

City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

President of Council Anderson called Council to order on July 17, 2024.

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

President Anderson provided the Invocation.

President Anderson: I would ask that we all take a moment of quiet contemplation in memory of long-time resident, Greg McFarland, husband of Councilmember Michelle McFarland, and father and friend to so many others who passed away this week.

Mrs. Browder took roll call. Council members Anderson, Gleaves, Jacobs, Sullivan-Wisecup, Vanover, and Webster were present. McFarland was not in attendance.

The minutes of the June 19, 2024 meeting were considered. Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Vanover seconded. The minutes were approved with six affirmative votes.

Committee and Official Reports

Civil Service Commission

Mr. Coleman: Springdale Civil Service Commission did meet on July 11<sup>th</sup> at the Springdale Municipal Building, and those present were Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McNear, also, Mr. Uhl, Ms. Morgan, along with Fire Chief Stanley. Oh, and we did have a guest, Ms. Brienne Branscum who came to observe and was shadowing Ms. Morgan. We started our meeting by looking at the reports, and, of note, was the Fire Marshal hiring process. Ms. Morgan shared that the current Fire Inspector, Mr. Lindsey, had submitted his retirement, and as a result, Ms. Terrah Timmerman will transition from part-time inspector, to full-time Fire Marshall to assume the duties of that position. So, that should be a seamless transition for us. Also, Ms. Morgan reported that Mr. Matthew Richwine had adjusted his starting date within the Patrol Officer position. The Police Department will have reached their full complement of patrol officers with the candidates having completed their background investigation. So, again, that's a good thing that we are fully staffed within the Police Department. Also, Chief Stanley was present to address the commissioners for the Fire Lieutenant promotional process. This process would promote three current Firefighter II/Paramedics to the position of Lieutenant. Chief Stanley outlined the promotions would not change the existing manpower, but, would rather provide an additional level of supervision on each of the unit days. It would increase the safety, and would allow for more professional development of the staff. So, we were certainly in agreement and certainly acknowledged that particular request, even to the point where cost analysis revealed that there is no financial impact to the Fire Department. So, Mrs. Darby made a motion to approve the Fire Lieutenant promotional process timeline, and it was seconded by Mrs. McNear, and, the motion passed 3-0. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 1<sup>st</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building. Any questions? (None)

Rules and Laws	Mr. Jacobs	-	No report
Finance Committee	Mr. Vanover	-	No report

Planning Commission

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission met on Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. And, Mr. Galster was not in attendance. We started with Springdale Lake PUD Bodega on 12021 Sheraton Lane. It was a Major Modification, and, that got approved 5-0. The did do some modifications from the first time that they came, so, there will be a drive-thru, and they will have, it's going to be like an Italian bodega, so different Italian-type sandwiches and food, and they will also have an inside grocery store type of thing, like a bodega. Our second thing we had was a Zoning Amendment for chickens and that was withdrawn from the Urban Farming Committee, and, we had voted 5-0 to go ahead and withdraw that. Then, we had the Tri-County Mall PUD Change of Use Major Modification, and that was withdrawn by applicant, and that was everything that I have unless anyone has any questions. (None) Thank you.

Board of Zoning Appeals	Mr. Gleaves	-	No report
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City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

Board of Health

President Anderson: I believe Board of Health was on summer schedule, and there's no report for that.

Mayor Hawkins: That's accurate.

Capital Improvements                      Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup - No report

O-K-I    President Anderson - No report

Mayor's Report

Mayor Hawkins: First off, I want to indicate that there was a great celebration for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend over at the pool, and all the lifeguards. We have one of our, I don't want to undercut it, lead lifeguard, Assistant Manager present with us, but, they had a number of games going on. They had one where they were doing a coin toss where they literally threw quarters into the pool, which I would have loved as a kid. You saw kids with dollars of quarters they dove in and got. We also gave away t-shirts, and, we'll have some other opportunities where we give these out at some of our community functions, so, we gave away t-shirts, something we want to do. We have a neighbor, a municipality to our east that often is giving out t-shirts, and not to be outdone by Mayor Hardman, so, this is the first year we're doing this. We hope to do this every year, but, we'll have some other opportunities to get t-shirts out to residents and employees, what have you. The second thing I want to cover is we have a number of individuals who are retiring from long tenures of serving the City of Springdale. Carl Lamping is going to be retiring, Tom Lindsey leaving the organization, and, also, Mr. Jones is in his last meeting. We're not going to celebrate and canonize him yet. He's going to come back in August, and we'll do that then. But, I do want to note that this is his last meeting where he'll be on the dais with us, and, we appreciate his long time of service. We do want to note that I'm asking Council it's our intention to have Brian Uhl become the City Administrator, and Stephanie Morgan become the Assistant City Administrator, and, there's legislation on the agenda tonight with regard to Mr. Uhl, so, we hope to have your support for that. We appreciate all the service that Mr. Jones, Mr. Lindsey, and Mr. Lamping have given us over the years. While we're celebrating, and we're going to celebrate some future individuals, I want to celebrate one person now who's made unprecedented contributions to the City of Springdale over the years. And, I have a presentation for Mayor Doyle Webster. Fifty two years of service, seven terms as Mayor, and I think that's not going to be repeated in our lifetimes I would imagine. I think it's important. There's a saying of giving flowers to people while they're with us, and Mayor Webster isn't going anywhere, but, I want to make sure we take this opportunity to recognize him. I'm not going to make you come down to the dais if you don't want to, I'll come to you. So, Mayor Webster, I want to present this to you, and, I think with all the time, and all the things you've done, you probably don't have one of those just yet.

