

## City of Springdale Council

April 16, 2025

President of Council Anderson called Council to order on April 16, 2025.

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

Mr. Vanover provided the Invocation.

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

The minutes of the April 2, 2025, meeting were considered. Mr. Vanover made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Gleaves seconded. The minutes were approved with seven affirmative votes.

### Proclamation – Arbor Day

Mayor Hawkins presented Chris Miller of Public Works with a proclamation for Arbor Day which will be recognized on April 25, 2025.

Ms. Brownlee: Good evening, Springdale City Council and everybody who goes with it. All you guys who work so hard with it. I don't need to tell anyone here how important local government is. If you didn't agree, you wouldn't be in this room. Engaged citizens and accountable elected officials are how we ensure that government is of the people, by the people, and for the people. And while a lot of news and a lot of our attention is on national government right now, local politics matters. As your State House Representative for District 28, I am proud to represent your needs. I love your engagement here. In fact, I even have a t-shirt from your event, and I love hearing your perspectives. Prior to the State House, I was a social worker, so I know how strong we are when we work together to support one another. My social work career was in community mental health, where I worked as a therapist to support the health and safety of our most precious resource, our children. Since children often do not have the agency to make changes for better health, it was imperative that I also worked with their families, school systems, and the wider community around them to make the change needed for better outcomes for their mental health. Within my clinical therapy work, I gained the skills needed to have courageous and often difficult conversations to create collaboration between factions who disagree, and to truly listen and act in the interest of my young clients. These are some of the same skills I bring to the State House in the interest of our district. As you already know, I am a Democrat and I'm working in a house that holds a two thirds super majority of Republican State Representatives. With that, I'm working across the aisle to make sure that people in districts like this one have safe neighborhoods, quality schools, and economic growth. My bipartisan focus is not out of necessity, but because it is the right thing to do for democracy. Our district is a very diverse one, and my goal is to include not alienate. This focus on inclusion and diverse representation is one of the many things that my family and I love about the

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Ms. Brownlee (continued): Hamilton County suburbs, and this district that I like to call "The Great 28". But, while working across the aisle and representing the whole community is important to me, you can also count on me to stand up and advocate when it's required. And it is required now. I am deeply concerned about the current push at the State level to consolidate financial power at the State level and take away local control. The current budget at the operating budget presents a very challenging climate for school budgets, healthcare access, and public safety, and it even reduces funding for food assistance for seniors, families, and children during a time when the need is increasing. The change from evidence-based funding formulas to unvetted line-item funding for schools and public libraries in the current house budget does not create simplicity for local government. Instead, it creates an uncertain economic climate where it is very difficult to plan for future expenditures where you might be penalized for being fiscally responsible, and, in many cases, will leave local governments holding the bag to cover a larger portion of the costs. Your representation matters. It matters here in Springdale, and it matters in the State House. My greatest hope is that we work together in commitment to the future of Springdale and the entire great 28. Many of you have served for a long time, and I honor and humbly request your guidance and support on what matters most to Springdale, and how I can positively impact those issues. I also offer my own guidance and support back to you. If I've learned one thing at the State House, it's that politics and policies are sometimes very complex. If that's the case, I invite you to call me or call my office so we can help you understand and advocate for your needs. Your engagement is what makes District 28 so great. Great for families, great for kids, and great for employers. I'm proud to represent you, and I'd be happy to take any questions you might have.

President Anderson: Thank you for that. Are there questions?

Mayor Hawkins: First off, thank you for coming out and seeing us tonight. We appreciate it. And you're clearly the best-dressed person who is in this room tonight. We appreciate you. And you touched on a few things that are concerned at this level. I'll give you three things, and you do not have to answer them today, but you get back with us and let us know. I don't like to put anybody on the spot, and I understand how that can go. But the first one is the legislation that was passed with regard to the marijuana legislation and the talk of changing that to take money away from local governments is very concerning. There are a number of municipalities like ours, that is one of the primary things I'm not going to speak for everybody, but one of the primary reasons for that being passed through legislation and being supported and pushed through was the fact that the municipality was going to get back money for that. And the talk of that potentially changing is very disconcerting. That process too, just from the Administrative side of watching folks jockeying for position to get in dispensaries seems pretty messy as well. So, any insight with regard to positioning and protecting municipalities like Springdale that have gone out on a limb to support and pass legislation with regard to dispensaries is helpful. The second issue, and the third issue, really come back to funding and so the one is the local government fund.

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Mayor Hawkins (continued): The Rainy-Day fund has been filled up I think probably since back with Governor Kasich, and the legislature has sat there and held that money. The other part is school funding. Being part of the Princeton district, we have a levy coming up the first week in May that, if it does not pass, will have a devastating impact with regard to our school system; possibly closing a school or two and we're already full, and, so, that's going to cause some more issues. So, know that there's millions of dollars that are sitting there that the State Legislature controls, we'd like to know what plans there may be that you have in terms of trying to get that redirected. I know you're one person; you can't control the whole house, or the senate, but trying to get those dollars back to the local government and to our school system, I know that's a complicated issue too with I think 615 different school districts. But it's a really critical thing. We haven't had local government funds probably since 2009 or so, and so that's something that really would help us dramatically.

Ms. Brownlee: Yes, and in speaking to the Administration, I don't know much about it, I can say. I don't know what that is, so, if you would let me know what the concerns are in terms of that management, it would be very helpful to me to dig into that and figure out. In terms of the promise, the promise was the communities that allowed this investment to occur would be getting that excise tax in full, and, you know, when you look at it from a holistic standpoint, the money may not be huge for each community, but it is huge to that community. It's a huge portion of the, or it can be a huge portion of the operating budget. So, we really need to hear your voices, hear the community voices on that, and don't be afraid to. The operating budget is now in the Senate, so, don't be afraid to call senators. I, of course, always want you to call me and let me know what's going on, what you're thinking so that we can better advocate because it's not fair. The promise was that you guys would get the excise tax. Now you get 20% of it for five years. And, you know, the time limitation on that really bothers me because we ask you guys to forecast out. We should allow you to do that. Back to the other funding, the schools. The Fair School Funding formula is bi-partisan. It was developed over years in the fairest way possible. It was enacted, and it's been running now for four years. The fact that that's being changed to line-item funding is very concerning. The carryover situation is deeply concerning, and, asking schools again to forecast out five years when we can change it every two years on them, doesn't seem functional or practical to me. So, keep the letters coming. I mean, we really need to hear from voters from you guys what is going on. I'm not afraid to get your phone calls. We'll call you back.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you Ms. Brownlee for coming out. I think you're doing a fantastic job. There's a long list of things that's been cut. What is being funded?

