

# City of Springdale Council

October 2, 2024

President of Council Anderson called Council to order on October 2, 2024.

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

Ms. Browder took roll call. Council members Anderson, Gleaves, Jacobs, McFarland, Sullivan-Wisecup, Vanover, and Webster were present.

The minutes of the September 11, 2024 meeting were considered. Mr. Jacobs made a motion to accept the minutes; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded. The minutes were approved with seven affirmative votes.

The minutes of the September 18, 2024 meeting were considered. Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Vanover seconded. The minutes were approved with seven affirmative votes.

Proclamation – Fire Prevention Week

Mayor Hawkins read and presented to Springdale's Fire Chief, Anthony Stanley, a proclamation recognizing Fire Prevention Week. (Applause)

Presentations – Fire Department Introductions

Chief Stanley: Thank you Mr. President, Council, Elected Officials, City Administration. Thank you for the opportunity to come here and introduce some of our newly hired personnel. We'll start with Colby Hooper. Come on up Colby. (Applause) Colby, he has been in the fire service for two years. All two years have been with the City of Springdale. We hired him right out of high school. Full disclosure, Colby struggled a little bit when he first started. When you're young like that, you have to learn the service, and learn just the expectations and what the standard is and we had some discussions with Colby and he responded, and has turned into a magnificent employee. He was part-time with us, and now he's full-time. He's on Unit 2, under the guidance of Captain Losekamp and Lieutenant Joe Hansen. So, he's a Firefighter/EMT, but he's currently in his paramedic training. He's a graduate of Harrison High School. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family and friends. He has a young daughter that he loves to death. He enjoys working on projects in his garage, and, working out. So, he comes to work. He doesn't say a lot. He keeps his head down and he works hard, and, he's proud of his job, and he does a good job for us every day, we're really excited to transition him over from part-time to full-time. So, he's going to do a great job for the City and the Department for many years; Colby Hooper (applause).

Next up, we'll introduce Mark Peters. (applause) Mark comes to us, he was already certified as a Firefighter/Paramedic. He was a lateral entry into our Fire Department, so, we were very excited to get somebody in with some experience. We have a really young department now, so, anytime that you can add experience to the ranks, it's really helpful to the operation. Mark is a graduate of Little Miami High School. As I mentioned, he's a Firefighter/Paramedic. He is married with three kids. In his free time, he enjoys motorsports, building cars with his father, spending time with his family, and volunteering for his local Fire/EMS Department, with his wife, who is also an EMT. So, Mark always has a smile on his face. He just has a really good spirit. He enjoys teaching, so, he helps some of the younger guys out and has a lot of knowledge that he's able to pass on. He hasn't been with us for a long time, but, he has already made an impact on our Department, and, we're really excited to add Mark

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Chief Stanley (continued): and all of his experience to our ranks. He's on Unit 3 under Captain Jackson, and Lieutenant Lang.

Mr. Peters: Thank you.

Chief Stanley: Thank you. (applause)

Chief Stanley: Jared Dornbusch (applause). So, Jared is also on Unit 3, assigned under Captain Jackson, and Lieutenant Lang. He comes to us with ten years of experience. He's a Firefighter/EMT. He's currently in his paramedic training. He's a graduate of Roger Bacon High School. He's married with two children. He has a lot of experience. I heard a lot of good things about him before he came here. Had the pleasure of being on some runs with him throughout the years, and, he's another guy that just comes to work. He keeps his head down and just works. He's been involved in some different projects around the firehouse that's increasing our efficiency, and he's "techie". I'm not; I'm old, so, but, he's helping us out on that side, and just really streamlining some stuff for us, so, we really appreciate him doing that. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family and friends, and also playing softball. But, in a short time, he's made a great impact on our department, so, we're thrilled to have him. Thank you sir. (applause)

Chief Stanley: Mr. Ryan Nagy. (applause) So, when I spoke about the youth of our department, Ryan is part of that. So, we hired him right out of high school, part-time, and, we were fortunate to get him full-time, so, he's doing a great job for us. He recently completed his paramedic training, so, that was a long process, so, I know he's really happy to have that behind him. He's on Unit 3, under the leadership of Captain Jackson, and Lieutenant Lang. He's a graduate of Fairfield High School. He's not married, he doesn't have any kids, but, he does have two cats that he enjoys taking for walks. I'm learning. I'm not a cat person. I didn't know that you walk cats, but, I'm learning. He also enjoys fishing, spending time with his family, and, he coaches baseball and golf. So, Ryan, Christie Johnson, our Administrative Assistant, he grew up with her son, so, she knew him very well when he came here, and had nothing but great things to say about him, and, she didn't even scratch the surface on how good of a guy he is. We're super happy to have him. He's doing a great job for us. He has a really bright future in the City and in the Fire Department. Ryan Nagy. (applause)