Mr. Webster: No, I do not. A key to the City. How about that. Fifty two years later. (applause)

Mayor Hawkins: So, I figure that Mayor Webster didn't have one, unless he gave one to himself, which he could have done (laughter), but, I figured it more appropriate that someone else do it. So, again, we appreciate you, and I just wanted to say thank you again.

Mr. Webster: Thank you very much. I really appreciate it. (applause) I'm almost at a loss for words. That's never happened to me before. But, anyway, thank you very much Mayor Hawkins. I really appreciate that, and all I can say is it was 52 years of a labor of love. I say that in all sincerity. I enjoyed every minute that I served up here. We had good times, bad times, but, at the end of the day, everybody I worked with up here had one thing in common; we wanted to do what's best for the City of Springdale, and, I really think that the group you've got assembled here certainly carries on that tradition. Just good luck to all of you, anything I can do, please give me a call. Thank you again. (applause)

## City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

Mayor Hawkins: I just wanted to state that I don't plan on doing a whole bunch of those throughout the course of the next three and a half years. But, it's something for individuals that have made major contributions and left an indelible mark on our City that's going to last long after they're here. So, just wanted to note that. Last thing I want to address is with regard to our agenda tonight as well as Chapter 30.03 of our Codified Ordinances. So there are a number of, everybody has their agenda tonight that has five things listed. We have a number of other things as you review your Internal Memorandum that Administration and I are asking to have Council consider adding to the agenda tonight, and, this is a result of it came to our attention from a Councilmember that we're not consistent with our practices with regard to the Codified Ordinances, and so, we want to be consistent. I do think that the ordinance that we have is archaic in terms of our practices. We've been doing what we've been doing for over a decade and a half talking with some of our folks who were on Council before me, Mr. Vanover, and Mr. Galster, it's probably going on closer to two decades. And there are times where we have those things go on. We had an ordinance with the sale of firearms we weren't following with regard to when Walmart and Dick's were selling firearms. That was brought to folk's attention and we changed it as Vance was coming in. So, I'm asking for Council to look at that, and make an amendment. Currently, our 30.03A would indicate that the Mayor and Administration could only bring forth Administrative ordinances of appointment, and the like only, which would require the approval Council, and, so, there are a lot of things that come through that we're made aware of through the day to day operation, grants, and purchases, and what have you, and, we want to make sure we can go through and do those things as efficiently as possible as we have been. I do think the practice that we've doing for close to two decades was consistent by the predecessors that have been on Council, myself included. That said, we're asking if Council will consider adding on Item Number VI in your packets; An Ordinance Accepting a Bid and Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into an Agreement with Adleta Construction for the Tri-County Parkway Sidewalk Project. The City has been awarded a \$304,800 funding through Hamilton County Community Revitalization Grant, and we would like to be able to act on that this evening. Item Number VII, we're asking for An Ordinance Levying Special Assessments for the Improvement of Driveway Aprons in the Public Right-of-Way Related to the West Crescentville Road Curb and Concrete Replacement Project and Declaring an Emergency. Again, this is something that we need to act on quickly. We're also asking to add on what's marked as Item Number VIII, An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of a Grant Agreement with the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration for Participation in the Fiscal Year 2023 Safe Streets and Roads For All Grant Program and Declaring an Emergency. That's a situation where the City grant agreement has now been received and the City needs that to accept those funds. We're asking for you to add Item Number IX which is the Administration again is recommending this. This is something where there's contributions for our health accounts for our full time employees. And, we're looking to have that added on to the agenda this evening, as well as Item Number X which is An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of a Project Loan Agreement with the State of Ohio Through the Ohio Public Works Commission. This is involving OPWC awarded us financial assistance through the State Capital Improvements Program in the form of a 21 year zero interest loan in the amount of \$1,170,000 and some odd dollars, and then, the last two are items which, I guess technically I they've already been okayed by President Anderson, but, I wanted to make sure A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Natural Gas Aggregation Agreement with the Supplier Recommended by the Energy Alliance Incorporated Declaring an Emergency and An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and the City Administrator to Approve the Assignment of a Community Reinvestment Agreement and Declaring an Emergency. So, we're asking for Council to add those things to the agenda. I'm personally asking Council to revisit in New Business the matter with regard to 30.03A. With that, that concludes my report. Thank you.

President Anderson: Thank you. And, Council just for administrative purposes, you're aware how we'll handle these tonight. When we get to Ordinances and Resolutions, I will open the floor to make a motion to make the adjustments there. So, we'll add that, or have that discussion during Ordinances, and I'll provide the numbers and the readings so we can all be on the same page. In regards to the New Business request, we can deal with that when we get to New Business, and we can take up and do that formally so we stay on with the agenda. I know it's a lot of change for tonight. It's unusual, but there are a lot of late-breaking items that we want to make sure get taken care of for the City, and we didn't want to delay it by another few weeks. Any questions or anything else for the Mayor's Report? Seeing none, thank you Mayor Hawkins.