Ms. Brownlee: So, one of the biggest things that's being funded, because, you know, making a budget is always "choices", right? What do we give money to. Where do we invest? I, of course, believe in investing in Ohioans and in our kids especially. They're our future. And, being from Hamilton County, this is so challenging to say, but we are financing the Cleveland Browns new stadium for \$600 million dollars. I know

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Ms. Brownlee (continued): the approach is always when you finance something that they're going to pay it back, and you hope that works, but that has to work in a certain scenario, and scenarios change, so, it puts us in a really awkward position, especially with you know, Paul Brown. You know, their lease is up. The Bengals lease is up in two years. And it's an interesting one. Back kind of to the rainy-day fund. I don't know what plans there are. It seems like everybody just doesn't want to touch it. I wish I had a better answer for you guys. Sorry.

Mr. Vanover: Well, I have, as Mayor Hawkins alluded to, well, I say "I", we have weathered several attacks from Columbus on our home rule, and my philosophy is we are home rule for a reason; get out of our life and leave us alone. They had five years ago, six years ago they got the notion that well, you'll send your income tax to us, and then we'll send it back. Well, I know how that funnel works, and the one end that we're feeding into is bigger than the end that's coming back. Columbus, you know, they have the rule if there are townships or municipalities that can't do that, then fine. But, when we've got the system in place and have had it for years, and it's working, then the old philosophy, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". Leave us alone. We have ruled our kingdom, if you want to call it, on our own, and it was our founders that thought far enough ahead that that's the way they set it up. And Columbus should be an aid, not a master. So, you can take that message back wholeheartedly. Support, but you're not leading.

Ms. Brownlee: Well said. I agree. There is legislation that comes by and where people are pushing to take away home rule, and I'm advocating. You know, maybe there's an instance where I will change my mind for a specific reason, but so far, I'm advocating against that. You guys are doing your job, and I want to support that.

Mr. Gleaves: One more question. It was mentioned by our Mayor about our levy. It's extremely important. Raise your hand if you went to Princeton High School up here. That says something. It's extremely strong. We've got so much pride in this area. When I was a child, we didn't want for anything, but I remember the lottery came along and my parents and all their friends were like, "Wow, the lottery is here. They're going to take care of the schools". I don't even know what's going on with the lottery anymore. Schools need to be funded. What goes up for us, goes up for them. I'm not telling anybody how to vote, but there's a lot of municipalities asking and building places for people to move in, just like Springdale. We have a new apartment complex that's just now being built. There's going to be some children that are going to move in there, and I don't want those new children to merge with the children that have been at Springdale to not move forward. I don't want them to come here and have to move back. And that's what the State House needs to think about. All these people are moving, and they deserve to have the same quality education that they're getting right now. Thank you.

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Ms. Brownlee: I agree wholeheartedly. We really need to fund the schools equitably across the board, so everybody has a chance, and that pushes economic growth across the board. Just from a local level, if this levy doesn't pass and cuts are made, of course the people that are going to feel it the most are the kids. And, if you want to think a little bit further about it, or have some other reasons to vote for it, it is a great Community Center, but also having great schools increases your own property value. So, keeping great schools is incredibly important for anybody who owns a home here.

Mr. Vanover: Just to piggyback, you brought up the Bengals and Paul Brown Stadium, well, just last night, FC Cincinnati threw their hand up and, "Hey, what about me?", and I can see Dayton Dragons doing the same thing because it's like, "Well, if they big guys, I add to the community pot just as much as they do." So, it's a dangerous precedent I feel, and I think that the NFL, while they're making their dollars, they're probably the major benefactor as well as the athletes that are employed. But, once you start down that path, there's no coming back, and that's a dangerous path to start on.

Ms. Brownlee: Agreed. I moved here in 1999, and we've been paying taxes ever since on the Bengals stadium.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Thank you for coming today, and, yes, I have called and talked to you many, many times about different things and so have other people and they've told me you've gotten back to them, so, thank you for that. My number one thing is unconstitutional funding from the State of Ohio to the schools, and also, they take away from the municipalities. They take back on their promises and I don't like that. They've also, in the past, taken away from elder aid and things like that. My question is how can they continue to be unconstitutionally funding the schools and yet we're telling kids to do the right thing? It kind of seems silly.

Ms. Brownlee: It's why I ran for office. I think we all need to "adult" better and be better role models. Right now, the make up of State House is such that a single party can do what they want, and there's really no accountability, and that is always a grave concern for me. I don't care if it's Democrats or Republicans. A super majority is really bad for government. It's bad for the people. And, you know, from a constitutionality standpoint, funding schools is the only thing that we are mandated to do as a State House constitutionally.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: And it's illegal currently. Unconstitutional, I should say, currently.

Ms. Brownlee: It was deemed that in, what was it 1996?

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: It was 1997, and then they took away tangible property taxes in 2011, is that correct?

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Ms. Brownlee: I don't know the date on that.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: That was when they took away from the elderly and the municipalities and the school at the same time. Again, coming back on promises that were made to make those people whole. Those were taken away. So, that was when Princeton lost \$24 million dollars. The last time we lost a big bunch. Thank you.

Ms. Brownlee: Thank you.

President Anderson: Then I'll just close with this. First, again, thank you for coming out. We always appreciate it when our County and then State representatives come and meet down with the Community. You can hear firsthand, it's not nothing. We do appreciate you coming and listening to it. You've heard tonight a lot of the same things from the reps up here, and our Mayor of what I've been hearing also in the Community. You hit them all. You talked about diversity in our district. That's true. Even on this dais there's some diversity both in political opinions and then also in all the other metrics, or some of the other metrics. What you did hear though is the same thing. The message that I've been hearing as well. Home rule matters to Springdale. School funding matters to our Community. Libraries matter to our Community too. And local government funds; keeping the promises that are made because we're on the ground and have to deal with the consequences when those don't get followed through on. So, we appreciate you advocating for those things. I don't believe any of the things that we've talked about are against what you've been doing, so, let me say, "Thank you" for continuing to be an advocate for our Community. It is appreciated. We see that happening. The last thing that I had is what else do you need from us to do to help you with these issues that matter, especially matters that cost the political separations that come across. What can we do as a Council today to help with that, and what can residents do that will talk to us, because they ask those same questions. They want to know, does it matter if I call Ms. Brownlee and say, "Yes", and add me to that list. What else should they be doing. Is it a matter of being more vocal, do you need specific ordinances or resolutions or support to show that what you're saying matters to us? We can do those things. You just need to let us know.

