

# City of Springdale Council

August 20, 2025

President of Council Anderson called Council to order on August 20, 2025.

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

President Anderson 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 July 2, 2025, meeting were considered. Mr. Vanover made a motion to accept the minutes; Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded. The minutes were approved with seven affirmative votes.

## Committee and Official Reports

### Civil Service Commission

Mr. Coleman: The Springdale Civil Service Commission did meet on August 7<sup>th</sup> in the Municipal Building, and members present were myself and Mr. James Dunigan, Mrs. Kathy McNear was out of town at the point, and we were aware, so it wasn't a problem. Following a disposition of the minutes from the June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting as well as a special meeting on July 17<sup>th</sup>, the minutes were approved as presented. So, following the approval of the minutes, there was a special meeting that took place on July 17<sup>th</sup>. And the purpose behind the special meeting was held to review and to subsequently approve the reinstatement of Fire Department employee Blake Boettcher. Following the discussion, which did in fact include Chief Stanley, this particular request was approved. There was additional information indicating that the candidate for reinstatement had not been gone very long, and therefore it was not necessary to review a probationary period at this time. So, again, we did in fact approve the reinstatement of the firefighter with the approval also of Chief Stanley. Following that meeting, there was additional discussion regarding a timeline for the Finance Account Clerk II position. This was an internal posting as there are candidates available for this particular position, and therefore it was not reasonable to post it externally. So, a motion was made to approve the timeline for this particular position. And that motion was approved as well. There was an additional timeline presented to the Commission for the vacancy in the Public Works Department, and this vacancy was an external posting and was due to primarily to, again, the exit of an individual in that department. So, following the discussion, the motion to approve the posting for the Public Works Maintenance Worker position was, in fact, approved as well. That completes my report unless there's a question.

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

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### Planning Commission

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission met in these chambers on August 12<sup>th</sup>. We had an Old Business of the text amendments; an ordinance amending 153.252(F)(6)(d) of the Springdale Code of Ordinances regulating the keeping of bees on residential properties. If you remember last month when we were here, the Committee for Urban Farming said that they had made the tweaks to what they had sent over to Planning and that it was being sent again, and they did, and after reviewing that, it passed with a 7-0 vote. We had a new development; Salt Brine Tanks at Public Works at 335 Northland Boulevard. This had already been granted accessory structures through BZA previously and the tanks were going to be on asphalt, so we had approved that 7-0. And then, we had a minor modification to Cassinelli Square Planned Unit Development at 11346 Princeton Pike. It used to be Zipp's Car Wash. It is now Flying Aces, and they had asked to put a booth that will be manned by an individual in the drive thru of the car wash, and after much discussion, that was approved 7-0. We had Tri-County Mall Planned Unit Development at 11700 Princeton Pike; the Tri-County Mall, and the two members of Council found it to be a major change, so since it was a major change there needs to be a public hearing on it. So, we went ahead and continued it until September so that we can advertise and have the public hearing, and so the public hearing for the Tri-County Mall Planned Unit Development Modification will be heard in September. That is everything I have unless anybody has any questions or if Ms. McFarland has anything else to add.

I do just have one question on the Tri-County Mall, the PUD, and the advertisement there. So, did the applicant indicate concerns about their timeline or schedule. Do we need to look at having special meetings to keep it moving or are they comfortable with the schedule we have. Mr. Uhl might have some ideas there as well.

Mr. Uhl: No, we have not received any update from them requesting anything to get moved. But I'll follow up with them before our next meeting.

President Anderson: Please. Because I know if it's September there, and it would need to come to Council after that, you're pushing into October/November, and at one point the last information we had is they were looking to start doing demolition and this was a prerequisite. It may not be anymore, but I just want to reaffirm that at least everything I'm hearing from Council is if we need to have special meetings to keep that moving, we're certainly available for that as well.

Mayor Hawkins: I want to be clear, and I know they were quoted in the newspaper article or t.v. There's nothing with regard to the demise of this property into these three prospective lots that has anything that prevents anybody from demolishing the mall. Those are non-sequiturs. So, if somebody needs money, that's a different problem ; it's a different issue. But the splitting of the lots does not prevent anybody from demolishing. They can demolish tomorrow. It's a fiscal issue, I think.

