thursday to consider the same motion to curtail the program as of March 31, this will give them 30 days notice from the time we first brought the subject up. I would urge Council to support Mr. Knox's motion.

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Mrs. McNear: Just a point of clarification on your motion, you mentioned that you wanted the organization to find another location by 3/31; do you mean outside of the City of Springdale or inside the City of Springdale? That was not clear to me in your motion.

Mr. Knox: We have no control over outside the City of Springdale; that would be within the City of Springdale.

Mrs. McNear: My point is, if they say Tri-County Mall has reconsidered and they want to have this at their location.

Mr. Knox: That would be inside the City of Springdale, yes.

Mayor Webster: I'm sorry, Mr. Knox, I don't understand your motion – is it outside the city?

Mr. Knox: What we do here in this Council can only have weight in the City of Springdale. If they want to locate in another city, we have nothing to say about it.

Mayor Webster: That's right. So I'm just trying to get a clarification - are you saying you want them to cease operations within the city limits as of March 31st; is that correct? Am I clear on that?

Mr. Knox: Yes, you are.

Mrs. McNear: I'm still confused by that. It sounds like you just said something completely different to the Mayor than what you responded to me. Is this intended to be, you're requesting that they cease operations in Springdale 3/31? Because the way it says "directed to find another location by 3/31".

Mr. Knox: If they can not find a suitable location in the City of Springdale by 3/31, then they should cease.

Mayor Webster: Mr. Knox, that's why I wanted a clarification on the thing. I think we're saying the same thing here but I think we're saying we would like the needle exchange program here to cease operation in the City of Springdale as of March 31st, 2014. Is that what you're saying?

Mr. Knox: It's not what I'm saying. If they can find a suitable location by the 31st of this month.

Mayor Webster: That they could stay in the City of Springdale?

Mr. Knox: If the Board of Health agrees to the location and the Council agrees to the location.

Mayor Webster: Then we're right back on the same treadmill. I respectfully request that this Council make a motion for this operation to cease in the city as of March 31st, 2014.

Mr. Squires: We need to clarify this to make sure everybody's on the same board. Your motion might be to exit the City of Springdale by the 31st of March.

Mayor Webster: That's it, period.

Mr. Squires: Okay, that's the way it should be. Are you happy with that motion, Mr. Knox?

Mr. Knox: I withdraw my motion.

Mr. Squires: Then I will make said motion, that the needle exchange program exit the City of Springdale by 31 March.

Mr. Vanover: Wait a minute. Just a point of parliamentary procedure – He withdrew his motion; I need a second to withdraw the motion.

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Mr. Squires: I'll second that withdrawal.

Mr. Vanover: Then we have to take a vote on the withdrawal. Is there any discussion further?

Mrs. McNear: I don't believe we have to vote on that withdrawal. People withdrew their motion and we just start fresh. Mr. Forbes, if you will.

Mr. Forbes: If the person who made the motion and the person who seconded the motion; the movement has withdrawn the motion, the second withdrew the second. You are at a clean slate right now and you are available for any other motion that may be on the floor.

Mr. Squires: What's on the table is the Mayor's plan.

Mr. Forbes: Well someone needs to make a motion.

Mr. Vanover: Mr. Squires made a motion, I need a second.

Mr. Diehl seconded Mr. Squire's motion.

Mr. Vanover: I will take my shot. I was originally in favor, much like most here; I still think it's a noble program although there was an article a couple weeks ago in the paper that brought up some questions and I agree that the way it's being handled now is not working. I've stated before, we've spent many decades and I'm told millions of dollars chasing programs that aren't working. With that being said, the Mayor admitted he was wrong, I admit that, in good faith, I made that decision but that's not without precedent because back on July 2, 1909, Congress passed and on February 3, 1913, the 18th Amendment was Prohibition and to this day, the 18th amendment is still in the Constitution but in 1933 ratified on December 5th, the 21st amendment was brought in and it overrode the 18th; it repealed the Act. They realized they were wrong. It was a noble idea; it didn't work. I think that's where we are here. I won't kid anybody, it is an emotional topic. We all know people that either have been directly touched or around people that have been touched by it and it will continue. It is not just a Springdale problem. It was talked about that most of the people coming in were from outside the city. Well then that's really not helping our citizens. It's not reducing potential hazards for our first responders, because if they're leaving the city; granted, some of them may come back, but I still think there is merit in the program but I think that there are many avenues that need to be tied together. That was one of the points of the article a couple of weeks ago from a doctor over in northern Kentucky. He said we have the programs in place right now; what we need is all the parties to work together. They just opened up a clinic over at St. E over in northern Kentucky. I strongly feel that that's the best venue of where it will be. So with that, I've said my piece and will ask Mrs. McNear to poll Council.

