

**February 7, 2022**  
**Springfield, Missouri**

The City Council met in regular session February 7, 2022 in the Council Chambers at Historic City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken McClure. A moment of silence was observed.

**Roll Call**

Present: Mike Schilling, Matthew Simpson, Craig Hosmer, Richard Ollis\*, Andrew Lear, Heather Hardinger\*, Angela Romine\*, and Ken McClure. Absent: Abe McGull

Note: Angela Romine joined at approximately 6:40 p.m.

\*attended via videoconferencing.

**Minutes**

The minutes of January 24, 2022 City Council Meeting were approved as presented.

**Consent Agenda**

**CONSENT AGENDA.**

**CEREMONIAL MATTERS.**

**City Manager Report**

Jason Gage, City Manager noted Public Works provided statistics for the most recent winter weather event as 9.5 inches of snow, the most the City had in over a decade in such a short timeframe. He added there were approximately 5,600 miles of streets plowed with 24-27 drivers working per shift and over 1 million pounds of salt was used. He also noted Environmental Services provided additional drivers for the event.

Mr. Gage acknowledged Environmental Services, noting the Wastewater Treatment plant staff and Solid Waste staff worked long hours to continue vital operations during the winter weather event. He added staff are often asked to stay overnight at the plants to guaranteed 24-hour operations. He added his appreciation for the landfill staff who worked to clear snow and ice to ensure a safe drive uphill for waste haulers.

Mr. Gage expressed congratulations to David Pennington, Fire Chief, on being selected as Chair of the Region-D Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee (RHSOC) and elected as a board member for Missouri Public Employer Labor Relations Association (MOPELRA), representing local government.

Mr. Gage provided an update for the Parks Department and the Public Information Office. In recognition of Black History Month, the Springfield-Greene County Park Board launched the new Freedom Classroom 101 series February 4 at Timmons Hall in historic Silver Springs Park. Registration was full for keynote speaker Akbar Cook's presentation. Mr. Cook is the principal of Newark, New Jersey's West End High School and is known for creating the Light's On program which provides students with a safe place to spend Friday nights. The workshop series continues throughout the month and aims to equip teachers to research, rethink and reimagine how they teach African American studies. The recorded video livestream of Cook's speech may be viewed on the City's website.

Mr. Gage provided a Community Partnership of the Ozarks (CPO) Crisis Cold Weather Shelter update, noting two additional crisis cold weather shelter sites opened last week, one at the Eden Village Community Room and the second at Sacred Heart Church. He further noted the community now has 205 cold weather beds available and 50 trailers at Revive 66 campground. He added CPO is contacting shelters daily to ensure coordination and City Utilities and CPO are providing transportation to all sites in the morning and evening.

Mayor McClure noted based on the weather potholes are beginning to develop. He added the Public Works Department has been timely in addressing these issues in the past.

## **Police Chief Report**

Paul Williams, Chief of Police, noted the Police Academy class currently has 26 participants. The Police Department has 41 vacancies. He noted testing is underway for a class to begin in August with 19 participants already signed up. Chief Williams added there are 15 vacancies in the non-sworn Records Division, and he is working with Human Resources to develop a recruitment plan for that division.

Chief Williams provided an update on the Body-Worn Camera program. He noted the program has been successful from an evidentiary standpoint by providing over 75,000 pieces of data and assisting with the resolution of over 21 citizen complaints. He expressed his belief the cameras facilitate better behavior by both citizens and officers.

Chief Williams noted the Policing Plan's focus for this quarter is auto theft. He provided City Council with a copy of the educational flyer placed on unattended running cars to notify the citizen this is illegal. Chief Williams also provided a copy of the window cling used as a reminder for citizens to not leave keys in their car, noting over 1,000 cars are stolen in Springfield every year. He further noted the window clings will be provided to local businesses. Chief Williams added the Police Department is working with the Public Information Office to film public service announcements focusing on a different topic each quarter.

Chief Williams provided an overview of crime statistics. He noted a National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) coordinator was hired last month. He reported there were approximately 1,500 fewer reported crimes for January to November of 2021. He added assaults, vandalism, and motor vehicle thefts increased, while rape, burglaries, robberies, shoplifting, and thefts from a motor vehicle decreased.

Chief Williams noted the new jail is expected to open May 1, 2022. He noted the average number of municipal prisoners in Greene County Jail was 13 per day.

Mayor McClure asked Chief Williams to address the arrests made for catalytic converter theft. Chief Williams noted a two year investigation resulted in seven indictments at the federal level for a multi-million dollar operation housed in the Springfield area and impacting multiple states. He added there have been over 30 state level charges filed. Chief Williams expressed his thanks to citizens impacted and to the community for their patience. He also thanked all federal partners and the Missouri Highway Patrol for their work.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked if software and digital options or changes to the records procedure have been considered given the difficulty in recruiting non-sworn staff for the records department. Chief Williams noted some automated processes have been implemented, but hands on staff are still needed for many tasks and to ensure the coding is correct.