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President Anderson: That's really good information to share. Thank you for clearing that up. And the PUD change wouldn't affect the final development plan being submitted either. As I understand it, we still do not have a final development plan, and that's probably a bigger barrier to moving forward. Not necessarily for demolition, but for construction.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: That's correct. They did not have a final development plan.

President Anderson: Well, we stand ready to help. Whatever we can do.

Board of Zoning Appeals	Mr. Gleaves	-	No report
Board of Health	Ms. McFarland	-	No report
Capital Improvements	Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup	-	No report

O-K-I

President Anderson: OKI still hasn't met since our last meeting. Our next meeting is supposed to begin next month when we resume from OKI summer schedule.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Hawkins: It's been a while, so I have a few things to touch on. We hosted the Hamilton County Commissioners on August 14<sup>th</sup>. The chamber was packed. They were gracious and complimentary of our building and the recent renovations. We also had the opportunity to thank them for the grant dollars they gave us with regard to Pretzel Fest, and they also let us know that instead of it just being a first-time event, that it can be a recurring thing. So that's a big positive. There was a grand opening for Boost Mobile on Springfield Pike. They had a food truck and a radio station there. It was a nice event. There was a ribbon cutting for the grand opening for Mr. Hayak's Fish and Chicken on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11482 Springfield Pike. Again, nice event, music. The owner was thanking the community and several individuals that helped him get open and this was the business that was on the verge of opening, and then there was some vandalism that took place. There were several businesses that came to help him out, including one called "All The Work For Me", discounted and donated materials from Sam's and Lowe's. So, that kind of support is great to see in the community helping one another out. And the food is good too. We had a ribbon cutting for Flying Aces Car Wash next to the old Friday's restaurant on Route 747. They were giving away free car washes for the time being. They also allowed us to tour the facility and see how hi-tech it is. They spent \$1.6 million dollars renovating that car wash from the prior owner. This just in today, an email I got, the highly anticipated, long-awaited ribbon cutting for WaWa should be on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. So, subject to there being some other issue, that's what they just sent out in an email today. So, you can put that down. So, we had a couple of back-to-school celebrations and bashes. There's a back-to-school bash on August 10<sup>th</sup> put on by Luxurious Styles Salon here in the Towne Center on Springfield Pike. They had a DJ, free haircuts, gave away backpacks, free food. Gold Star donated hot dogs and buns. Giving away shoes, and the Princeton Reading Bus was there as well.

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Mayor Hawkins (continued): There was also on August 12<sup>th</sup>, Springdale Elementary School had their "Meet the Teachers" night, and they also had a back-to-school bash put on by Compass Church, and our Police Department contributed with regard to filling backpacks and school supplies to children. And that's something our department's been doing for a while. Our department contributed no less than 50 backpacks. I think in total the church gave away about 350 backpacks, so a really great opportunity for kids to have new school supplies and what they need to get going for school. We had the Junior Olympics on August 16<sup>th</sup>. An opportunity for kids to come out and compete a little bit. We had the Goldfish Grab on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Four big winners that captured "Spring", "Dale", as well as "Swim" and "Safe" fishes and they all got these cool little treasure chests filled with candy. I tried to get one myself, but they would not let me get one. And, last but not least, we had Pretzel Fest on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was outstanding. Taking a moment again to thank all of our City staff for all the work that they put in. Our Parks and Rec Department and Charlie Wilson worked and prepared a long time to bring this idea to life and execute it flawlessly. Public Works helped in terms of getting the rest of the City cleaned up and ready to go. The Building Department was making sure that the tents passed inspection. The Health Department got there to make sure that the food trucks were certified and inspected. Economic Development Director fostered relationships that helped us with regard to sponsorships. Administration has always helped to make sure all the dots were connected. Mr. Uhl was out there on the field the Friday beforehand making sure that the folks were getting the lights up and he said, "I don't care if you stay until 5:00 in the morning. You're going to have these lights fixed and ready for this event. And I really want to thank, of course, Ditsch USA and their CEO President Thorsten Schroeder, and Ally. Both hands on, dishing out pretzels all day for free. I don't know if folks understand. All those pretzels were donated for free so that those funds could go to helping our youth boosters and that was an awesome thing. And then, in closing, sitting and watching the drone show was a little bit emotional. I'm not going to say I cried, but it was a little bit emotional when you see how that event took off and everybody's efforts and putting them there and folks coming together as a Community really, really was an opportunity. I was proud of all of our residents coming out to participate in the event. Proud of all of our City staff and really proud of the entity that is the City of Springdale, and everybody did a great job. That concludes my report.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: I wanted to say that when I was at Pretzel Fest, I was sitting up on the hill and when the children's area, the inflatables went away, the coolest thing that I had ever seen, the young children started playing with the Police Officers. They were playing catch, they were playing football, they were playing tag, and I remember looking down and thinking in other communities, police are arresting young children and teenagers at their events, and ours are playing tag and playing catch and that was the coolest thing that I had ever witnessed was the partnership with the Police and the Community and especially with the kids. It was a very, very good thing to watch. Thank you.