Ms. Brownlee: Of course, from the Council, that would be very helpful. Let me know what you're seeing, what you're hearing, and what you guys care about. There's something that's of particular concern, call me up, email me. Let me know what it is. We'll look into it, and we'll see how we can best advocate for it. And, sometimes, I mean things slip in. You know, this budget, I think at this point it's 5,000 pages long. So, there's a lot of steps. That said, you know, my caucus and I, we went through every page, every line to make sure we weren't missing stuff. Did we probably still miss something? Yes, probably. So, let us know. I hope we didn't but let us know. For citizens and voters, let us know what you're thinking. With the library funding is a very good example. They changed the library fund which has been the public library fund, a percentage of the budget since the 1980's, so that's what libraries planned on going forward for next year. They changed it to a simple line-item fund and, while the number increases in dollars

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Ms. Brownlee (continued): from last year, the future growth hasn't accounted for inflation. You know, everybody in here is feeling the effects of inflation of high prices at the grocery store, housing. Nobody is even sure what is going to happen with pricing next week. So, let us know what you care about and the more calls we get, the more we get to say, "Hey, people really, really care about this" and go and advocate for that. That said, there is a limitation to it because one party has all the votes, and they seem to, for the most part, there were a few, probably six or seven Republicans who did not vote for the Operating Budget, but they do tend to vote in a block, and so it is extremely hard to overcome that, and so I ask that everybody pay attention to democracy. I think people are paying attention right now. Where you can make the most difference is at the local and the State level because you're closer to those of us who serve you. So, don't be shy, don't be quiet. We will respond. I don't know that I was able to respond to every single phone call that we got about the libraries, but people called on the libraries in droves. To all of us, I mean, we heard you loud and clear. We couldn't ignore it.

President Anderson: Thank you again.

Mr. Gleaves: I was just letting Council know that Ms. Brownlee requested to take a picture with her. Do we have time to do that?

President Anderson: Is it okay if we break? Can we do that? Is that alright? We can do that right now.

Ms. Brownlee: Great. Thanks guys.

President Anderson: Unless there's any objection from anyone on Council. It's a bit unusual in the agenda.

Ms. Brownlee: It is. Sorry guys. It's up to you. It won't hurt my feelings. I promise.

President Anderson: You made the time to come see us, the least we can do is acknowledge the fact that you came to talk to us.

Ms. Brownlee: Okay. Well, thank you guys so much and thanks for being so engaged.

President Anderson: For anyone that wants to. It's not required.

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Committee and Official Reports

Civil Service Commission

Mr. Coleman: Good evening, Council. Springdale Civil Service Commission did meet on April 6<sup>th</sup> here in the Springdale Municipal Building. Members in attendance were Mrs. Cheryl Darby, Mrs. Kathy McNear, along with myself. Also present was City Administrator, Brian Uhl, Assistant City Administrator, Stephanie Morgan, and Human Resources Administrator, Renetta Edwards. This particular meeting was a short meeting in the sense of business matters that were before us and, so, in conducting the meeting, there were a couple of different reports that we needed to identify and determine the progress. The first one was a Full-Time Firefighter hiring status. And, due to the resignation of a Full-Time Firefighter, Administration had indicated that they could go back to the existing Civil Service list of candidates in order to fill the position so, with a little bit of luck, that process can move forward in an expeditious manner, and we can seek to fill that position that came about as a result of the resignation. The second position was a Parks Maintenance position that was the result of a promotion and kind of a stepping situation where one person was promoted, thereby leaving a vacancy in another area. The good news is there were twelve candidates anticipated for the interviewing process for the one position, so that tells me that people really do consider Springdale to be a very good place to work. And, so, those interviews were scheduled to be held on this past week, and we should be hearing very soon about the outcome of those interviews so that we can continue filling those positions. That concludes my report.

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

Planning Commission

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission met on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. All members were there. We had an Overview Transitional Housing Rezoning at 1171 East Kemper Road. That passed 7-0 to refer to Council. It was a Public Hearing, and there were no comments from the audience. That was to change it from Office Building to Public Facilities because that's the closest zoning for hospitals that we have. We also had an Overview Transitional Housing Conditional Use at 1171 East Kemper Road, which is the same location. And that was the conditional use to go along with it, and that also had a public hearing with no comments and that passed 7-0. We had Dave and Busters Minor Modification to a PUD at 11775 Commons Drive. They were just wanting to put a specialty design on one side of an elevation so that passed with a 7-0 vote. And they also were changing the color of the building to a gray. And it was for the western wall signage. And then we had Beyond Hello New Development Concept Plan at 12140 Springfield Pike. That's the old Bargo's building, and they were coming out for Concept Plan to review 1,500 square foot addition and reuse of existing restaurant building as a cannabis dispensary and storage. The project also included reworking parking and landscaping, resurfacing the parking lot, recoating the existing stucco building, and

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Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup (continued): building an additional cladding that would be stucco-finished vertical medical panels with a metal roof. This was just a concept plan. They came and talked about it. There was a lot of discussion about the distance, the type of building that it's going to be, and the addition. They, I believe, are coming back once they've figured some more things out. So, we will hear from them again in the future. And, then we had the City of Springdale Text Amendment Draft for the number of domesticated pets, and that was the ordinance amending 153.252(F)(6)(a)(i) of the Springdale Code of Ordinances regulating the permitted number of domesticated pets. We had Mr. Messer, and Ms. Wall in favor of changing from two to three, come to speak at the public hearing, and Mrs. Webster came to speak against, and it did pass with a 4-3 vote. That is everything that I have, unless there's any questions.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Mr. Gleaves -

No report

Board of Health

Ms. McFarland: The Board of Health met April 10<sup>th</sup>. We had some updates from Commissioner Clayton regarding the Ohio Department of Health launch of Accela, which is a program they use for food inspections. We did have an update on Mi Cozumel as their remodel is continuing in the old TGI Friday's. Wawa does have a projected current, which could change, projected date to open in June of this year. They have also issued three new mobile food operations. And our Director of Nursing provided an update on the new EMR or Electronic Medical Records that they've started using, the eCW (eClinicalWorks), and it has greatly increased their efficiency at clinics. They've been able to service twice the number of patients, so that was definitely a positive update. They had two clinics last month; 31 people were seen with 97 vaccines being given, and they completed 41 blood pressure screenings. The next meeting is May 8<sup>th</sup> unless there's any questions.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Ms. McFarland, did you say it was a mobile restaurant, you mean like a food truck?

Ms. McFarland: Yes.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Okay, I just wanted to make sure that I was hearing correctly and understanding. Thank you so much.

Ms. McFarland: You're welcome.