Chief Stanley: Amari Talley (applause) You will never see this man without a smile on his face. Amari is a great young man. Springdale Elementary, right? You went to Springdale Elementary, was a graduate of Princeton High School. He has two years in the fire service. Like I said, he always has a smile on his face. He's always positive, he's always looking to just help and whatever he can do to pitch in. He's the type of person that will never say, "That's not my job". He'll do whatever needs to be done. He's on Unit 3 under the leadership of Captain Jackson, and Lieutenant Lang. So, Amari is a Firefighter/Paramedic. He finished his paramedic training shortly after being with us. He enjoys spending time with his family and friends, playing basketball, which he's a really good basketball player. He enjoys playing pickle ball, and he loves to travel. He is always taking trips and stuff like that, which, is what he should be doing at this age, enjoying his life. He does a really good job for us. We're really excited to have him as part of our core group of young guys, and big future in the Fire Department, Amari Talley. (applause)

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Chief Stanley: And last, but certainly not least, Terrah Timmerman. (applause) Terrah comes to us with seven years of experience. She's a graduate of Ross High School and studied business at Beckfield College. She originally came to us as a part-time Fire Inspector. She was a Firefighter/Paramedic at another jurisdiction, so, she worked as a part-time inspector working with the former Chief Fire Inspector, Tom Lindsey, and then she ended up taking over for Tom. Once he retired, there was a little bit of overlap there so, it was really nice to transition her over into that role, so she's our Fire Marshall, and she's doing a great job. She's already made some changes that have improved our fire prevention program, which is really exciting. Our open house is Saturday; that's a shameless plug I'm giving for our open house. Our Open House is Saturday, from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. She's been working tirelessly to get everything set up and prepared for that. I'm sure she's a little nervous; it's her first one. But, I told her Tom's fingerprints will be on it a little bit, but, next year it will be all yours. So, she'll do some great things with that, and, she's already made some really great changes, so, we're really excited about that. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family. She coaches and plays soccer, which she really likes that. She participates in fitness competitions and wins different awards and stuff like that for her participation in that. And then she also enjoys creative stuff like drawing and writing in her free time. But, she's doing a great job. She did a great job as a part-time Fire Inspector. She represents the City and the Department very well. She has a lot of interaction with our business community, so, this position is a very, very important position just to keep the confidence that our business community has in our City and our Fire Department. So, she's very patient, very kind, and, very knowledgeable. So, we're very excited to have her. Terrah Timmerman. (applause)

Chief Stanley: Again, it's a pleasure to be here. It's a pleasure to introduce these folks. It is an honor to serve alongside of all the men and women that we have in the Fire Department, no disrespect to the other Fire Chief that's sitting in the audience today, but, I think we have the best Fire Department around. We work very well with our neighbors, we all help each other out. It's definitely a great job. We could not do what we do on a daily basis without the support of City Administration, and in Council and the Elected Officials. So, I know you guys love your Fire Department. We're very grateful for everything that you do, and we try hard every day to make you proud of the Department. So, hopefully that's the case. And, we're very, very grateful for the opportunity to come and introduce you to some of our newest employees. So, thank you. (applause)

President Anderson: Hang tight, Chief. I think I have a few comments for you here.

Mr. Vanover: Actually, I'm going to piggyback on Mayor Hawkins proclamation. Smoke detectors are not a one-time purchase. Spent many years as an electrician, and you have a lifetime of about eight to ten years. So, just because you have them there, don't let them "age out", because, they will. And, that's one of those things that people aren't told, and that's either the battery ops, or the hard wired backup. So, just keep that in mind too. Because they do a good job.

Chief Stanley: And, that's a service that we provide to all our residents. We do not install the hardwire detectors, but we have battery-powered detectors that we get donated through the Red Cross, and we install those for free for our residents at their request.

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President Anderson: You mentioned the support that you get from us. I'm glad you feel that. Because, I know I speak for everyone here that we do appreciate our first responders, especially our Fire Department, Police, everybody. The work that you guys do is always at the front end, and it's usually when people are having the worst days of their lives, and you always represent the City very well, and we appreciate the work that you do. I know I speak for everyone when I say, "Thank you" for the work that you do, and best of luck out there, especially to the new folks and to be safe. And, if you need anything, we're here.

Chief Stanley: Thank you so much, and thank you for the proclamation Mayor. We really appreciate it. Again, thank you for all that you do for us. It does not go unnoticed. Thank you.

President Anderson: You guys are welcome to stay and watch us pass laws about taxes, and that sort of thing. We'll take a beat so you guys can go celebrate with your families.

Chief Stanley: Thank you.

President Anderson: Thank you.

## Communications

Ms. Browder presented to Council three notices to the legislative authority pertaining to liquor permit requests for Crafty Crab, Inc., Dreamz on the Pike, LLC, and O'Charley's. She informed Council the Police Department had no objections:

President Anderson: So, for people who haven't been here on Council when we have these typically if you have a concern or objection to that, this would be your opportunity to raise those questions. So, if you have any questions about those liquor permits, this is your opportunity to speak.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Can you please explain what at D5 is so that we know the difference.

Ms. Browder shared the following definition of the D5 liquor permit, which allows for on and off sales of beer, wine, pre-packaged low-proof mixed beverages, and on-premises only consumption of high proof spirits until 2:30 a.m.

President Anderson: Any other questions or concerns? I'm not seeing any other questions, or concerns, so, you can go ahead and file those. Thank you.

Ms. Browder: Thank you.