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President Anderson: And, just to add to that, it really was a wonderful event, and we know it was a lot of work. I had heard that 18 months of planning went into that event and there was a lot going on. One of the coolest comments that I received I had shared with you previously was one resident came up and shared that they were just spending time with somebody; that they had lived in the same City of Springdale with them since they went to grade school together, but they hadn't seen each other since then and they reconnected on the field at Pretzel Fest which I thought was impressive. We've had events, and a lot of people get out there and do that, but this kind of restarted that Community feel and there was a real feel there. We had beautiful weather, the food was great, the food trucks were great. Everything was set up; the concerts were fun. But, just having that opportunity for people to come out was really special. So, thank you again for doing that.

## Administrator's Report

Mr. Uhl: Just to kind of ride the coattails of Pretzel Fest, it was an outstanding event. All the employees really enjoyed being a part of it as well, and those employees who didn't have to work it, there were many employees who came with their families to enjoy it. So, it was a very fun, enjoyable event and we had a debrief last week and talked about how to make it bigger and better for next year, so, if you do have any input, please send it our way as well, and we'll make sure those suggestions go into the planning process for next year. Also, as you well have seen, the renovations are about 98% complete. So, we do appreciate your patience and do appreciate you extending the meeting time from July 2<sup>nd</sup> until now. That really allowed us to get everything done and coordination of contractors and what not, so, a few punch list items still remain. We do have some companion seating for ADA coming to add to the back row of our Council Chambers here and hopefully some time in October those will get installed. Thank you.

## Law Director's Report

Mr. Braun

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No report

## Engineer's Report

Mr. Riggs: Just a few brief updates. So, the Northland Boulevard Project, I'm sure you've noticed, is really starting to take shape. The curb has been recently installed on the eastbound lanes. It is my understanding that the contractor is even looking to even put asphalt base down in the next week or so and try to get everything open both eastbound and westbound lanes open before the end of the year. Now, I'm not saying that the project is going to be complete. The completion date is still I think August of next year, but they're trying to get that completed before the weather turns on us and then just leave again for the winter and then come back in the spring and wrap everything up. The next project is East Kemper Road Improvements Phase One. We're wrapping up 60% plans hopefully by the end actually in the next week and we're going to submit those back out to the utilities and other agencies to get review comments, but we're on track to get that bid out later this fall. Then East Kemper Northland Intersection Realignment and Kemper Road Shared Use Path. Basically, Phase Two of the current construction project. We've been wrapping up utility coordination. We

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Mr. Riggs (continued): wrapped up the public engagement piece. We had 15 survey responses, which isn't a lot but there was some valuable comments received from that. And taking that information, we're wrapping up the feasibility study and that's the study that basically goes through the design criteria in our rationale to come up with what we're proposing. That's all going to be submitted to ODOT by the end of this week. I have a draft 95% ready to go out by tomorrow. So, we also have the Springdale Industrial Park Concrete Repairs and Catch Basin Reconstruction Project; that project was advertised for construction on July 24<sup>th</sup>. The bid opening was held on August 14<sup>th</sup>, and we received four bids. Husac Paving and Excavating was the low bid for a price of \$582,338 dollars, which was under the Engineer's estimate \$634,529 dollars, and that is going to be considered for this evening. And that's all I had.