## City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

### Administrator's Report

Mr. Jones: I think I'll start my report this evening by calling up our Health Commissioner Matt Clayton. He has a few introductions, and I think that perhaps it'd be good timing for him in case he and his colleagues decide they want to leave the meeting since it is quite a long agenda. So, we'll start with Mr. Clayton.

Mr. Clayton: Thank you Mr. Jones. Thank you all for allowing me to come in and talk about the Health Department and our interns tonight. We're currently engaged in a number of grants; federal, state, and local. I have in Council Chambers tonight, ten of our student interns I'm going to introduce. I'd like Ted Ryan Nikontchou Mbianda to stand please. Am I close enough on that sir? Ted is a native of Cameroon, and he's currently a student at Xavier University in the Health Services Administration Program. He's entering his senior year, and, Ted has been with us this summer working in the Mosquito Control Grant Program. Gavin Allen would you please stand. Gavin is also a student in the HSA Program at Xavier University entering his senior year, and, Gavin is a native of Bronx, New York. He actually speaks Chinese fluently, and, Ted speaks French fluently. So, they've been able to provide us with some translation services. These two gentlemen are responsible for Springdale Health having the first West Nile Virus positive mosquito pool in our area last week. I'm not sure that's something to be congratulated for, but.

President Anderson: But, catching it early is important.

Mr. Clayton: Yes. They've been doing great work. Thank you gentlemen. Marley Broenner would you please stand. Marley Broenner is a junior at the University of Cincinnati, and, she's also a Student Orientation Lead and a Student Ambassador. Additionally, Marley is a lifelong resident of the City of Springdale, and she is the granddaughter of Springdale Fire Captain Ken Broenner. She is currently serving as our Reach Coordinator, and that's the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to improving Community Health. Jayla Dixon would you please stand. Jayla is a junior at the University of Cincinnati in the Biology Program, and Jayla is currently at the Springdale Health Department as an Environmental Health Intern. Thank you Jayla. Alexis Meyer is a Health Services Administration Senior at Ohio University, and she is serving as an Environmental Health Intern, and she's also been doing some work on the Health Promotion/Health Education side. Thank you ma'am. Sydney Amos, if you would please stand. Sydney recently finished the Health Services Administration Program at Xavier University, and she came to us in January 2024 to work in Health Promotion and Health Education as an intern. She's currently working in our Community Health Improvement Program, and will be pursuing a Master's in Public Health. Thank you Sydney. Lindsey Dwyer is entering her sophomore year at Elon University in North Carolina. She is a psychology and Spanish major. Lindsey has been working in the Health Promotion and Health Education Program this summer, and, she's been providing Spanish translation for us. Thank you so much. Briana Shamin is a new intern in Health Promotion and Health Education. She is a senior. She's entering her junior or senior year. Sorry. She's entering her junior year at UC and studying biology. Thank you Briana. Aivy Nguyen is entering her last semester at Xavier University in the Health Services Administration Program. She's been with us since December 2023? October 2023. I knew it was somewhere in 2023, and she's working Health Promotion and Health Education. She's assuming the role of Coordinator for our HP Program. Thank you Aivy. And we have Tamsin Day. Tamsin finished the MPH Program at the University of Cincinnati in May. She is currently our Coordinator for Health Promotion and Health Education. And, began her internship at Springdale Health in July 2023. Thank you. Thank you all so much for allowing us to come in and to talk about our student intern programs, and to introduce these interns. They've been doing an amazing job. (applause)

Mr. Jones: So, Mr. President, and Council, I'd like to point out that Mr. Clayton did those introductions with no notes. Very nice. Thank you Matt, and your interns. We have a lot of folks here. We really appreciate your services to our Community. Thank you. Back to what you were talking about, Mr. President, so, it is my last official meeting up here. I feel a little inadequate to say that I've got over 40 years of service in, in comparison to the old timer out there with 50+ years. But, I've worked in three cities, so, I'm in my 24<sup>th</sup> year. I made a comment to Nicole Browder today that for 24 years, I've sat up on the dais, and the next meeting it will probably seem a little different to me to sit in the audience, but, that will be a fun thing to do. So, with that, I'd like to add a couple of things that Mr. Wilson from Parks and Rec asked me to share. We're closing out on fall sports with regard to sign ups and registration for youth soccer, and volleyball. If you're interested, please get signed up as quickly as possible. We have a Parks Revitalization Grand



## City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

Mr. Vanover: Mr. President, I make a motion that we amend the agenda at the appropriate items as per Administration's request.

Mr. Gleaves: Second it.

President Anderson: Before I open for discussion, I will let you know the ordinances and names as we number them once submitted, assuming that the motion passes. At this point, we have a motion to amend the agenda to add the six requested additional ordinances to our agenda. Is there any questions or discussion? (none)

Motion to amend to add the six requested additional ordinances to the agenda passes with six affirmative votes.