Communications from the Audience - None

## Ordinances and Resolutions

### Ordinance No. 52-2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CWL CONSULTING, LLC FOR BUILDING OFFICIAL, RESIDENTIAL BUILDING OFFICIAL, AND MASTER PLANS EXAMINER SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE, OHIO

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President Anderson: Council, you will note that there is a minor change in the language from the previous reading where we updated the name from Carl Lamping, to the LLC that he operates under. That does not require action from us, I just wanted to highlight in case you noticed the change.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 52-2024; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 52-2024 passes with seven affirmative votes.

President Anderson: I for one am glad that we can still call him. Carl Lamping is a wealth of knowledge, and a lot of experience in this area. It will be very helpful for the residents.

## Ordinance No. 53-2024

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 30.03 AND 30.05 OF THE SPRINGDALE CODE OF ORDINANCES

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to have Ordinance No. 53-2024 read by title only; Mr. Jacobs seconded.

Motion to read Ordinance No. 53-2024 by title only passes with seven affirmative votes.

President Anderson: For those that might be interested, the first reading has a great deal of just detailed rules language that can take quite a bit to read. It is available in full text form to anyone that wants to read it.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 53-2024 passes with seven affirmative votes.

## Ordinance No. 55-2024

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 153.252(F)(6)(c) OF THE SPRINGDALE CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING THE HUSBANDRY OF FOWL, RABBITS, AND BEES

President Anderson: Council, this was a first reading of the ordinance. We don't make a lot of changes to the zoning code here, so, for people unfamiliar, what would need to happen next since Planning hasn't reviewed this, our Charter requires that we take a vote to remit it back to Planning Commission for their assessment, and, at that point, they'll give us their view on it. They would take a motion and decide whether they're for or against it, or provide any conditions that we should consider. Ultimately, it would end up coming back to Council for our decision, and we would have that second reading, a public hearing if we so choose, and then we'd have an opportunity to take action on the ordinance. So, just so we're clear on the process. We've had the first reading. At this point, what we'll do is I'll open up an opportunity for us to have questions or discussion tonight, and then we'll have an opportunity to make a motion to send it to Planning if that's what Council wants to do. But, that would be the next step in the process. So, with that, having heard the first reading of the ordinance, is there any questions or discussion about the ordinance from Councilmembers tonight?

Mr. Jacobs: Just a review of this process. This started about six months ago. A majority of Council voted to create a committee to look at relaxing some of the restrictions and to remind people chickens are technically allowed in the City under certain lot requirements, but

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Mr. Jacobs (continued): the lot requirements are not realistic. So, after some consultation in meetings and collaboration with Administration, and, we looked at neighboring communities and other examples, we created, what I feel like, is a fairly conservative approach at it. We've said this before, but, the thrust of this is to focus on the neighbor of somebody who might want to raise chickens as opposed to the property owner that wants to raise chickens. And, at the end of the day, it relaxes one restriction, which is the property area, the acreage required, but, everything else is an additional restriction that didn't exist, and, these are more restrictive than other communities that we looked at. In general, I'll just say I know I've spoken to some residents, not many, that expressed some opposition. I completely understand that, and, I encourage my colleagues to vote their conscience. This doesn't have to be a controversial idea, but, I'm open to the discussion. To me, this will not create a slippery slope. Voting for this ordinance won't mean we'll suddenly have cows and pigs. That's just not how this works. It took six months just to put this in front of us. I don't believe it will change the nature of the City. If you read the ordinance, what we're talking about is about approximately half of the residential lots would be eligible to get a permit, and then, we're restricting it to 50 total lots at any one time. That's less than two percent of the lots in the City. So, from my seat, I don't see that changing the nature of the City in any way. And, I would further say, other communities that allow chickens are not known as chicken havens or farming communities. But, again, I understand the opposition, but, I just wanted to explain, basically, how we got here, and what the thrust of the ordinance was.

President Anderson: Any other questions or discussion from Councilmembers tonight? Or, obviously, Mayor Hawkins is, of course, welcome to speak as well. I didn't mean to exclude you by saying Councilmembers.

Mr. Vanover: I'm trying to recall. The process, the flow with this, the first reading tonight, typically when things we forward to, and, in this case, would be Planning for their review before it comes to us for a first reading, second reading, public hearing, whatever. What was the driving impetus to do this kind of in reverse?

President Anderson: Well, I wouldn't say it's in reverse. The process that we have by the Charter allows us to do it where Council is initiating a change and we would do the reading here, and then refer it to Planning Commission for their assessment before we're required to take action. What the Charter tells us, and, this is after reviewing it with our Law Director, was that this is one way to do it and it's permitted by the Charter to do it this way. It's not something that happens very often, as I mentioned. Typically, zoning changes are infrequent, and when they do, they typically comes as large bundles, and those tend to start at a different point. This was an ordinance, or direction that started from a Council Special Committee. So, once they had the ordinance ready, we wanted to bring it before Council for feedback to see if it was something that was worth sending to Planning for their review first. So, this is in no way cutting out Planning. This is just a way for us to get our feedback and put it out there what we believe it is. And then before we act, it will go to Planning, assuming that Council decides to refer it to Planning, which is what the Charter requires. So, it's not that it's backwards, this is the process that is outlined in the Charter for Council to create a zoning change.