Capital Improvements:

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup - No report

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O-K-I

President Anderson: The OKI Board of Directors did meet on April 10<sup>th</sup>. There are two items I wanted to share with Council from that meeting. First, there was an update on what's known as Raven911. If you're not familiar with this tool, it's available to municipalities and emergency services groups. It's a web-based GIS platform, meaning it creates those maps and forecasts, so, it takes a lot of data from a lot of different sources, and it helps emergency management and communities in real time collaborate on the effects when disasters might come. This was established in 2008 after Hurricane Ike. Places like Hamilton County EMR, the National Weather Services. A lot of communities in our region use it, and when you see it in practice in some of those news stations when they show like the path of storms or areas that are affected. That's one of the tools that Communities like ours could use to kind of do real time analysis on road closures, if there were like a natural disaster like a train derailment or something like that. I thought it was interesting that it was out there, and I just wanted to make sure people were aware that that's a service that's done through OKI, and it's available for licensing by communities at a pretty small fee. The other thing I wanted to bring up from the meeting was the Access Ohio 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan. This is a strategic transportation plan. This is the State level of when we talk about OKI giving us funding, a lot of that has to roll up at some point into the State plan. The State plan then gets approved as part of the budgeting process, and then some of the grants that end up coming back to our communities have to flow through this. So, the Access 2050 Plan feeds into that Statewide plan that gets money back down to local communities. The reason I'm mentioning it today is that it's going to be available for public input for the current one, and anyone that wants to provide input on the strategic plan for long-range transportation it's available at "[transportation.ohio.gov/accessohio](https://transportation.ohio.gov/accessohio)". This is a higher-level plan than what people might be used to. The thing that would be interesting for public feedback, both from Councilmembers or just a resident, is to ask questions about things like what's important to you. So, it asks questions like, "Is congestion an issue for you and your Community?" "Is there enough high-speed travel?" "Do you run into problems in general with different things?" "How do you feel about safety at intersections?" These types of things feed into the State plan that then affects the scoring for projects that we do. In our last Council meeting, Councilmember Vanover talked about safer street issues that he'd experienced in his local Community. How this happens at the higher planning level is people like us give that feedback, not just at Council meetings, but also to the State to make sure when they do prioritization of programs, that things like safety are covered. So, it does have a real impact. You say things like, "Safety is an issue for me when I'm a pedestrian." What happens is that goes into the report as a percentage of people that affect that and that affects the scoring that places like OKI use when we award funding for projects like intersection remediation or changing signals or lights. That's how that money ends up coming back. So, that's the long way of saying "[transportation.ohio.gov/accessohio](https://transportation.ohio.gov/accessohio)" or at OKI on May 7<sup>th</sup>, there will be a public input meeting if people want to go in person, but that's one way to share that feedback where it will have a real impact. That's all that I have for tonight on OKI.

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### Mayor's Report

Mayor Hawkins: First, we had our State of the City Address on March 26<sup>th</sup>. It was well attended. Our City Directors did an incredible job with their presentations. I think everybody who was present walked away with some additional information that they didn't already have. Also, we'll have our Easter Egg Hunt on April 19<sup>th</sup>, I believe at Noon at Ross Park. Third, we have our Annual Arbor Day Celebration at Springdale Elementary School on April 25<sup>th</sup>, and so folks are welcome to attend at 1:00. Heritage Hill is not participating this year. Sticking with sort of going back to Parks and Rec, Charlie Wilson was able to obtain a \$25,000 grant for a new project, or a new event. And, so, with PretzelFest that qualified, and so that, along with our generous sponsorship from Ditsch is going to take care a lot of the cost that we would otherwise bear. So, kudos to Charlie for helping us out with that. Last, I just wanted to take a moment to indicate the hard work the folks in our Tax Department have put in here over the last few weeks. This past week in particular, working extended hours, coming in on Saturday. They've done an excellent job. That lobby was full for the last few days, and they hung in there and managed all of that. So, I want to thank them for their hard work in serving our Community. That concludes my report.

### Administrator's Report

Mr. Uhl: I have one quick update regarding the mall. I had a conversation earlier today with Mitch who represents the ownership group from Texas. A couple of things he wanted me to share with Council tonight was that they're still working through a couple of contracts with three different master developers. They're hoping to narrow that down to one here. The nice thing is they've been in conversations with these groups since I believe the early part of the year. They have three very interested master developers who want in on this project, so it's a matter of which one can bring the most to the table, so, they're hoping to get that narrowed down to one here in the next couple of weeks. One of the other things that they have done kind of running concurrently is they have put out an RFP (request for proposal) for demolition for the mall. And they just started collecting those proposals back, so they have a few proposals that they are sifting through now, and kind of working through some finer points in all of those different proposals to hopefully narrow down a vendor to hopefully begin some demolition. It didn't give an exact date on when they thought some of that would begin, but I think securing a vendor that's going to do it is the best that they can do for now and get things going in the right direction. So, that's the end of my report.

Mr. Jacobs: I did just want to mention something positive about the development as well. It's very superficial but, I had noticed during some of our extreme weather, part of the fencing had fallen over. And, within a couple of days, it was back up. And, so, those little victories hopefully we can keep some optimism going and some patience with this one. Thank you.

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Mr. Uhl: Yes. That was one of the things that we had brought up as well was the property maintenance issues I know people have seen and reported and what not, so our Building Department, and our Building Inspectors continue to have dialogue with the property management group to make sure that that's maintained, and they were having a follow-up conversation with the lead person today to make sure that some of our concerns of late were addressed. There's a lot of things running in the background. I wish there was more that we could see, but I'm hoping within the next couple of months we start to see some of that good development.

Law Director's Report

Mr. Braun -

No report

Engineer's Report

Mr. Riggs: We'll start off with the Northland Boulevard Project. You guys may have noticed the contractor did return to the site earlier this month. In fact, they're looking to switch traffic over to part, well it's an interim phase, but they'll be switching traffic over to the new lanes as early as tomorrow. At least around the Route 4 intersection. There will be maybe four to six weeks just at that intersection where it switched over, and the rest of the time they'll be driving on the current road; the old road. But, in about another month, sometime in May, they're going to switch over completely to the new pavement while they're finishing construction on the old road. Then we have the East Kemper Road Project Phase I. This is a SORTA Grant Fund project. We have a preliminary plan review meeting with Public Works on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Our survey was completed at the end of March. Then, the Northland Kemper Intersection Realignment and Kemper Road Shared Use Path is at the Northland Boulevard Phase II is what I'm calling it in my head at least. We have a project kickoff meeting tomorrow with the City. We'll be going over a few of the initial intersection concept plans and design criteria before we start looking to have a public meeting sometime in May. The project though, while it's just getting started, is tentatively scheduled to be bid in March 2027 with construction completed in November 2028, so we've got some time on that one. That's all I had.