President Anderson: I'll go ahead and pass those out now, and let you know the update to the agenda. So, in your packet, there were four of them that were unnumbered. The first one was an ordinance to accept the bid authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Adleta for the construction company. That will be referenced as Ordinance No. 33-2024. The next one that was in your packet should have been an ordinance levying special assessments for the improvement of driveway aprons. That will be labeled Ordinance No. 34-2024. The next one in your packet should have been an ordinance authorizing contributions in certain health accounts of full-time employees. That will be labeled Ordinance No. 35-2024. The next ordinance that was in your packet was an ordinance authorizing the execution of a project loan agreement with the State of Ohio. That will be referenced as Ordinance No. 36-2024. Additionally, there were two items that were too urgent, and not distributed in the packet. I'll pass those out now they requested. The first one is the gas aggregation legislation. That will be labeled Ordinance No. 37-2024. There's copies I'll pass out. There's a note at the top, and then the ordinance. There's two copies there, if you can pass them that way. If you could take one of those and pass it down. The loan agreement was 36. Thirty-five is health savings accounts, 34 is levies, 33 is the bid for sidewalks. I'm missing the federal highway administration one.

Mayor Hawkins: Mr. President, if I may. There's another ordinance authorizing the execution of a grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Highway. Did that one get marked as well?

Mr. Jacobs (off mic): That's what we just discussed.

Mayor Hawkins: I think the motion is set for six, and I think there's seven. I think there's five in the packet, and the additional two.

President Anderson: Alright. We'll come back to that one. Hang on. Let me pass out the ones that I have to make sure that we stay current, and then we can come back and address that seventh one. I'm passing out now the additional ordinance. This is the CRA agreement. There's two copies going that way. That one is 38-2024, and that's the CRA ordinance. I'll run through them one more time. If you can take a copy and pass it down. So is there a copy of what's the one that's missing. The U.S. Department? So, this one hasn't been called yet. I'll borrow this. This will be 39 when it comes up. Alright, so, to recap, the changes, and, we'll come back and deal with the one that we missed, the number seven. So, so far on the agenda, we've added Item Number 33-2024, and, that was the bid authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to enter into an agreement with Adleta Construction for Tri County Parkway sidewalk project. That's Ordinance No. 33-2024. Ordinance 34, is an ordinance levying special assessments for improvements of driveway aprons in the public right-of-way related to the Crescentville Road curb and concrete replacement project and declaring an emergency. That's Ordinance No. 34-2024. The next one on the agenda after that would be Ordinance 35-2024, and that's an ordinance authorizing certain health accounts of full-time employees of the City of Springdale related to the City's health insurance plan and declaring an emergency. Then I have Ordinance 36-2024 that's being added to the agenda. That's an ordinance authorizing the execution of a project loan agreement with the state of Ohio through the Ohio public works commission state capital improvements program for the Northland Boulevard reconstruction project and declaring an emergency. I then have Ordinance 37-2024, which I just passed out at the dais, which is an ordinance authorizing the city manager to execute a natural gas aggregation agreement with a supplier recommended by Energy Alliances, Inc. and declaring an emergency. Then, I have Ordinance 38-2024 that's been

## City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

President Anderson (continued): added to the agenda, and that's an ordinance authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to approve the assignment of a community reinvestment agreement and declaring an emergency. So, that's action that we've taken, and we've added to the agenda. We'll deal with the one that's missing in a second. For your agendas that you're following, since there's a presentation attached to the Energy Alliances option, which is Ordinance 37-2024, we will insert that at the start our ordinances so that we don't have to keep our friend here any longer than necessary, so, Ordinance 37 will be the next item that Council takes up. All the remaining additional ordinances will be added at the end of the ordinance section, after the resolutions. Okay? Alright, now there's the matter that I guess in my packet that I was missing, there's an additional ordinance, a seventh ordinance that was requested in the Mayor's Report, and this was an ordinance authorizing the execution of a grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration for participation in fiscal year 2023 Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program and declaring an emergency. That is not currently on our agenda, and the Chair will accept a motion to add it.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Move to add.

Mr. Jacobs: Second.

President Anderson: Alright, there's a motion to add Ordinance No. 39 to the agenda, and this would be at the end of the ones that we've added. Any questions or discussion on that? (none) The motion to amend the agenda to add the seventh ordinance, Ordinance No. 39-2024 passes with six affirmative votes. That's a lot of administration. I apologize for that, but, that's just where we are tonight. So, are there any questions about the agenda that we've got going forward before we get into it? Everybody okay? So, with that, as I mentioned, the next ordinance that we will take up is Ordinance No. 37-2024, which is an ordinance authorizing the City manager to execute a natural gas aggregation agreement with a supplier recommended by Energy Alliance. Mr. Jacobs, if you could read the ordinance first, and then we'll open it up for presentation.

Mr. Jacobs (off mic): This is all I've received so far.

President Anderson: It went one way and not the other.

Mr. Jacobs: Okay. Thank you.

President Anderson: Here, take this. This should say "Ordinance", there was a typo on it.

Mr. Jacobs: Other end?

President Anderson: They've got theirs.

Mr. Jacobs: Alright.

President Anderson: Alright, so, we're reading Ordinance 37-2024.

### Ordinance No. 37-2024

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION AGREEMENT WITH A SUPPLIER RECOMMENDED BY ENERGY ALLIANCES, INC. AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

President Anderson: Council, just so you're aware, the document that was passed out had a scrivener's error. It said "resolution". It was read correctly. This is an ordinance that we're passing because it's a contract that we would be signing. Just so you're aware. That was not a mistake, there's a typo on your paper. So, it is an ordinance.

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 37-2024; Mr. Jacobs seconded.