Mayor Hawkins: I just want Council, as well as everybody else to understand process-wise, much like a preliminary plan that may go through Planning Commission. Planning Commission could say, "No" to a preliminary plan, and then that matter is going to come before Council, and whatever Council does is what it's going to be. This is the same way. Planning Commission can say, "Yes. Like this. Recommend this to Council.", or say, "No, we don't recommend this to Council." They could change the document that was read here tonight, and say we

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Mayor Hawkins (continued): recommend this to Council. When it comes to Council, Council gets to do whatever Council wants to do. So, Council can sit there and change it back, change it to something else you haven't seen or talked about, Council's got the flexibility and freedom to go through with that. And, I think what Mr. Vanover is alluding to is a lot of times we see the text amendments would come through Planning Commission and then come by Council. I think at the end of the day, Council is going to be making the decision on what it's going to be and the content thereof, regardless of what Planning Commission does. But, it will be because of the text amendment, Planning Commission is going to get to give their input to Council. It's only something that's a recommendation or an advisory, but, Council is going to do whatever it wants to do.

President Anderson: And, it's worth noting in all the Committee meetings we had our Law Director present, and he drafted this ordinance and was aware of the agenda before it was added here. It's not that this was, in any way, I guess I'm just reacting to the word "backwards". It is unusual. We don't typically make a lot of zoning changes, so, it feels different, but, he assures us that the process we're using is appropriate, and, I don't know if the stand-in for the Law Director wants to confirm that, or not.

Acting Law Director Jeff Levine: That is correct. Other people do it the way that you are proposing it tonight. Yes, I did discuss it with Mr. Braun, and the way that you're proposing to do it, albeit, it might not be the standard procedure, it is perfectly legal and in accordance with the Charter.

Mr. Vanover: Well, this goes to Planning, and Planning can make their message, then, wouldn't we have to revise the resolution or the ordinance, which means then potentially have to have a new first reading?

President Anderson: So, it's certainly possible depending on the recommendation that comes back. It may or may not require an additional reading. I don't want to speak for Planning Commission. When I spoke with the Law Director earlier today about this, there's certainly the possibility if they were to recommend completely different language, then it would depend on what the changes were, and if we wanted those changes to be included or not. What we get back from the Planning Commission is a recommendation based on what was referred to them. So, what we'd be doing is referring this ordinance back to them. They will then have their discussion, and, decide if they want to give a recommendation to approve/disapprove, or changes that they might recommend. It's only if Council wants to accept those changes, depending on the content of the changes, we need to have an additional reading or not, but, that all just depends on the process. So, it's hard to say, but, that's the nature of the process. The nature of creating the ordinance and sending it back. It depends on what they say. Right now, what we know is we have an ordinance before us that the Committee was tasked to create. They've submitted that back to Council for consideration. If this Council would like to take the next step with it, how that would happen is we would make, there would be a motion to refer it to Planning Commission, we would take a vote, and, if that passed, this ordinance, with the request of Planning, would go to them for them to act on. Planning Commission then has 30 days to respond with a recommendation. So, if it fits in the next meeting, great, if they feel they need more time, they can take that time, but, within 30 days they are supposed to respond back to Council so we can take action. So, whether or not the dates will change, that depends on the scheduling with Planning and what they do.

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Mr. Uhl: Just for clarification, if the recommendation is to refer this to Planning Commission, it would be on the November 12<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting, and the reason behind that is the 15 day notice period of a potential change. So, it would be before Planning Commission on November 12<sup>th</sup>, with a letter of recommendation coming back to City Council on December 4<sup>th</sup>, after their 15 day period as well.

President Anderson: So we can go back. That's the normal process, but, I think there's a separate timer that we have to address where they're required to respond within a certain number of days. So, if they're not able to add it to the agenda, it might require a special meeting if we refer to them. We can take that off-line with the Law Director and see if we need to do that. My only concern is I remember there being a 30 or 45 day response time. And, the challenge is that if they don't respond in that time it's assumed to be permitted, or recommended, and then Council can take action without the advice of Planning. I would hate to be in that situation because they have a lot of experience that we want to draw on. So, the exact timing after this, we'll have to figure out based on what Planning Commission's availability is so we'll have to talk to the Chair there and see what they want to do.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Our Chair will not be at our meeting next week, so, we won't know until he returns from being out of town. Once we have that, I'm sure he'll get back with you or with Mr. Uhl, or the Mayor.

President Anderson: The Vice-Chair is certainly able to make those decisions in his absence. Again, this isn't a "hair on fire" emergency, right? So, if we need to make some adjustments so we can get the advice we want, Council has the ability to do that. We're not required to act at the end of that 30 days. We just have the ability to act, so, if the schedule works out that we can't get it on there, and Council is willing to wait, we can wait until we get that feedback. I was just explaining what the requirements are just so everyone's aware. Because this is a new thing, but, I think we do want their feedback, so, if they're able to give it to us in that meeting, great. If not, Council, in our next meeting can decide, right? Because, we'll know in our next meeting if they're going to be able to have that discussion before our November meeting. So, we can have that discussion under Old Business at our next meeting for how we want to handle the zone change. Again, we're not trying to push any of this on the City. The process has been going on for six months. We've had a lot of meetings with a lot of discussions with a lot of people. We're just trying to keep the process moving forward. So, this is where we're at right now. Any other questions or discussion? (None) At this point, the Chair is open to a motion to refer this to Planning Commission, Ordinance No. 55-2024 to Planning for their assessment.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: I'd like to make a motion to refer it to Planning Commission.