Rental Program Committee

Mr. Vanover: Not much of a report except some time next month, I would like to reconvene the Committee and get just a couple of points of discussion that I'd like to see talked over. So, we'll be scheduling that, and I'll announce that at a later date.

President Anderson: One thing I think I would ask that we might add to the agenda when it does convene is when we should wrap up the Committee. It's been going for several years now, and I think the primary focus might be near complete, and it might make sense to close it and then focus on other issues as they come up, so, I think we should talk about that in a meeting, but I just want to make Council aware that that's something that should be talked about as well. It was a special purpose committee, and it doesn't need to stay forever.

Urban Farming Special Committee Ms. McFarland

- No report

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President Anderson: I'll give you the same note as well. I think we should talk at some point, either the Committee meeting again and decide if they want, if they feel that there's action that they want to do, or if they want to close the Committee, I think it would be good to have that meeting. I think we've gone several months without a report or action, so, if we feel like this isn't the time to continue, we should go ahead and make that recommendation at our next meeting.

Communications - None

Communications from the Audience - None

Ordinances and Resolutions

President Anderson: First up we have Ordinance No. 10-2025. I will say that this is a first reading, and we will be having a public hearing that I'll announce after the reading and Council's discussion.

Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 10-2025

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 153.252(F)(6)(a)(i) OF THE SPRINGDALE CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING THE PERMITTED NUMBER OF DOMESTICATED PETS

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: As always, I just want to remind you that this did come through Planning, and it did pass with a four for and three against at our last meeting. So, it was approved at Council 4-3. Thank you.

Mr. Jacobs: I had a quick question about it, and hopefully this doesn't get us into the weeds. It's come up over the last few months of discussion that, as far as the State of Ohio is concerned, cats are not domesticated pets. Is that the situation, and does that affect anything we do here at the local level?

President Anderson: Mr. Braun, did you want to answer that?

Mr. Braun: No. Our ordinance does address that, and, so, this is just our own regulation on it. So, the new regulation would say that you can have three dogs, three cats, or any combination that doesn't exceed three.

President Anderson: And, in terms of home rule, this is within our capability.

Mr. Braun: It is. We define household domesticated pets as both.

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President Anderson: Any other comments from Council before we move to the public hearing? And, again, this is just the first reading. We'll have another opportunity at our next meeting as well to discuss. Seeing none, at this point I'm going to move us into a public hearing. This is an opportunity for anyone in the public who would like to speak to Council related specifically to Ordinance No. 10-2025 that changes section 153.252(F)(6)(a)(i) in our ordinances. This is your opportunity to come speak to us on that item. At this point, the public hearing is now open. If you want to speak to Council, you simply need to come forward to the dais, state your name and address, and again, you'd have up to five minutes to speak to Council on just this one item. At this point, the public hearing is now open.

Ms. Demus: Hi. Frieda Demus; 595 Observatory Drive. I have a question about feral cats. Do we have a problem with feral cats in the Community?

President Anderson: So, this ordinance does not affect feral cats or how it's affected in general. I can't speak to it. I don't know if Administration wants to speak to feral cats if you've gotten a number of calls, or if it's something we need to look into. But this ordinance doesn't change anything having to do with management of feral cats.

Ms. Demus: Because I see a lot of feral cats in the neighborhood. They're being fed, and so they obviously significantly exceed even going to the three, and this is their time that they're reproducing. There are a ton of feral cats that I see. I'm just curious if this is throughout the Community or just some odd block.

President Anderson: I will say that we do have a different section of our Code that addresses control of domesticated animals; 90.01 is the section of Code if you want to look it up. It's available on the website. That speaks to a domesticated animal has to be under control by its owner. You're talking about feral cats, which is a different type. If it was a domesticated animal, we do have a different section of Code that says that they need to be under control of the owner. That applies explicitly both to dogs and cats. But that's not affected by this ordinance at all.

Mr. Braun: I just wanted to point out there are communities that have adopted regulations regarding the feeding of feral cats, and I know that a couple of communities I represent have reached out to businesses that have open dumpsters and often feed leftover food to feral cats. It's actually a Board of Health issue normally, but that is not a part of this ordinance, but it is something that some communities have taken some steps on.

Mayor Hawkins: I don't think there have been any great number of complaints with regard to feral cats. It's clear, depending on where you live in the Community there are different wildlife that we all deal with. Some of it's coyotes, some of it's wild turkey, some of it's deer. There are instances where there are cats, and I know have neighbors that have sort of gone back and forth and other neighbors with regard to feeding be it

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Mayor Hawkins (continued): geese, leaving stuff out for cats, or what have you. So, there's not something that's a giant issue or problem I'd say in terms of people calling and complaining in the City, but I understand what you're saying, and I understand that neighborhood to neighborhood you're going to have some of that going on with folks feeding animals.

Ms. Demus: Okay. Thank you for your time.

President Anderson: The floor is still open if anyone else would like to speak in the Public Hearing.

Ms. Wall: I'm Angie Ball. 342 Glensharon Road, and I primarily just wanted to come up and thank you for your consideration for making this amendment change. So, I wanted to thank you for that. So, I support anything you do. Thank you very much.

President Anderson: Thank you for taking the time to come out and see us.

## Ordinance No. 17-2025

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN CITY PROPERTY AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE, DISPOSAL, OR TRANSFER OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 17-2025; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 17-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

## Ordinance No. 18-2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN LPA FEDERAL LOCAL-LET PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RELATED TO THE INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. Gleaves: Do we know if these charging stations are going to be all together or are they going to be spread out? Or who is responsible for making those decisions where they go?

Mr. Uhl: This is the project that we filed with OKI for the EV charging stations. There will be several stations down by the Community Center. All of them will be public access, so we'll have several down by the Community Center. I believe we'll have two out in our front lot here at the Municipal Building, and then four across the street over where the Building and Health Department park their vehicles. So, we'll move those down a little bit and then there will be four EV charging stations over there for I believe a total of nine is what we're currently planning.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you.