## City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

President Anderson: Before I open up for discussion from Council, I understand there's a presentation along with this, or, at least an opportunity. So, what I'm going to do is go ahead and leave the floor open for our representative, and then, as part of our question/discussion, we can have any of that addressed. Mr. Uhl did you want to add anything before that?

Mr. Uhl: No. I was just going to introduce our speaker. This is Mr. Dan Deters from Energy Alliances. He met with us last week to bring us up to speed on some potential changes impacting our residents and the amount of money they pay for gas. But, with that, I'll turn things over to Mr. Deters.

Mr. Deters: Thank you, and thank you for having me tonight on such short notice. I appreciate your indulgence. I'll be short, as the meeting is long. So, we decided we were probably not going to engage with Springdale in a gas program this year, or, Middletown, who are both new clients because we have information that Duke, as you, I don't know if they had that little summary that I put out there, okay. They're essentially changing how they buy gas next October of 2025, so, we were kind of just going to let things run. Unfortunately, the utility filed for a 12 cent to 17 cent adjustment for gas costs that needed to be recovered from the last six or eight months that, to make a very long story short, they estimate the usage, they buy the gas. If they don't estimate enough, they buy more. That's why it's called "gas cost recovery", they recover it from the end user. So, the citizens of Springdale are going to start paying that back, actually they're starting this month. We don't know exactly what the adjustment is, but we know it's between 12 and 17 cents. So, aggregations are not subject to those adjustments, and we can bring in a program that starts in October that will keep residents from paying that. Last year's cumulative winter rate was 58.4 cents a CCF (centum cubic feet). We know our rate will be below that, so, the citizens, no matter what Duke's price is, the citizens will pay less than last year for their gas in the winter, and, they won't have to pay that adjustment if that's tacked on, or whatever that may be. And then, in eight months when we get a better handle on how they're going to buy their new gas, we'll come back, and we will have some products and some choices for you at that time. But, at this time, I would ask you to let the City Manager engage in that contract and, as you all know, with the volatility of everything right now, if we had to come back to a meeting, we'd never get a contract signed. So, we got some initial pricing in today; it's in the low to mid 50's type area, so, we know we will be cheaper than last winter. We're still trying to drill that down to get a much better price. We hope we can, and, if the market goes the other way, we won't do it. We'll make sure that the Administration and Council knows that the time isn't right. Thank you for indulging me, and, if there's any questions, I'm happy to answer them.

President Anderson: And, hopefully Council, you see now why we added this. The market was so volatile. It was actually earlier yesterday that we found out this might even be a possibility to help our residents. To be able to add this optional aggregation program. Much like our electric aggregation program, it is an "opt out" system. But, it is already set up that if we do sign the contract, it would be less than last years, and, I know that makes a big difference to a lot of communities. I know I had heard a number of what a typical family should expect to save. I didn't know if those were numbers that you could share, in general, versus the Duke rate; just a ballpark.

Mr. Deters: So, if you're looking at, I mean it's, well, put it this way, it would be about \$12 to \$17 they're not spending on this adjustment at least. So, that's just in the winter. You use 85% of your gas between November 15 and March 15. So, you know, we don't really have the volumes for Springdale totally yet as to what that's going to be. I can give you an exact number based on that estimation once we get that.

President Anderson: But, it is a meaningful difference for our residents. So, thank you for indulging the change in the agenda.

Mayor Hawkins: Two things; one, I want to make sure residents pay attention to when these notices come out. I spoke with a resident this past spring who her rates went up, and, she was upset, and I had explained that when these things go up, we send out notices, folks have the opportunity to opt out of they choose to. The reason why the City does this is because the vast, vast majority of individuals, almost everybody is going to come up with a lower rate. But, there are some instances where you may be able to find something lower than what the aggregate is. But, it's important if you want to do that, you have to pay attention to the mail that comes out to you if you choose to do something different. The second thing is I really want folks to understand

## City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

Mayor Hawkins (continued): Mr. Deters is a great asset with regard to this process. He says all the time if you have a question, if a resident has a question, have them call me, and, he means that earnestly. We've got 11,000 people here. If 11,000 people want to call him and ask him about their rate, somebody else's rate, he's going to answer that phone. And, it's a very unique situation that he's that accessible to our residents. So, I want to note that and I want to thank you for what you do.

Mr. Deters: Thank you. I appreciate that.

President Anderson: And Council realize, there's a lot of people that are very suspicious about these types of programs because there are a lot of bad actors out there trying to grab meters, and lock people in, and slam them. So, we're going to need to work as a group to make sure people understand, and have those questions answered. In the past, we did not renew the gas because we couldn't get a better deal, but the market has changed that it makes a lot of sense, so, this is a great asset.

Mr. Vanover: And also too, be aware that there are going to be people out knocking on your door, and, they're going to try to, being kind, bully you. If you've got questions, reach out, and know that we'll get answers to you. But, well, the action of Duke, and I understand the business, but, you know, if they underestimate their consumption, then, they can reach back and get us; make us pay for their poor guesstimates. And, in the rest of the business world, if you estimate food costs, and yours runs over, it's on you. So, that's one of those things that the utilities have a special agreement with that I don't necessarily agree with, but, if you've got questions, reach out. And, again, the program is set up that you're automatically included. You can opt out, but, and be careful with when people come, because a lot of these programs have hefty cancellation fees. So, the glass isn't always full they way that they describe it. So, again, if you get there, get questions. As a matter of fact, I do it all the time, my first question is, "Have you registered with the City?" Because they have to be registered with the City to be out and about. So, and most of them are not. So, that's, you know, another issue. But, thank you. I've been a big supporter of this for quite a while, and, it's my money.