Mr. Jacobs: Second.

President Anderson: Moved and seconded. Questions or discussion about the referral? (none) I know that was a lot. It's a new process for a lot of people, so, thank you for hanging with us. Seeing no lights, Ms. Browder if would you poll Council on the motion to refer Ordinance No. 55-2024 to Planning Commission for their review.

Motion to refer Ordinance No. 55-2024 to Planning Commission for their review is approved with seven affirmative votes.

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President Anderson: Thank you for hanging with us during the process. Again, as I mentioned, we can work with Planning to figure out what the next time the Council should take adjustments remaining. I know one of the things that the dates are important to is we talked about having a public hearing, and getting feedback from the public. So, as soon as we can get that date narrowed down, that timeline, I'd like to be able to publicize that so people who have opinions have an opportunity to come in and share their views on it. Because it's not tonight, I mean, anyone can come in at any time and during audience communications and share their views, but, specifically on this ordinance, we want to make sure we get those dates publicized.

## Old Business

Mr. Jacobs: I had a question for Administration. At a previous meeting there was concerns raised about loitering in a bus stop on West Kemper. I wondered if there was any updates on maybe addressing that issue and how things were going.

Mr. Uhl: That issue has been resolved. We have not had any future or any current issues or problems with that same individual at that particular location.

Mr. Jacobs: Thank you.

## New Business

Mayor Hawkins: So, at the last meeting, we talked about we had the ComeUnity Bash and said there's going to be some other things we're looking at for 2025. And, so, wanted to give you a little snippet as to what those things will look like. So, on August 2<sup>nd</sup> of 2025, we're looking to do our Community event which will be, for the first time, Pretzel Fest. So, in celebration of having the largest pretzel producer in North America, we will have Pretzel Fest and some of the activities we're going to have at Pretzel Fest will include the family mud quest again. For kids, we'll have from 1:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. we'll have inflatable games, slide obstacle course, climbing wall, gaga pit, tattoo and balloon artists, hair artists, face painters, etc. Some of the things we're looking at. For adults I know there's been a lot of feedback asking for some adult activities. For adults, there will be a beer tent, there will be a mechanical bull, corn hole, cup pong, and we'll try to have some other displays from Jake Sweeney of some vehicles around the area. And then, in terms of bands that have been booked, from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., Parrots of the Caribbean, a Jimmy Buffet tribute band will be here, and then from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Naked Karate Girls will be here. It should be a great time, and we're looking forward to that and there will be more information as that becomes available. Thank you.

## Meetings and Announcements

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission will meet next Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in these chambers.

Ms. McFarland: Board of Health will meet next Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup> in these chambers.

Mr. Gleaves: The BZA meeting that was scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup> was cancelled, I'll have to get with Mr. Uhl to help me here with the October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting coming up.

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President Anderson: We will have that.

Mr. Gleaves: It's on?

Mr. Uhl: Correct.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you.

Mayor Hawkins: On October 29<sup>th</sup>, it's a Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Rec Center in the Webster Room Judy Kessler, and maybe some other individuals from the Princeton Board of Education are going to be present with the opportunity for residents to come and learn about, ask questions about, question the Princeton levy that's going to be up. So, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Any residents who have questions regarding the Princeton School levy that's on the ballot coming up this November, they can come ask questions, get input from board members so that they can make an informed decision. Thank you.

Ms. McFarland: And, in addition to that, there are a total of five dates throughout the district if you are not able to attend the October 29<sup>th</sup>, there will be published dates for other communities and they did say that you do not have to be a community resident to attend those.

Mr. Uhl: Just two quick announcements. The document shredding event will be taking place this Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. down at the Community Center. I would refer people to Facebook and Instagram to make sure that they follow the flow of cars where you'll enter in closer to the Police Department, and kind of filter your way through towards the Community Center. Secondly, our Public Works Department will have the chipper service out this week, and in to next week to allow for any storm debris that people may have experienced as a result of the high winds and whatnot that we experienced Friday and Saturday. So, feel free to bring those out to the curb and our chipper service will be there to pick those items up.

Ms. Morgan: The Civil Service Commission will meet tomorrow, at 2:00 p.m. adjacent to these chambers.

Mayor Hawkins: One last thing. As we're in October and we'll be into December before we know it, anybody that has interest in helping to volunteer with regard to SOS (Springdale Offering Support) should keep in mind that we're getting towards that time, and so, if you come forward, contact SOS that you want to participate with regard to sorting, wrapping, potentially shopping, now's the time to start thinking about that and start making contact with them. Thank you.

President Anderson: Did Chief Stanley cover the Fire Department Open House enough? Is that this Saturday, from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Firehouse? I know they're not here to hear me shill for them, but, it's always a good time to walk on the equipment, and they always do a good job with the burgers and snacks. So, it's worth going to if you haven't been before. Especially if you have little kids. They have a lot of games and activities for them.