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President Anderson: Next on the agenda is Resolution No. R10-2025. Before we read the resolution, we will need nominations for this position. This is related to appointing a member to the Civil Service Commission effective May 1<sup>st</sup>. This is replacing the retirement of Ms. Darby. We'll use the same process that we've used in past meetings. I'll open the floor for nominations. Anybody on Council can make a nomination. If there's more than one available, then we'll have a vote, and then once that vote is concluded, we will then insert that name into the resolution and read it and act on it. So, at this point the floor is now open for nominations for appointing a member to the unexpired term for the Civil Service Commission. Are there any nominations. (None were brought forth) Just one moment. I have one in my back pocket. Seeing no other nominations, I would like to nominate Mr. James Dunigan. Mr. Dunigan has served as a Cincinnati Firefighter from March 1990 to April 2020. He worked at several firehouses in Cincinnati. He became a paramedic after three years of service with the department and was promoted to Lieutenant in 2008. After five years he was given his own fire company. He was a medic supervisor, and served a number of duties related to that. Mr. Dunigan has been an active member in our Community for some time and having served in Civil Service I think he would be a very fitting member to take over the unelected position. So, with that, I do nominate Mr. James Dunigan. Are there any other nominations?

Mrs. Webster: Is the President of Council allowed to nominate people?

President Anderson: Yes.

Mrs. Webster: Okay. Do we have any other information on him? Any bio, or anything?

President Anderson: So, in addition to what I just shared, I believe that other biographic information had been sent out in an email from Mayor Hawkins some time ago.

Mrs. Webster: Mayor Hawkins?

President Anderson: That's right.

Mrs. Webster: This is a Council appointment.

President Anderson: That's right, and I'm making the nomination.

Mrs. Webster: Please?

President Anderson: That's correct, and I'm making the nomination.

Mrs. Webster: Okay.

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President Anderson: Are there any other nominations? Seeing none, then by acclamation we will read Resolution No. R10-2025 with the name James Dunigan inserted for the position.

### Resolution No. R10-2025

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JAMES DUNIGAN TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2025, FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

Mr. Jacobs made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R10-2025; Mr. Gleaves seconded.

Resolution No. R10-2025 passes with six affirmative votes and one abstention (Webster).

### Old Business

Mr. Gleaves: In reference to meeting date September 4, 2024, Ordinance No. 48-2024 was a Sheraton Lane bodega. Has there been any movement on that project? Does anyone know?

President Anderson: This was the old flavor company transition.

Mr. Gleaves: Old Sugar Creek Building?

President Anderson: Yes. Sugar Creek.

Mr. Uhl: About two months ago, I inquired about the same location, and I believe that they were in the process of either getting some permits, or something of the like, or there was some discussion with the Building Department. I don't know what the current status is, but I can check on that and get back with you at the next meeting.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you.

### New Business

President Anderson: I do have one item that I'd like to bring forward to Council for consideration. Something that we can talk about. Looking at other communities how they handle things like appointments to commissions like we just had with Civil Service, we tend to have several of them at different periods in time, usually at the end of the year, or at the start of a new Council group. One thing I wanted to ask to see if there was interest in is changing the way that we do these appointments, at least for Council appointments to get a pool of applicants. Historically, it's been through direct contact, or personal relationships that Councilmembers might have in the Community. I feel like how some other communities around us do it might be a

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President Anderson (continued): better way forward, which is they have a general application process. So, when there's an appointment coming what happens, like Forest Park, for example, does this. The Administration would post a notice that a vacancy is coming forward. And, what they have is a general application form that anyone in the public in that Community could then pull down and submit. So, it gives an opportunity for people that might be uncomfortable or might not have a one-to-one relationship with somebody, where they're able to generally apply for commissions and appointments, and let their interests be known. The application process that I've seen, or at least those packets are very light. They're just an opportunity for a questionnaire that says, "What are you interested in?" "What are your skills?" "Which of the commissions would you be interested in serving in?" And the reason I think it might be good is to build that pool of talent for people that want to get connected in the Community, but don't know how, or might not be comfortable reaching out one to one. So, what I'm proposing is that either Rules and Law, or Communications, or a special group take a look at adjusting Council's rules for Committee appointments, and creating an application; a general one page type application that we would use and people would submit that prior to these openings so that we have things like what Councilmember Webster was asking about; more biographical information so we wouldn't rely on Councilmembers talking to other Councilmembers, or doing things that might be seen as a backroom discussion. I think having a general, open, accessible application process would help us build that pool of talent. So, I didn't know what people thought about that. If it's something that there would be interest in from Council, or if we should just continue doing things the way we've been doing them.

Mr. Gleaves: We've discussed this before. I think it's a great idea. So, what is the process if we get a pool to expand a Commission. Is there a way to do that if the pool came to the point where it was a large amount of people? I have no problem, and I think it's a good thing if we have a pool like that. I always say, "The more people that get involved in our Community, the better." This is a way to get some people on Commissions with a different lens, and I think it would be a great idea.

President Anderson: What I like about it is it makes it more open and transparent. Mrs. Webster was asking, "Do we have biographical information?" I have some information about the one we just did, but, if it was a standard approach regardless of the Commission, then we would all have that same sheet to work from, and I think that would benefit to us as decisionmakers as much as it would help the public to be able to be engaged if they want to be engaged. Your question about how do Commissions expand or change, that's probably better for off-line discussion that might involve Mr. Braun. It really depends. The answer is it depends. Some commissions, some committees are set in our Charter. Others are set ad-hoc, so, if it's a special committee, we have flexibility, but things like the Building Zoning Appeals, Planning; those are defined in our Charter, or in ordinances, or in both. All of that can change. We have the ability to change that and it's a process, but it depends on which Committee, and then the process varies. So, I think it's two different things. First, how do we get the right pool of candidates, and then the other thing is do we need to change Committee sizes.

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Mrs. Webster: I have a list of all the appointments and when they are due, and there are a couple of people on here that have passed away, and there's also one that I think has expired at the end of last year on one of these boards. So, they're not really up-to-date.

President Anderson: Which one is expired? I'm just wondering if you're working from the current list.

Mrs. Webster: Okay. Let me check real quick. Well, I have on here on the Housing Council that his term ended March 31, 2022. And, I have another one.

President Anderson: I'm sorry, was that, when you say the Housing Council, there's a couple that are related to housing. Which Housing Council were you talking about?

Mrs. Webster: Some of those were Housing, and I have another one that were goofy the way they were put together here. Another one, that's you, you didn't pass away. Let's see. I've lost the one that one. That one, that's a Housing thing. That was taken care of.

President Anderson: Well, if it would help, we don't have to do this on the fly. If you want, we can think about what I've talked about, and we'll put it on our agenda for our next meeting in New Business and we can talk about Council appointments. In the meanwhile, if there's ones that we need to make sure we fill, you can send me a note or reach out to Administration depending on whether it might not be a Council Committee, so, just let us know and we can look at filling it. Why don't we put it on the agenda for the next meeting and we can follow up, so we don't have to do it ad hoc.