Mr. Deters: If our supplier that we choose doesn't estimate correctly; tough. They take it. We've moved the risk from the resident to the supplier.

Ordinance No. 37-2024 passes with six affirmative votes.

President Anderson: Next, we'll go back through our regular agenda that was printed, and the additional items that were added will all be in order as described at the end of the agenda.

### Ordinance No. 27-2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO, OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ORPHAN RAIL CROSSING PROGRAM

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 27-2024; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 27-2024 passes with six affirmative votes.

### Ordinance No. 31-2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH BRIAN C. UHL SETTING FORTH CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AS CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 31-2024; Mr. Vanover seconded.

## City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

President Anderson: I do want to make a caution before I open the floor for questions/discussion. Please be aware Council that this ordinance does involve a contract with a public employee. We're certainly able and welcome to ask questions about the contract in the meeting here at the dais. But, I will caution you that if your questions or discussion that you feel is necessary starts getting into any aspects about Mr. Uhl specifically, that's something that's best done in executive session. So, you're welcome to have those conversations as well, but, I would prefer that we move to executive session for that. I'm not asking for that now, but, I want you to be aware that if you start getting into that area of discussion, I will stop you, and, we'll move. Alright. So, at this point, questions or discussion regarding Ordinance 31-2024?

Mayor Hawkins: I'm asking for Council's support with regard to this. Obviously, as Mr. Jones is going into retirement and we will miss him, it's important to note that over the last 12 to 18 months, in particular, but, really since Mr. Uhl got here, Mr. Jones has been working towards having a succession plan and Mr. Uhl has done every task that the City Administrator can do, and Mr. Jones has worked to make sure there's a seamless transition with his retirement, and being very open with regard to knowing when he's going to retire, and trying to go through this process. With me being in this position, there's no question, on my part, with regard to interacting with Mr. Uhl, and, interacting with Ms. Morgan, that we're set up to move forward in a seamless transition in an excellent way. I've made comparisons that this is like getting Kobe Bryant and Shaq. I'll let them figure out who's Kobe and who's Shaq, but, you know, the culture that's been set up by Mr. Jones, the Department Heads, which you see a number of them present tonight, support this continuation of leadership, and, so, I'm hoping that Council will be supportive of this. Thank you.

Mr. Vanover: I'd just make a quick comment that we are the beneficiaries of the prior Mayor and his forethought, because we now have, I said, I've been saying probably for about the last five or six years that we have probably the strongest and best staff that we've ever had. And, I reach back a while. And, that, this ability to make a seamless transition echoes that thought process. So, I heartily welcome this. I wish Mr. Jones well, and we'll get into that at another time, but, know that I fully support this move.

Mr. Jones: I don't want to start repeating things the Mayor or Mr. Vanover said, but, not only do I fully support everything that's been said, we have, for the last four and a half years been working toward this. I mean, obviously I know that, I didn't know at that time if I would work four, five, seven years, whatever it would be, but, from day one, the thing that really worked well for me in my personal agenda, and then ultimately that's worked well with us as a City is Mr. Uhl is a sponge. And, he desired to learn every aspect, every component of the job, and, that was impressive from day one when we interviewed him, and, I said to him, "Okay, now that you're here, what is it you want to do?" He said, "I want to know every single thing you do." And, there it is. And, so, I cannot endorse him enough, and encourage the Council to be supportive of this decision. You guys are really going to benefit not only through Mr. Uhl, but his replacement as well in Stephanie Morgan. Thank you.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you, Mr. Jones, for doing what you've done. Mr. Uhl, I want to tell you I'm wholeheartedly behind you. I want to thank you for the first time I walked in your office for being so kind, considerate, and, the vibe that I saw right away was created. And, I told you about that vibe. It doesn't happen everywhere. So, let's try to work hard to keep it. I know you will. But, thanks for everything.

Ordinance No. 31-2024 passes with six affirmative votes.

President Anderson: Look forward to working with you for another three years Mr. Uhl.

Mr. Uhl: Thank you for all the kind words. Thank you Mayor Hawkins. I do appreciate your confidence in me. We will continue to move the City forward as we have over the past several years, and, we really appreciate the support that we get from Council, and all the hard work from all of our Department Heads. So, with that, we really established a great team here in the City, and look forward to continuing to advance. Thank you very much.

## City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

### Ordinance No. 32-2024

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 98.01 OF THE SPRINGDALE CODE OF ORDINANCES GOVERNING THE ENTERTAINMENT ADMISSION TAX IN THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE

President Anderson: Alright Council, this was a first reading. Is there any questions or discussion tonight? Not seeing any, we will see this again at our next meeting.