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### Communications from the Audience

Mrs. Ramirez: Pam Ramirez from 831 Yorkhaven. I want to know how you come to the conclusion of six hens when any other so called pet is limited to two per household? The next thing you know is people are going to want three or four dogs, which I have no problem with as long as they're quiet, but, chickens aren't quiet. But, I just wanted to know how you come up with six instead of two if they're considered pets.

Mr. Jacobs: The number was arrived at by looking at other communities. We also did find out, and I'm certainly not an expert, but, we did find out that it's actually illegal to sell one chick, for example. Chickens are social animals, so they do need to be in groups. But, again, basically the answer is that that's what other communities have done. But, I will note, our ordinance is more strict than other nearby communities. But, that's the answer I have for the number.

Mrs. Vanover: Donna Vanover, 11982 Tavel Court. We already have chickens and roosters in our neighborhood. They're all running up and down the streets. So, they're not contained now. So, is the new ordinance going to take care of that?

Mr. Jacobs: I think partially that's a question I'd like Administration to attack as well. And, I will note that we worked with Administration in trying to craft the legislation, but, what I've also learned, as part of the Community, is that there's been 20 instances of chickens being reported to the City. Nineteen of those were addressed in a way that removed the chickens. If there is a current problem with chickens, the enforcement mechanism is there, and calls have to be made. If it's not being addressed, then I'm just going to pass that on to Administration. I don't know if calls have been made on those specific chickens you're referring to in your neighborhood.

Mrs. Vanover: It's just one of our many problems in our neighborhood.

Mayor Hawkins: I encourage everybody, if you see chickens out loose, please contact the Building Department so that we can go through and cite individuals with regard to that situation. Obviously, through the course of what's happened with the case that went through Board of Zoning Appeals, and Council's going through with the special committee to look at these things, there's been a long process with regard to these things. Now, in terms of enforcement, folks still are getting cited. There are a couple of different active cases. There's an active case on Benadir now, so, the thing that we still encourage folks to do is, if you're a resident, you see a chicken loose, you see a chicken in somebody's backyard, please call the Building Department so we can make a note of it, and, go forward. The reality will be I can't sit here and say what Council is going to do with regard to the ordinance, or chickens, or what have you. Whatever happens, we're going to go through and strictly enforce the rules with regard to chickens. So, if Council decides, at the end of all of this to change nothing, and things will be where it is, you have to have three acres, then we are going to strictly and quickly enforce those rules. If Council changes it, and it looks like this, or it looks like something else, then we're going to quickly and strictly enforce those rules. There's been a little bit of grace in terms of the process of enforcement over the last couple of months because Council has been going through looking at this, but the reality is we're still going through enforcing those things. We still want to know when people have chickens, and, we're going to go through and enforce that, and when this process gets over with, there's not going to be any leeway, and there's not going to be any grace. You're either going to be in compliance with what our

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Mayor Hawkins (continued): current law is now if Council changes nothing, or whatever the law is going to be if Council changes the law. But we're not going to play around with it. It's been too long and I've heard too many residents who have been upset for a long time. So, even before this, I had referenced with a resident who was up in Beacon Hills who was upset about her neighbor having chickens, and I told the Building Department because she didn't want to come forward with regard to it, but, it's been something that's gone on for a long time. So, folks have gotten a little bit of grace, but we are, in terms of the process of them getting in to Mayor's Court because they haven't fixed the problem, but we want to know if people are violating things, please let the Building Department know because we're going to be taking note of it, and whatever Council ends up doing, believe me, we're going to be strictly enforcing it. So, if you see it, please let us know.

President Anderson: The Building Department is responsible for at least enforcing that part of it because it's inside the house. If they're running down the street, it's different. At some point, the Police get involved just like they would with an escaped dog, something like that, they've gotten involved in those cases too. I will say I will add to that one of the challenges when I've talked to residents who say, "Well, what do you mean I can't have chickens?", because so many of the neighboring communities have it, some people just assume that it's legal, it's just the thing that people do now. That's not the case in Springdale and they're learning that through these enforcement activities. So, it's been a challenge. And, some of that, the time that it's taken to get to this point, is to Mr. Vanover's point, one of the reasons why we're trying to keep the process moving and the reading tonight and refer it to Planning as quickly as we can so we can get on with the decision. This doesn't have to be contentious. It might be contentious, it just depends, but we want to get to resolution of what the City's position on chickens is, and the longer it takes to do that, the more we have this interstitial period where people are asking for enforcement, which in a lot of cases means killing or removing chickens, and that's difficult because a lot of people see these as pets or domestic animals, so, it's difficult. It's difficult for us as just people to walk in and say even though we know we're voting on this in a month, you have to kill your chickens today, so, that's why we're struggling. So, I know I appreciate the bit of grace and the patience the residents have as we resolve it, but I know right now it's not a comfortable position for anyone until we get a resolution.