Motion is adopted with five affirmative votes (Mr. Diehl, Mrs. Harlow, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Squires, Mr. Vanover). There was one negative vote, Mrs. Emerson, and one abstention, Mr. Knox.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 9-2014

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK OF COUNCIL/FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CLARKE FIRE PROTECTION PRODUCTS, INC., RELATED TO JOB RETENTION AND CREATION INCENTIVE AGREEMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Squires made a motion to adopt and Mrs. Harlow seconded.

Mr. Vanover: Any discussion?

Mr. Parham: Council, I would just like to ask Mr. Jeff Tulloch, our Economic Development Director to come forward. We also have a representative with Clarke here this evening; I just wanted to see if he wanted to say a few words.

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Mr. Tulloch: Mr. President, Members of Council, we appreciate the Council's consideration of this Ordinance this evening. As Derrick mentioned I have Mr. Paul Loebig, CFO of Clarke Fire Protection Products and other subsidiaries. Basically, this incentive will induce Clarke to occupy the facility at 100 Progress Place which we all know commonly as the ex-IP (International Paper) building which has either been vacant or under-utilized for over a decade. It will produce 100 to 130 jobs starting at 100 growing to 130 with annual payrolls growing from 5.7 million dollars to 8.3 million. At this point, I am going to turn it over to Paul to give basic comments regarding Clarke, who they are and to answer any questions that you may have.

Mr. Loebig: I appreciate the chance to be here on behalf of over 100 hard working men and women that work for Clarke Fire Protection Products. We share space at this point in a facility two miles east of here at 3133 East Kemper Road in Sharonville with our parent company. That happens to also be our parent company's corporate headquarters and frankly we are out of space. Our business continues to grow, our parent company's business grows and we have located a facility within the City of Springdale that, we believe, can be a long term home for us and provide for continued expansion of our business. We are excited about the opportunity and we hope to be a good corporate citizen in your City for many years to come. We appreciate your consideration. Our timing in terms of our hope for transition plan into the facility is that we would very much like to move toward a two phase transition into the facility where our office folks, engineering CAD drawers, administration folks of that type would move into the facility approximately mid-year and then by the end of the year our production operation would actually move into the facility, as well and we would be full-board and ready to go as of the beginning of next year.

Mayor Webster: I just have a couple of questions: You are looking at 100 jobs to start with, approximately?

Mr. Loebig: That is correct. We are just over 100 at this point and we anticipate future growth as well.

Mayor Webster: How much of the capacity is used up with the first implemented jobs; 100, is that 50% of the capacity there?

Mr. Loebig: That building is quite a facility; it is over 200,000 square feet. We believe moving our current operation into that facility will provide us plenty of room for future growth, so we anticipate that we can grow well beyond 100 jobs before we can ever fill up that facility.

Mr. Hawkins: I just want to say welcome and glad you are coming to the City of Springdale.

Mr. Loebig: Thank you very much; we are pleased to be here.

Mayor Webster: I keep the scissors ready for ribbons.

Mr. Loebig: Thank you very much. I should have mentioned that our parent company Clarke Power Services also happens to be celebrating our 50th anniversary this year, so we are very proud of that.

Mr. Vanover: If there is no further discussion, I have a motion and a second. Mrs. McNear will you poll the Council?

Motion is adopted with seven affirmative votes.

Mr. Vanover: Ordinance 9-2014 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Mr. Loebig: Thank you very much.

Mr. Vanover: Alright Council, before us we have item 11, Old Business.

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OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Hawkins: We have been charged with coming up with individuals to be on the review committee and I just want to indicate that I didn't mention this in our Board of Zoning Appeals report; Mr. David Nienaber was selected by the Board of Zoning Appeals to do that. It is my understanding that we still need two Members from Council to do that, as well.

Mr. Parham: It was suggested and recommended that two Members from City Council serve as representatives on the technical review committee, one being from the Planning Commission and one being from the Board of Zoning Appeals. As Mr. Hawkins indicated the Board of Zoning Appeals has appointed Mr. David Nienaber to serve as the non-Council BZA representative. I think Mrs. Ghantous was appointed from Planning Commission as the non-Council representative. So, at this point, if Council could make the appointment, that would complete the committee.

Mr. Vanover: So, I guess then we have two members of Council on Planning, Mrs. Harlow and Mr. Diehl, so we will let you two duke it out.

Mrs. Harlow: Being new to Planning, I would welcome the opportunity to serve on that Board so that I could learn more about it.

Mr. Vanover: The Council Member then from Planning will be Mrs. Harlow; BZA is Mr. Knox. Mr. Parham, does that give you a position to move forward?

Mr. Parham: Yes, it does. Thank you.

Mr. Vanover: Any other Old Business?