### Resolution No. R09-2024

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

President Anderson: There is a public hearing attached to the tax budget, so at this point, I will open the public hearing related to Resolution No. R09-2024 regarding the adoption of the tax budget for the City of Springdale. If there's anyone that would like to speak for or against, provide input on the resolution, the floor is now open. It would be just like Communications from the Audience. You'd simply come to the dais, give your name and address, and provide any feedback that you think is relevant to this resolution. The floor is now open. Second call. Third and final call. At this point, I'm closing the public hearing related to Resolution No. R09-2024.

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R09-2024; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Mr. Jones: Would just like to thank Katie Smiddy for her work on this tax budget. Brian and I quite often ask what she does to earn her keep, and, we're starting to find out, but I've been curious, so, anyhow, I figure since this was my last meeting, I'd get a little jab in there.

President Anderson: Do we need to move to executive session related to discipline of employee? (laughter)

Mr. Uhl: I would just like to echo those sentiments of Mr. Jones, not all of them, but, I would like to publicly thank you for the work put into this. Katie was also dealing with a public records request regarding one of our TIF's, which required a lot of research, and learning this particular TIF, where the funds were coming from, how they were distributed, etc. It was mind-numbing. I don't know how she did it, but she got that done, and this done before the deadlines, and I really appreciate all your hard work in this. So, thank you very much.

Resolution No. R09-2024 passes with six affirmative votes.

### Resolution No. R10-2024

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING STEVEN GALSTER TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2027

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R10-2024; Mr. Gleaves seconded.

Mayor Hawkins: Your packet indicates what's going on. Just quite simply, Mr. Galster has spent many, many years on City Council, he's built up some years of OPERS (Ohio Public Employees Retirement System), he's spent some time on Planning Commission after he came off Council. When you retire, in order to start receiving those benefits, you have to be out of the OPERS system, for a certain period of time. Mr. Galster was going to miss the July meeting because he was going to be out of town anyway, and, so, this was a perfect time for him to do his retirement, and then be able to come back. And, so, asking for Council's support with regard to Mr. Galster. He does a phenomenal job on Planning Commission.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I want to absolutely echo that, that on Planning Commission, we absolutely want him back, and I know he wants to be back. He's an asset definitely on our Board. Thank you.

City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

President Anderson: I'll certainly add to that. I know Mr. Galster also serves as the representative from Planning to the Board of Zoning Appeals, and his experience is very helpful, especially with so many new members on both those boards. He is an asset to the Community. And, we certainly appreciate his willingness to serve again, even after his 30 day retirement. So, we appreciate that.

Resolution No. R10-2024 passes with six affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 33-2024

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A BID AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ADLETA CONSTRUCTION FOR THE TRI-COUNTY PARKWAY SIDEWALK PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 33-2024; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 33-2024 passes with six affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 34-2024

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF DRIVEWAY APRONS IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY RELATED TO THE WEST CRESCENTVILLE ROAD CURB AND CONCRETE REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 34-2024; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 34-2024 passes with six affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 35-2024

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

Mr. Gleaves made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 35-2024; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 35-2024 passes with six affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 36-2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PROJECT LOAN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO THROUGH THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM FOR THE NORTHLAND BOULEVARD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 36-2024; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 36-2024 passes six affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 38-2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE THE ASSIGNMENT OF A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AGREEMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Gleaves made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 38-2024; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 38-2024 passes with six affirmative votes.

City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

Ordinance No. 39-2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL GRANT PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 39-2024; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 39-2024 passes with six affirmative votes.

Executive Session – Economic Development and Pending Litigation

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I would like to make a motion to go into an Executive Session under Article II(D)(1) of the Springdale Charter to discuss Economic Development issues, as well as, to conference with Council related to Pending Litigation.

Mr. Vanover: Second.

Motion to go to Executive Session under Article II(D)(1) of the Springdale Charter to discuss Economic Development issues, as well as, to conference with Council related to Pending Litigation passes with six affirmative votes. Council departed at 8:29 p.m. Council returned at 9:08 p.m.

Old Business

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None

New Business

President Anderson: We do have one request from Administration that we take up a look at 30.03. This is based off of discussion that we had in our last pre-meeting, we had a meeting about how ordinances are brought together. Mayor Hawkins is asking us to take a look at that, and, see if we can streamline some of the stuff to get it in line with the way we prefer to do things. I believe, Mr. Braun, you have some ideas on how to do that?

Mr. Braun: If Council is comfortable with it, what I can do is do an initial draft and circulate that to everyone, work with President Anderson, and the Mayor, get that language down, and then we'll present it to you in a future meeting for your consideration. I don't think this is something that might need to go to Rules and Laws or anything. I think this is something procedural. Kind of like we did the civility rule where we kind of circulated it, everybody had an opportunity to weigh in on it, and, since this is a procedural rule, we'll try to have that to you by your next meeting.

President Anderson: Does anyone on Council have any concerns about how we'll approach that request? Is that alright? Mayor Hawkins and I will take the first stab at it with Mr. Braun, and then you'll all have a chance to weigh in. Again, it's a procedural thing. I think we can get it squared away. One of the things it will help with is what we saw tonight too. Some of those late changes, the reason we had to do those changes on the fly, at least some of them, was a result of this procedural item where we couldn't just add things without having a discussion and circulating. So, we want to avoid that by updating the Code.

Meetings and Announcements

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission will meet in these chambers at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Jacobs: On Saturday, the 20<sup>th</sup>, the Vendor and Craft Market returns to Springdale Elementary. There will be more than 20 different vendors and craft makers there, and, so, I encourage people to check it out. It's from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., this Saturday, the 20<sup>th</sup>.