Mr. Simpson asked for clarification regarding evaluation of the “Stand your Ground” proposed legislation given the increase in assaults and gun violence. Chief Williams noted he and Greene County Sherriff Arnott added their support and signature to a letter written by the Greene County Prosecuting Attorney against the proposed legislation

Councilman Ollis congratulated Chief Williams on the current and upcoming academies. He expressed his appreciation for the Body-Worn Cameras report, the catalytic converter indictments, and the 50 municipal arrests. Mr. Ollis thanked Chief Williams and the Police Department for all the work they do.

**The following bills appeared on the agenda under Second Reading Bills.**

**Memorandum of Understanding: Support of Firefighter Apprenticeship Program**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2022-034

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development, Office of Workforce Development, for the support of the Firefighter Apprenticeship Program.

Council Bill 2022-034. Special Ordinance 27650 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: McGull. Abstain: None.

**Additional Grant funds: Springfield-Greene County Health Department**

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2022-035

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into an agreement to accept additional grant funds from the Greene County Senior Citizens’ Services Fund Board in the amount of \$97,930 for use by the Springfield-Greene County Health Department; and amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget in the amount of \$97,930 for the purpose of appropriating the additional grant funds.

Councilwoman Romine asked for confirmation the funds are for the shingles vaccination efforts only. Erica Little, Health Program Administrator, answered affirmatively.

Council Bill 2022-035. Special Ordinance 27651 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: McGull. Abstain: None.

**2022 Capital  
Improvements  
Program**

**The following item appeared on the agenda under Resolutions.**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2022-036

A resolution adopting the 2022 Capital Improvements Program for the purpose of providing a schedule of public improvements for 2022 through 2027. (Planning and Zoning Commission and Staff recommend approval.)

Randall Whitman, Principal City Planner, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Whitman noted the 2022 Capital Improvements Program contains a schedule and strategy for funding and planning the construction, maintenance, and replacement of the City's infrastructure and public facilities for the next six-years. He defined Capital Improvements as those with a cost of \$100,000 or more, a useful life of six-years or more, and located on City-owned property, right-of-way, or easements, independent projects, or comprehensive programs, and not including funding for equipment, services, supplies, personnel, or dangerous building demolition. A comprehensive report and a summary highlighting 60 higher profile projects were presented to City Council.

Mayor McClure thanked Mr. Whitman for the report and noted the planning documents presented are used as a guide for projects over the next several years.

Councilman Ollis asked if the document could be reviewed in more detail during a City Council luncheon. Jason Gage answered affirmatively.

Councilman Lear asked if project prices have been updated given the current cost and supply chain environment. Mr. Whitman noted projects are re-evaluated each year. Dan Smith, Director of Public Works, noted price evaluations are ongoing.

Councilwoman Romine asked the status of improvements to the animal control shelter. Collin Quigley, Deputy City Manager, noted the shelter is a project funded through a level property tax. Mr. Quigley added the property for the project has been secured, and he anticipates the project design process will begin in approximately one year.

Ms. Romine noted she has received complaints regarding stray animals and expressed her belief there is not enough staff to combat the issue. Mr. Quigley noted the shelter is short-staffed at present. He added they hope to fully staff the shelter which consists of approximately six full time staff members and one part time staff member.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. With no appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

Council Bill 2022-036. Resolution 10614 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: McGull. Abstain: None.

**EMERGENCY BILLS.**

**PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.**

**The following item appeared on the agenda under Grants.**

**National  
Endowment for  
the Arts Grant:  
Department of  
Workforce  
Development**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2022-037

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept \$10,000 in grant funds from the National Endowment for the Arts to be utilized to perform approved grant activities and to enter into necessary agreements to carry out the grant; amending the budget of the Department of Workforce Development for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$10,000 to appropriate the grant funds; and declaring this bill qualifies for approval in one reading.

Sally Payne, Director of Workforce Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Payne noted the grant will allow Workforce Development to partner with the Art Museum to work with 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at Bingham Elementary and facilitate career exploration. She added the program will utilize art projects to explore career ideas.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. With no appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

Council Bill 2022-037. Special Ordinance 27652 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: McGull. Abstain: None.

**AMENDED BILLS.**

**The following items appeared on the agenda under Public Hearing.**

**CUP 459:  
Automobile  
Washing Business**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2022-038

A special ordinance granting Conditional Use Permit No. 459 for the purpose of permitting an automobile washing business to operate as a conditional use within the GR, General Retail District, generally located at 1240 East Battlefield Road. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.) (By: National Retail Property LP; 1240 East Battlefield Road; Conditional Use Permit 459.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the property is currently an automobile washing business and the redevelopment requires a Conditional Use Permit. He added a traffic impact study is not required, and a fee in lieu of stormwater detention is not applicable.