Mrs. Vanover: Well, in our neighborhood, it's not just the chickens. It's the downfall of the neighborhood in the last five years. People are parking in the yards, our neighborhood is a hot mess. And it's sad, and my house is paid for, and I like where I live, but, I'm just very discouraged and there's lots of my neighbors in our neighborhood that are also discouraged. Yards aren't kept up, not taken care of. Cars are parked in the yards constantly. The Police don't have enough time to enforce all of this, or the City. Some of it's just common courtesy. I don't know if a letter needs to be sent out to resident as a whole to say this is your responsibility to take of your property. Some of it I know is the landlord. It's just very upsetting these last few years.

President Anderson: I appreciate the comments. I grew up on Tarrytown in Heritage Hill. I've seen the change in the neighborhood. What I will encourage people to do is when they see those issues, to call them in. One of the things that Council did, and Mr. Vanover, and Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup and myself as part of the Rental Program Committee tried to address some of these building maintenance issues, especially for the landlord situations, and that's when we created the nuisance property ordinance out of. So, if there's chronic repeat people who have challenges keeping up with it, and it tends to be remote landlords, we have a way now to enforce it in a way that we didn't a year ago. So, that's something that came out of the committee that I know I'm proud of because it gives us the option. Every time there's that

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President Anderson (continued): violation, every time there's a write up for a car in a lot, once they get to a certain number, there are serious consequences, whereas, two years ago, there was very little we could do in those cases. So, I encourage people when they see that to deal with it. I know in the past Administration has changed working hours for some of the inspectors because a lot of that, lawn parking, happened after business hours so the inspectors weren't there going around, and the Police Department doesn't have the authority to go on to the property to cite for something like that; it's Building Department. So, I know there's things that Administration is doing to help with that too. But, I hear what you're saying. I've seen change.

Ms. Dominga: Good afternoon, my name is Laura Dominga. I live at the address of 249 West Kemper Road. I do want to clarify the misunderstanding in regards to chickens and ordinance in general for anyone. Mostly, it's a household owner. My race is Hispanic, I'm Hispanic. If you look at the ordinance, it's all in English. How would a person who doesn't speak English as a first language understand the ordinance we have in Springdale, or, in general, in any City that we live in? So, how would that be enforced as well?

President Anderson: It's Hispanic Heritage Month too, so it's a great question to ask. I know that the City offers a great deal of translation services. We published our newsletter bilingual; there is a Spanish and an English version that shares changes in the Community. In terms of ordinances themselves, I don't know that I've ever heard us address that. It's a good point. I don't know that we've looked at that. Is that something that we've addressed before?

Mr. Uhl: I don't know that when you select a language for your web browser, I don't know that it's able to convert a pdf. I don't believe so.

Ms. Dominga: On some websites it does. Some websites it doesn't. Let's say someone is an iPhone user, sometimes it doesn't. Depending on the website the person created. I'm not sure for the Springdale website if it does. I know you have to select the language, but in regards to that, I don't know if it's on Facebook, there are communities for people who do newsletters for the Hispanic community. So, to understand the ordinance and everything, in regards to the question of chickens, I think it would be best to let the communities know who do those newsletters for the Hispanic community to inform them so that they can notify the communities or something for better change in general. There's new things that you guys explained today. I didn't know at first. I was contacted in regards to this issue. I didn't know just because I usually read everything in Spanish. I speak English, read English, study here, but, I'm more comfortable reading in my own language.

President Anderson: It's certainly an opportunity.

Ms. Browder: Could I suggest if there are people that are creating newsletters as a way of translation if they are able to, go to our City website and subscribe to our newsletters, and subscribe to our Council meeting packets. They could then make that information available to you. Not that we won't create another avenue, but, that's certainly something they could do in the near term.

President Anderson: And, I'll do one further. I know something that I'm certainly open to talking with anyone that's running a regular newsletter. I know I publish a website. I maintain a website where I try to keep people up-to-date on ordinances like this. It is English-focused,

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President Anderson (continued): but I'm certainly available to have those discussion if there's a contact or a way that you think would help reach that community. It's certainly something we can do. I'd also add Council has a Communications Committee, so, we have a group that's available to deal with outreach, or, even communication, if there's something we have to do differently. So, I guess what I'm saying is, "Thank you" for bringing it to our attention. I think we need to have some discussion to see if we can do better in that, but, I will say in the meanwhile, if you have questions, or if there's somebody that would be good to communicate these types of things, you can reach out to me. My email address is on the City website. I can give you my card if you want. You just need to tell us what types of things you would be interested in. I don't mind doing one-on-one communications for that stuff. And, I know other people on Council have done that themselves with people in their districts. So, it's just a matter of making a connection with your local Council rep, or one of the at-large reps and we can work something out for sure.

Ms. Dominga: Thank you.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you so much for coming down. It's very good information. I just want to share with you that I ran "at-large", and that gave me the ability to see the whole City. And, I talked to a lot of people that were having issues with the language barrier. My question to the Community, and everybody, if you want to get involved, and you bring this forward, do you know anybody that would want to help? Would you be willing to help? That's what I think is needed.

President Anderson: You can take that. We don't want to put you on the spot. It's certainly something that we need to have some discussions to figure out if we can do better. You've raised an interesting point. The way our demographics has changed, it's real. And, we've done some outreach in that space when we've done newsletters, we do bilingual when we've had some of the official communications. The Health Department has bilingual access. So, it's good to know that. I don't think we've talked about ordinances in that regard.