## City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

Mayor Hawkins: Just again, a reminder on September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., it's a Wednesday evening, we'll have a town hall meeting. All elected officials are welcome to be there; don't feel obligated, but you're welcome to be there. I know President Anderson has committed to being there. I'm going to be there. All residents are welcome to give feedback and have informal discussion.

Mr. Gleaves: The July 23<sup>rd</sup> BZA meeting has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting is August 27<sup>th</sup>, right here in these chambers.

Mr. Uhl: Just to reiterate what Mr. Coleman had advised earlier, Civil Service Commission will meet on Thursday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Conference Room.

Communications from the Audience - None

### Recap of Legislative Items

Mr. Jacobs: For the items we voted on tonight, I'll be reading the summaries in the order that we voted on them. Ordinance No. 37-2024; An Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Natural Gas Aggregation Agreement with a Supplier Recommended by Energy Alliances, Inc. and Declaring an Emergency passed with six affirmative votes. Ordinance No. 27-2024; An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of a Grant Agreement with the State of Ohio, Ohio Rail Development Commission for Participation in the Orphan Rail Crossing Program; that passed with six affirmative votes. Ordinance No. 31-2024; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Employment Agreement with Brian C. Uhl Setting Forth Certain Terms and Conditions of Employment as City Administrator and Declaring an Emergency. That passed with six affirmative votes. Resolution No. R09-2024; A Resolution Adopting the Tax Budget of the City of Springdale for the Fiscal Year January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. That passed with six affirmative votes. Resolution No. R10-2024; A Resolution Confirming Steven Galster to Serve as a Member of the City of Springdale Planning Commission for the Term Ending November 30, 2027 passed also with six affirmative votes. Ordinance No. 33-2024; An Ordinance Accepting a Bid and Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into an Agreement with Adleta Construction for the Tri-County Parkway Sidewalk Project and Declaring an Emergency. That passed with six affirmative votes. Ordinance No. 34-2024; An Ordinance Levying Special Assessments for the Improvement of Driveway Aprons in the Public Right-of-Way Related to the West Crescentville Road Curb and Concrete Replacement Project and Declaring an Emergency passed with six affirmative votes. Ordinance No. 35-2024; An Ordinance Authorizing Contributions to Certain Health Accounts of Full-Time Employees of the City of Springdale Related to the City's Health Insurance Plan and Declaring an Emergency passed with six affirmative votes. Ordinance No. 36-2024; An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of a Project Loan Agreement with the State of Ohio Through the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvements Program for the Northland Boulevard Reconstruction Project and Declaring an Emergency passed with six affirmative votes. Ordinance No. 38-2024; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Approve the Assignment of a Community Reinvestment Agreement and Declaring an Emergency passed with six affirmative votes. And, Ordinance No. 39-2024; An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of a Grant Agreement with the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration for Participation in the Fiscal Year 2023 Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program and Declaring an Emergency also passed with six affirmative votes.

### Legislation in Development

Mr. Jacobs: Items still in development, Item Number II from your Internal Memorandum was addressed by Ordinance No. 32-2024; An Ordinance Amending Chapter 98.01 of the Springdale Code of Ordinances Governing the Entertainment Admission Tax in the City of Springdale. That was a first reading. The rest of the items are from your Internal Memorandum coming up for our next meeting in August. Item Number XI; A Resolution Commending City Administrator John J. Jones for his Dedicated Service to the Citizens of the City of Springdale. Item Number XII; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into an Agreement with FYDA Freightliner Cincinnati for the Purchase of a Truck Cab and Chassis and Declaring an Emergency.

City of Springdale Council

July 17, 2024

Mr. Jacobs (continued): Item Number XIII; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into an Agreement with W.A. Jones Truck Equipment for the Purchase of a Hooklift Upgrade and Declaring an Emergency will also be on the agenda for the August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Item Number XIV; An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Springdale, Ohio to Enter Into a Lease-Purchase Agreement to Finance the Purchase of a Dump Truck and Declaring an Emergency will be at the August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting as well. Item Number XV; An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting the 2024 S-27 Supplement to the Springdale Code of Ordinances and Declaring an Emergency will also be on tap for the August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Item Number XVI; A Resolution Authorizing the Filing of Continuing Disclosures Related to the March 2017 Street Improvement Bonds, and that will be featured at our August meeting as well. Item Number XVII; An Ordinance Approving a Zoning Map Amendment and Preliminary Development Plan for the Springdale Cinema Apartment Project at 505 W. Crescentville Road; that will have a first reading at the August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Item Number XVIII; An Ordinance Approving a Major Modification to a PUD and Preliminary Development Plan for the Bodega Project at 12021 Sheraton Lane. Unless there's anything else. (None) Thank you.

President Anderson: As a final reminder Council, our August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting has been cancelled; we're on the summer schedule. So, we'll see you August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Adjournment

President Anderson: All that's left before us is Item 17.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Move to adjourn.

President Anderson: We're adjourned. Thank you everyone for hanging with us.

Council adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Browder  
Clerk of Council

Minutes Approved:  
Jeffrey Anderson, President of Council

\_\_\_\_\_, 2024