Mr. Diehl: I failed to mention in my report of the Planning Commission that we had guests from the graduate program from the University of Cincinnati Planning Organization. They got to ask a lot of questions and there was a lot of give and take; it was a lot of fun.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Diehl: I think we need to have a resolution congratulating the Lady Vikings.

Mr. Vanover: Is all of Council in concurrence on that issue?

Mr. Hawkins: Mr. Diehl was reading my mind; he was just faster to the button than I was.

Mr. Vanover: Any more new business?

Mr. Parham: Council, you should have received correspondence from the Secretary of the Planning Commission for the annual, if you will, special event signs. The earliest that we can have a public hearing is the meeting of the 16th of April. If Council would address this issue on the 16th, we would have the second reading and the public hearing that evening. We would have the first reading at the April 2nd meeting. The issue would then go into effect on May 20th.

Mr. Vanover: Any objections Council?

(No objections from the Council Members.)

MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Webster: I would like to announce that there is a RCP (Regional Commerce Partnership) luncheon down at the Community Center on Wednesday the 16th. This is the luncheon put on by the Springdale Chamber of Commerce. I believe the City foots the bill for this. It is an event that has grown by leaps and bounds; I think last year we had somewhere between 95 to 100 people, mostly business people and some business prospects. I know Mr. Tulloch manages to get lots of folks out there and I would

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like to extend an invitation to all of the City Council, if any of you would like to come. It is on Wednesday, April 16 at 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It is down at the Community Center and so if you want to RSVP you can do so by contacting the Chamber of Commerce, julie@springdalechamber.org and just let her know you want to attend and get your reservation in there. It is a very well attended event. It started off very slow but last year we had between 95 and 100, something like that. We are looking forward to another good event this year.

Mr. Hawkins: The Board of Zoning Appeals is going to meet on April 15th at 7:00 p.m. in these chambers.

Mr. Squires: Mayor, have you picked a date for the special Board of Health meeting?

Mayor Webster: Yes, that will be next Thursday, the 27th of March.

Mrs. McNear: I believe a Finance Committee meeting is coming up, Mr. Diehl?

Mr. Diehl: Tentatively we are going to have a Finance Committee meeting on the 16th of April; that is subject to change if we can't get everybody in attendance.

Mr. Vanover: Are there any other meetings or announcements?

(No further discussion presented.)

Mr. Vanover: We will open the floor to communications from the audience. Is there anybody in the audience that would like to address Council?

(No one came forward and this portion of the meeting was closed.)

Mrs. Emerson made a motion that the Council go into Executive Session to discuss economic development. Mrs. Harlow seconded the motion.

Mr. Vanover: Mrs. McNear will you poll the Council.

(Council voted unanimously to go into Executive Session.)

Mr. Vanover: Did the Administration anticipate any legislative action? (Administration indicated no legislative action anticipated.)

Mr. Vanover: Okay, Council is reconvening from Executive Session. Please note that we are one shy; Mrs. Emerson has left so we will open back up. Council before us we have Item 16 in front of us.

Mr. Hawkins: With regard to update on legislation still in development, Item I in your packets was Ordinance No. 9-2014, which passed with a 7-0 vote. Items II, III, IV, and V are forthcoming. Item VI we dealt with the regard to the sidewalk, which was West Kemper Road, which was denied with a 0-7 vote. We also had a vote with regard to terminating the needle exchange program, effective March 31st of this year, which passed with five votes for, one vote against and one abstention.

Mr. Vanover: Next item, a recap of legislative items requested for next meeting.

Mr. Hawkins: With regard to upcoming legislation for April 2, we have Item II, an Ordinance Accepting the Best Bid for the Purchase of Two 2015 37,000 GVW Single Axle Truck Cab and Chassis, Declaring an Emergency. We also have Item III forthcoming for April 2, an Ordinance Accepting the Best Bid for the Furnishing, Fabrication, Installation, and Delivery of Two Complete Truck Body Equipment and Accessory Packages (Dump Body, Snow Plow, Spreader System, etc.), Declaring that an Emergency. Item IV, a Resolution Declaring the Necessity to Improve Driveway Aprons in the Public Right-of-Way as Part of the Ashmore Court and Woodvale Court Improvement Program for April 2, Declaring that with an Emergency Clause. Also for first reading for April 2, Item V, an Ordinance Amending Section 153.533 of the City's Zoning Code to Permit Temporary Special Event Banners is needed and also an Ordinance to Vacate the Oak Alley with an

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Emergency Clause and I believe, lastly, a Resolution congratulating the Lady Vikings basketball State Championship team as well. Is there anything else?

Mrs. Harlow made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Vanover adjourned the Council meeting at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:

Tom Vanover, President of Council

_____, 2014