Mayor Hawkins: So, a few things I want to make sure that we're clear on. For a number of years, our Health Department Commissioner Matt Clayton has done an outstanding job with regard to outreach, with regard to our Hispanic community, and, making sure that they one, feel included, and two, they are aware of resources and aware of things that are going on in terms of involvement. Second thing is with regard to the assistance of Charlie Wilson, I know down there with regard to our sign-up sheets, I think there's a sign-up sheet that's in Spanish as well to assist in kids being able to get engaged with our sport activities, and what have you. So, you know, along the lines of big picture with what you're talking about in terms of people knowing information that's going on specifically about chickens, I think the biggest issue we have with regard to chickens and I think this probably carries over to most things, people tend to be reactive and not proactive. A lot of times, people do not call up to the City, and say, "Can I do 'X'?", "Can I have three dogs?", "Can I have three chickens?". "Can I park my car in the back yard?" A lot of times, folks, don't do that. And, so, it's a reactive thing. And, as a result, they end up hearing for the first time when they've done something they're not supposed to do. If people were, if someone came up here that spoke Spanish, English, German, French, you pick the language, and they asked the question, we would manage that some kind of way in terms of getting them information. The big problem is folks don't ask. It's reactive, and, so, we will do what we can do whether it's meetings, newsletters, our website to try to get information out, but, not everybody reads the newsletter, not everybody is on Facebook, or looking at our website, and, so, unfortunately, people don't always get the information because they're not looking for it, they're reacting to it. So, that's really the big thing folks need to be a little bit more proactive.

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Mayor Hawkins (continued): Or, just ask. Ask the question if they've got it. If someone comes to the City and asks a question, we'll get the answer to you, even if you're not speaking English. We'll find a way to do that. But, I think those are two different issues.

President Anderson: Thank you for bringing that to our attention. I don't think ordinances is something we talked about in bilingual. Administration has done a good job with outreach. That's something that we can take a look at. It just hadn't occurred to us, and that's our mistake, I think.

Mayor Hawkins: That just reminded me of something. I want to take a step back in terms of people being reactive. Residents are probably going to be getting, if they haven't already, notices with regard to energy aggregation letters coming out. So, that's another thing. I had a young lady come out last Spring who was upset that, she admittedly doesn't pay attention to her mail that comes through. She got switched over, she was not happy about being switched over. So, I'm telling residents, look out for the "opt-out" letters if you want to opt-out. Otherwise, you're going to be in, but, again, it's one of those things, be proactive, pay attention to what's going on as these things are coming out. They're in the mail now, so, be aware. If you don't want to be in the aggregation, then you're going to have to opt-out of it. Thank you.

President Anderson: And, that's for gas aggregation, and it's a one-year contract.

## Recap of Legislative Items

Mr. Jacobs: Council, as you review your Legislative Summary, Item Number I was addressed by Ordinance No. 52-2024; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into a Professional Services Agreement with CWL Consulting, LLC for Building Official, Residential Building Official, and Master Plans Examiner Services for the City of Springdale, Ohio. That passed with seven affirmative votes. Item Number II was addressed with Ordinance No. 53-2024; An Ordinance Amending Sections 30.03 and 30.05 of the Springdale Code of Ordinances. That was read by title only, and passed with seven affirmative votes. Item Number III, Ordinance No. 55-2024; An Ordinance Amending Section 153.252(F)(6)(c) of the Springdale Code of Ordinances Regulating the Husbandry of Fowl, Rabbits and Bees received a first reading and was referred to Planning Commission for their review with seven affirmative votes. All other issues are forthcoming unless Administration has anything.

## Legislation in Development

Mr. Uhl: We did have a short meeting with the Finance Committee prior to this, and I'll defer over to Mr. Vanover in regards to recommending a future ordinance.

Mr. Vanover: Yes, Chief Stanley was in and that's part of why he was real happy tonight. (laughter) Currently, we are, well, we've got an ambulance unit in process. It's lagging behind. We're still hoping to get it by the end of this year. But, with that said, we have two other units that are aging, and, with a two-year window, we are recommending that we start the process now. We're talking the estimate for Horton emergency vehicles is the manufacturer, \$362,830. This is a new unit, and, on top of that, would be the, and I forget the term, the power cot. That's about \$50,000 on top of it. There was some discussion that we go ahead and pick up the power cot, Horton will hold it until the assembly is taken in. The unit that is currently under

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Mr. Vanover (continued): order right now, the Fire Department for the City has been notified that they have been assigned a VIN number. They're still waiting on the chassis to start to build, which is another four months process. So, unfortunately, this has becoming the new normal on these items. So, Mrs. Webster and I, as Finance Committee recommend that we bring this to Council with our full recommendation that we have an ordinance in the works.

President Anderson: You've got that. Any other legislative items to be requested by Council or Administration? (None) Is that it Mr. Jacobs?

Mr. Jacobs: Yes.

## Adjournment

President Anderson: Then all we have left before is Item 16.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Move to adjourn.

President Anderson: We're adjourned. Thank you everyone.

Council adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Browder  
Clerk of Council

Minutes Approved:  
Jeffrey Anderson, President of Council

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