A representative for the proposed was available for questions.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. With no appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

**CUP 460: 1423  
West Atlantic  
Street**

Sponsor: Romine. Council Bill 2022-039

A special ordinance granting Conditional Use Permit No. 460 for the purpose of authorizing an adaptive reuse of a nonresidential structure, generally located at 1423 West Atlantic Street and in the R-SF, Residential Single-Family District, for use as professional and business offices, limited retail establishments, and a school and studio for art, dancing, drama, music, photography, interior decorating, or similar courses of study. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.) (By: Springfield Public Schools; 1423 West Atlantic Street; Conditional Use Permit 460.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted a traffic impact study is not required, and on-site stormwater detention will be required only with site improvements. He further noted the adaptive use section of code allows for use of nonresidential structures built in residential districts and the Residential-Single Family (R-SF) Zoning District will not change. The allowed used for the property will be limited retail, school/studio for art or similar courses of study. He added the hours will be limited to 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

Councilwoman Romine expressed her excitement for the project's repurposing of an existing building that may have otherwise sat vacant.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Michael Stevens addressed City Council. He noted he is a representative for the project and available for questions. Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked if there will be space available for music performance. Mr. Stevens responded the initial focus will be on rentable studio art space.

With no further appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

**Amending  
Springfield Land  
Development  
Code: 1461 East  
Seminole**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2022-040

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 0.46 acres of property generally located at 1461 East Seminole Street from Planned Development No. 23 to Planned Development No. 23 Amended; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Planning and Zoning Commission and Staff recommend approval.) (By: CL Smith Properties, LLC; 1461 East Seminole Street; Planned Development 23 Amended.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the property is currently an adult daycare being rezoned to offer adult and child daycare. He added the changes will add a child day center with developmental skill services, limitations for noise and odor have been added, and a five-foot buffer-yard will be added to the existing six-foot fence.

Councilman Lear asked if there are licensing requirements for an adult/child daycare. Mr. Griesemer responded licensing is through the State.

Councilwoman Romine asked if the adults and children will be separated. Cedric Smith, the applicant for the proposed addressed City Council. Mr. Smith noted the adult and children's programs will not be combined.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. With no further appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

**Amending  
Springfield Land  
Development  
Code: 309 and 327  
West Lakewood  
Street**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2022-041

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 1.5 acres of property generally located at 309 and 327 West Lakewood Street from R-MD, Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District, with Conditional Overlay District No. 199, to R-MD, Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District, with Conditional Overlay District No. 204; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 204; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (By: Project Collective, LLC; 309 & 327 W. Lakewood Street; Z-20-2021 w/ Conditional Overlay District No. 204.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development provided a brief overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the property was rezoned for multi-family use, a fee in lieu of stormwater detention will not be allowed, and a Traffic Impact Study will not be required. He further noted the plan pushes the building back and moves the parking area. The applicant was granted a zoning variance for the parking.

Councilman Lear asked if a water detention area is included in the 2022 plan. Mr. Griesemer answered affirmatively.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Cameron Hole, a representative from Anderson Engineering was available for questions.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked where the stormwater detention is located. Mr. Hole noted it is under the parking lot.

Councilman Schilling asked if revisions to the plan were made to provide more off-street parking. Mr. Hole noted the change will allow stormwater detention to be placed under the parking lot and will add additional parking.

With no further appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

**The following items appeared on the agenda under First Reading Bills.**

**Springfield  
Finance and  
Development  
Corporation: loan  
packaging,  
processing, and  
servicing**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2022-042

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a contract with the Springfield Finance and Development Corporation to provide loan packaging, processing, and servicing.

Sarah Kerner, Director of Economic Development provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Kerner noted the Springfield Finance and Development Corporation (SFDC) operates to assist the continued revitalization of Springfield's Center city by providing creative financing to stimulate small business growth in a targeted area. She further noted the City currently provides loan services to SFDC at an hourly rate of \$20.00. She added the proposed is a two-year contract and increases the rate per hour for loan services to \$36.03 for the first year and \$52.06 for the second year.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. With no appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

**Southwest  
Missouri Council  
of Governments:  
loan packaging  
and processing**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2022-043

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a contract with the Southwest Missouri Council of Governments to provide loan packaging and processing.

Sarah Kerner, Director of Economic Development provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Kerner noted the Southwest Missouri Council of Governments (SMCOG) received a Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) award to administer and capitalize a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) to lend to new, expanding, and existing businesses within fourteen counties. Ms. Kerner further noted SMCOG desires to enter into an agreement with the City for loan processing services for their RLF program for a contract term of one year. She added Springfield businesses would be eligible for this loan and the agreement would be for loan services provided by the City at an hourly rate of \$52.06 per hour

Councilman Lear asked if the City has available staffing to provide services. Ms. Kerner noted the yearly number of hours provided for services ranges from approximately 14-80 hours.