Mrs. Webster: I can't find the one that's passed away, but I don't remember what Committee it was on, but, oh, here it is. He passed away. His term ends May 31, 2026.

President Anderson: Which Committee?

Mrs. Webster: His name was Charles Hormann

President Anderson: Which Committee?

Mrs. Webster: And then you have Harold Brooks on that, whose term ended May 31, 2024.

President Anderson: I'm not sure which Committee you're talking about, and what sheet you're working from.

Mrs. Webster: Housing Appeals Board.

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President Anderson: Board of Housing Appeals.

Mrs. Webster: And then, well, that's me. I'm on here. So, this isn't all up-to-date.

President Anderson: I'm just wondering is there a date on your document? I'm wondering if it's been updated since you printed that out.

Mrs. Webster: What?

President Anderson: I'm wondering if your document is out of date.

Mrs. Webster: Okay.

President Anderson: Okay. Well, why don't we put it on our agenda for our next meeting, and we can take a look at the list, and then we can talk about if we want to add an application process just to have a bigger pool. So, we'll have that at our next meeting. So, just think about that between now and then, and we can take a look at it. Any other new business anyone on Council would like to bring forward?

Mayor Hawkins: Administratively, we were talking about some changes with Ohio Public Employee Retirement System (OPERS) and those levels changing and brought up the issue of elected officials' compensation. The research that was brought up the last time that there was a change, an ordinance was passed in 2005 and took effect in 2007. The issue being for the longest period of time, folks that have been elected officials have met the minimum threshold for Ohio Public Employee Retirement System, and there's a minimum you have to make per month for it to count for one year's service credit. And, so, what's taken place is we're going through and looking at that as those numbers have changed, and I think it's every year going up to 2029 that it's increasing, and so Council has fallen below that level now for a couple of years, so, I want to bring it to Council's attention. Been looking at it administratively in terms of what that would look like with regard to making sure it gets back to a level where folks are getting at least one year's worth of service credit based on their compensation. I know that I referenced these years before while I was on Council. There was no action that was taken when I knew these changes were taking place and that it was going to be a potential issue. So, there's some things that we've gone through and looked at, and it's important for everyone on the dais to know everybody publicly to know that if you're an Elected Official, you're unable to vote for your own compensation. So, the point being is there's an election coming up for our District Representatives that will take place this November of 2025. If this Council changes the compensation for Elected Officials, which would not take place in effect until 2027.

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President Anderson: Sorry, sorry, Mayor Hawkins just so we have it on the record, I don't think the microphones were on. There was a response to your question with Mr. Braun and Mr. Uhl that said they believed that it would take effect for the December 1<sup>st</sup> election.

Mayor Hawkins: It could take place December 1<sup>st</sup> of 2025, but historically we don't have it staggered, so, nobody that votes on this, if you're an "At-Large" member, you can't vote to change your own compensation during your term, so, the point is everybody who's up here, you would have to be voting for the next folks that are coming through. So, unless you stagger it, where you go, "Hey, look, the folks that are District Reps, come December 1, 2025, will now have a different compensation than everybody else, that could take place. But I don't think we've ever traditionally done that. So, it's been everybody together moving out. So, the point being, if that were to hold true there wouldn't be a change in compensation until 2027, December 1<sup>st</sup> so that all of those folks would be new to it so that nobody on this dais would be voting for their own compensation is the point. Okay? So, I know I'd referenced it once before that there was no action with regard to it. I think I probably had said at the time that I have my own State retirement that comes through for other things that I do, but it's a significant thing, and if it's something that folks are going to keep with tradition that's gone on in the City for Elected Officials, it's something that would have to be addressed. Administratively, we were talking about some things put forth and can bring a suggested piece of legislation to Council as we've looked at some of the numbers, if you take the dollars that would have gone to our Clerk of Council/Finance Director, and you dispersed that among the Elected Officials, it ends up being, I think it gets us to the level that you need to be at to get a full years' credit, and it ends up being no additional dollars from the budget from the General Fund. Just wanted to again, bring that to Council's attention within a couple of years but, as this thing is going on you're falling further and further below that credit number.

President Anderson: Related to that, I can tell you I know I've received questions about this as well. It is interesting that some of our neighbors are taking this item up right now as well. Forest Park is trying to break the cycle, I think, of going back and they have legislation that they're meeting at their next Council meeting that actually pegs their elected officials to a percentage of the County Commissioner's pay. So, they have their elected officials at eight percent of County Commissioner's pay and the Mayor is ten percent of County Commissioner's pay. I think Loveland just recently had an ordinance that has a step process where they're implementing a process where there's progressive raises to get their elected officials caught up to what some of the related communities are. I say that not because I'm advocating for a pay increase but just know that this is an item that has been coming up in other communities and the way that they've approached it. I do want to mention when Mayor Hawkins said it wouldn't take effect until 2027; that's a choice that we could make if we want to take action on it. Other Communities do it based on the election of the people coming in, and have it staggered so that position is linked to it. So, it doesn't have to be staged that far. I will mention though, if you do the math,

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Springdale still does pretty well for its representatives even though it hasn't changed in quite a while. I'll mention that if you look at what the eight percent that Forest Park is voting on right now, our neighbor to the north that's actually a larger city than us by a fair margin that's still under the rate that we are getting paid from our earlier date. So, it's just a piece of information. Likewise, the Loveland rates are still on par, very close to what we're doing now, and that's if they pass their raises.

Mrs. Webster: I found some more of the....

President Anderson: I'm sorry, could you turn your mic up.

Mrs. Webster: The whole Volunteer Fire Department.

President Anderson: Is this related to this topic?

Mrs. Webster: Their terms expire December 31, 2024.

President Anderson: So, just to close out that thought since you brought it up, that actually already got addressed. That's why I'm wondering if your list is out-of-date, so, the Volunteer Fire Department we dealt with that two months ago, and they had a meeting where they actually added the resident as well. So, I'm wondering if your list is out-of-date as opposed to the conditions.

Mrs. Webster: I don't know. I'm on here. I expire December 31st. So do Michelle. And all of us, Scott Williams, Sharon Broenner, and Chief Stanley.

President Anderson: But I'm saying your list is wrong. Anything else on the topic that Mayor Hawkins was addressing. Something to think about. If Councilmembers want. I know it can be distasteful to talk about that, especially at tax time when our residents are paying right now. It is just information for you to share. If anyone on Council wants to bring forward information to that affect, it's the same as anything else that we would do. It does not require a group to do. Any person can take that action and, just like we've done for other things, it is available to you. Any other New Business?  
(None)

### Meetings and Announcements

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

Mr. Jacobs: It's sort of an announcement, and sort of a confirmation with Administration. I've noticed a lot of residents have been trimming and things like that, and, just to clarify, the chipper program is the last full week of a given month, and so that means, for example, the next pick up would begin on the 21<sup>st</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>. Correct?