Councilman Lear asked if SMCOG are responsible for their own marketing and the initial review for eligibility. Ms. Kerner answered affirmatively.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. With no appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

**Community  
Foundation of the  
Ozarks Grant:  
Department of  
Workforce  
Development**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2022-044

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept \$30,000 in grant funds from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks to be utilized to perform approved grant activities and to enter into necessary agreements to carry out the grant; and amending the budget of the Department of Workforce Development for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$30,000 to appropriate the grant funds.

Sally Payne, Director of Workforce Development, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Payne noted the Community Foundation of the Ozarks grant for \$30,000 from the “Let’s Get to Work Fund” will allow Workforce Development to expand supportive services covering transportation related expenses.

Councilman Homer asked if City Utilities has provided bus passes to Workforce Development. Ms. Payne responded Workforce Development has purchased bus passes. Ms. Payne added the issue of accessible transportation has been discussed by several agencies. She further noted the number of transfers needed to reach a location and the timing of bus routes are a barrier to employment. Ms. Payne expressed her belief it will take a community effort to resolve the issue.

Councilman Hosmer expressed his belief the bus system could be changed to make it more efficient for citizens of low or moderate means. Jason Gage, City Manager, noted City Utilities will review the issue this year and he will forward Council’s interest in the matter to them.

Mayor McClure noted there is typically a joint study session in the spring between City Council and the City Utilities Board. He suggested transportation is key and would be a good topic for a study session.

Councilwoman Romine expressed her appreciation to Ms. Payne for her good work.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. With no appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

**Amending Salary  
Ordinance**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2022-045

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Chapter 2, Article III, Division 1, Section 2-92, known as the ‘Salary Ordinance,’ relating to salary grades for various job titles within the City service as contained in the Professional, Administrative and Technical Schedule by making provision for two new job titles, deleting one existing job title, and establishing a new Occupational Series Group for specific airport management positions with an associated Occupational Series market pay adjustment.

Darla Morrison, Director of Human Resources, provided a brief overview of the proposed. Ms. Morrison noted the proposed is in response to a study by the Airport Board. She added the changes are part of the Phase 1 plan for reorganization. Ms. Morrison noted the proposed would add two new job titles, delete one job title, and

establish a new group for airport management positions, with pay adjustment. She added no budget adjustment is necessary.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. With no appearances, the public hearing was declared closed.

**The following items appeared on the agenda under Petitions, Remonstrances, and Communications.**

Mary McCammon addressed City Council regarding sidewalk clean up. Ms. McCammon stated she is not able to shovel snow. She expressed her opinion most of her neighbors are elderly and unable to clear snow from their sidewalks. Ms. McCammon gave examples explaining the dangers of removing snow/ice from sidewalks and injuries that could be incurred from the activity. Ms. McCammon expressed her belief the ordinance should not be enforced.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson discussed the recent news coverage of the City's sidewalk ordinance. He asked Jason Gage, City Manager how many times the ordinance has been enforced. Mr. Gage noted there have been very few if any tickets written since 2002.

Ben Shantz addressed City Council to thank them for their service. He noted his appreciation of City Council's careful deliberation regarding issues at the last meeting. He thanked City Council for their patience when dealing with citizens who are less than civil and for their support for Police and Fire Departments regarding retention.

**The following item appeared on the agenda under New Business.**

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Referred</b>    | Refer the topic of e-scooters to the Community Involvement Committee.   |
| <b>Recommended</b> | The Committee of the Whole recommends the following reappointment to the Police Civilian Review Board: Noel Elliott with term to expire May 1, 2024.  |
| <b>Recommended</b> | The Committee of the Whole recommends the following appointments to the Police Civilian Review Board: Katie Bolt-Goeke with term to expire May 1, 2022; Dr. Allen Grymes and Lori Muetzel with terms to expire May 1, 2023; Marlon Graves with term to expire May 1, 2024; Marion Dee Ogilvy with term to expire May 1, 2025. |

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

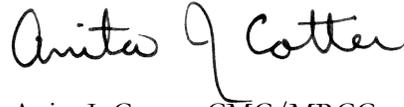
**CONSENT AGENDA – FIRST READING BILLS.**

**CONSENT AGENDA – ONE READING BILLS.**

**CONSENT AGENDA – SECOND READING BILLS.**

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA.**

**Motion to Adjourn** Mayor Pro Tem Simpson moved to adjourn. Councilman Schilling seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote. Ayes: Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: Hosmer. Absent: McGull. Abstain: None.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anita J. Cotter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'A'.

Anita J. Cotter, CMC/MRCC  
City Clerk

Prepared by  
Michelle Brown