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Mr. Uhl: Yes. That's correct. And those dates, those weeks are posted out on the website as well just for reference. And I believe we'll start sending out some Facebook notifications a week in advance just to give everyone a "heads up" that that's coming.

Mr. Jacobs: Thank you very much.

President Anderson: I think it's that full week that always jams people up. They always want to do it on Monday.

Mr. Gleaves: The Board of Zoning Appeals will be meeting in these chambers at 7:00 p.m., April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and we have two applications that have been brought to my attention.

Ms. Morgan: The Civil Service Commission will meet Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

### Communications from the Audience

Mr. Coleman: Robert Coleman, I am a member of the Civil Service Commission currently, and from a standpoint of a citizen and a resident, I would certainly advocate for the application process for Boards and Commissions. Having been in the Civil Service Commission position for upwards of 25 plus years, it's difficult sometimes to get new members based on the process that we've had up until this point in time which is basically by word of mouth. It's worked for us, and I'm happy to hear that. But I do think it's time that we move forward with an application process so that we can see additional candidates with backgrounds. I'm kind of surprised that we haven't gotten to that point so far, but, again, equally impressed with the fact that I think that this is a step in the right direction so that, again, not only will Civil Service Commission seek candidates, but so will the other Commissions and the other Boards as well. So, again, I just wanted to come forward and advocate for that process. I think it's a good move, and it will move in the right direction.

Mr. Jacobs: A question. It's a vision, so, just an idea at this point. Is it something that you view as residents could apply, or that they would have to apply. In your initial view.

President Anderson: Well, I would advocate that everyone we would want to nominate should have sent one in so we have a bound forward, but that would be a change that we would have to change in our rules. Nominations as it is right now under our current rules are made by City Councilmembers. We would have to look at what that would mean to restrict the nominations to a pool. That's why I think we can't just do it "off the cuff". We'd have to make sure Mr. Braun is involved and looks at that. I'm not sure what the nuance is there legally. But I would assume that we wouldn't want to nominate somebody that didn't go through the application process. Whether they have to is a different question. So, "should" versus "could" I think is something we'll have to answer before we implement it. It's a good question.

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Mrs. Webster: Correct me if I'm wrong, but doesn't the Civil Service have some kind of resume where they've had some HR (Human Resources) experience or something? It seems that everybody that's on there has had that in the last few years. Mr. Coleman, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McNear; they've all been involved with HR in their employment; Mrs. Nienaber. So, I think that that's kind of a little qualification. Every committee should have qualifications.

President Anderson: Oh, so, I think that is a good point. That as part of that application process, I think one of the things that we would have to do as Council to help the Community understand what they're asking to apply to, is we should be describing, which each of the Commissions does. It's general meeting schedule, and its general requirements; what they talk about. I know I've gotten a lot of questions whenever these nominations come up and I push out to people, "Hey, if you're interested, let me know". It always surprises me how many Commissions and Committees we have that people don't really understand what they're supposed to do, so, it's hard for people to want to apply or if they don't know what the job or committee is. So, I think if we went forward with this approach, we would want to do that. We would want to say, as part of that general form, "This is the list of Commissions, Scheduled dates, what general responsibilities". And they apply for it with just a couple of freeform documents.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: I like that you said to include the information about the Commissions or the Boards because when I was thinking about Civil Service, I'm thinking, "Okay. They meet in the middle of the day. Who's going to be available that can meet in the middle of the day that is interested in Civil Service? Has the heart to serve for Civil Service and is available during that time? So, I think that if we did go to the application thing, I think it's important to put that there. Make sure that people are available and understand the commitment for everything.

President Anderson: I think it would be good if move forward with that to make sure that we're in line with Administration as well. Some of these appointments are Administration, some are Council. We certainly only control the way that Council wants to do their appointments. I think it would be great if it was the same process, but that's something that we'd have to talk about. And, again, it's not to say how we were doing it in the past was wrong, this is just a way to open it up and make it more accessible and maybe deepen our pool of candidates that want to be involved in the City.

### Recap of Legislative Items

Mr. Jacobs: Council, as you review your Legislative Summary, Item I was addressed by Ordinance No. 17-2025; An Ordinance Declaring Certain City Property as Surplus Property and Authorizing the Sale, Disposal, or Transfer of Surplus Property. That received a second reading and passed with seven affirmative votes. Item II was addressed by Resolution No. R10-2025; A Resolution Appointing James Dunigan to

## City of Springdale Council

April 16, 2025

Serve on the City of Springdale Civil Service Commission Effective May 1, 2025, for the Unexpired Term Ending December 31, 2025. That passed with six affirmative votes. Item III was addressed by Ordinance No. 10-2025 receiving a public hearing and a first reading; An Ordinance Amending Section 153.252(F)(6)(a)(i) of the Springdale Code of Ordinances Regulating the Permitted Number of Domesticated Pets. That will be back in front of Council on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Item IV was addressed by Ordinance No. 18-2025, receiving a first reading; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into an LPA Federal Local-Let Project Agreement with the State of Ohio Department of Transportation Related to the Installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure. Again, that will be back at our May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting for a second reading.

### Legislation in Development

Mr. Jacobs: Item V is in development. It will receive a reading at our May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting; A Resolution Authorizing the City of Springdale's Participation in the Ohio Association of Public Treasurers 2026 Workers' Compensation Group Retrospective Rating Program. Item VI will receive a first reading at our next meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>. An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting the 2025 S-28 Code Supplement to the Springdale Code of Ordinances. Item VII will receive a first reading at our next meeting; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into a Written Amendment to the Agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the Operation, Control, and Maintenance of Traffic Signal Equipment in the City of Springdale. Again, that will receive a first reading at our next meeting. All other matters are forthcoming, unless Administration has anything.

President Anderson: We do have one additional item. I think there was a request from Planning for the Zoning change to add a public hearing from OB (Office Business) to PF (Public Facility) for the residential treatment home that we were talking about, so that will need to be on our agenda at the next meeting, and that does require a public hearing, so, we'll have that at the second reading of it. So, if we can plan for those. Is there anything else from Council or Administration?

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Adjournment

President Anderson: All that's left this evening is Item 18.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Move to adjourn.

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

Council adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Browder  
Clerk of Council

Minutes Approved;  
Jeffrey Anderson, President of Council

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