### Rental Program Committee

Mr. Vanover: Rental Committee met on July 29<sup>th</sup>. We discussed some potential legislation, but after discussion, we tabled it and we're looking at a couple of months of analyzing some data and sightings coming in, so, we plan to get back together in early October and take it from there and that would conclude my report.

### Urban Farming Special Committee

Ms. McFarland - No report

### Zoning Code Revision Committee

Mr. Gleaves: Dave Okum, who represents Planning Commission, is on vacation right now, Michelle Gilmore who represents BZA is taking her daughter back to college. And Melissa Hays, the Building Department representative, I will be speaking with her at our upcoming meeting this Tuesday about getting things together to move this forward. Also, spoke briefly with Mr. Uhl, and Ms. Morgan about starting as soon as we get boots on the ground, we'll be ready to go. That's all I have, is there any questions?

President Anderson : Do we expect to have the first meeting before our Committee Reports next month?

Mr. Gleaves: Yes. We're going to try our best.

### Communications

President Anderson: Ms. Browder are there any communications?

Ms. Browder: We do have two transfer liquor permits. One is for the Maple Knoll Communities, and one is for the Quick Trip, which is the Rite Aid. And those two; no objections from our Police Department unless anything needs added by Mr. Uhl, we'll get those filed.

President Anderson: Council, again on these liquor transfers, we typically don't have a vote, but if you have questions or objections, this would be your opportunity to speak to those. I don't see any. Go ahead and get those filed. Thank you.

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## Communications from the Audience

Ms. Hiratsuka: Hi, my name is Raye Hiratsuka. My address is 211 West Kemper Road. I'm speaking in an unofficial capacity about this, but I just wanted to mention that the Hamilton County Military and Veteran Appreciation Day is this Saturday. It's from 2:00 until 9:00 or 2:00 until 10:00; I can't remember exactly. Veterans get free parking, free food. It is open to the public though, so everybody is invited. So, that's all I wanted to say.

President Anderson: Where is this event?

Ms. Hiratsuka: Sawyer Point. Thank you for asking. So, please spread the word. We want as much attendance, especially all the veterans in Springdale to come, well and military personnel. Everyone else that's serving too.

## Ordinances and Resolutions

### Ordinance No. 29-2025

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 73.03 OF THE SPRINGDALE CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING PARKING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 29-2025; Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Mr. Vanover: Mr. Uhl, are we going to be posting signs on the corners because this talks about staying a distance from the corner. Are there going to be new signs going on those?

Mr. Uhl: I don't anticipate any new signs, but we'll coordinate with the Police Department and Public Works if there aren't signs already out there that will identify these areas, we'll put new signs up, but I don't anticipate any new signs, but we'll double-check to make sure something's not warranted.

President Anderson: I do want to say that I appreciate Mayor Hawkins bringing this forward. This was something that we'd talked about a little bit in our Rental Program Committee and even Mrs. Webster had brought this up in our last meeting that this is an ongoing problem, so bringing the Police Department in to help police in this is a good move forward and some real action, so I appreciate that.

Mr. Vanover: I too. This is one that we had discussed and I'm strongly in favor of it and it allows some crossover because a lot of this violations parking in the yard and that happen when the Building Department is not here and it's frustrating. I get calls, I get texts, I get photos sent in. So, this is highly welcomed.

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President Anderson: For those interested, this doesn't change the reporting request for any residents that have this issue if they see people violating this. The Police aren't everywhere all the time and like we said in the last meeting, if you see something, say something. You can call the Police non-emergency line, or you can contact Administration if it's an ongoing issue, but again I appreciate it being moved forward.

Mayor Hawkins: Just one other thing to piggyback on so everybody knows. Our Building Department does an outstanding job and they're also creative in how they do it. So, we do have inspectors that will work on the weekends sometimes just for that so if someone says, "Oh, it's the weekend, there's nobody around", but again, you've got one or two people that are out. They're not going to see everything. If you see something, call in and we'll address it.

Ordinance No. 29-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

President Anderson: Next, we have Ordinance No. 30-2025. This is a first reading, and we will have a presentation after the reading.

### Ordinance No. 30-2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH A REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADMINISTRATION AND COLLECTION OF MUNICIPAL EARNINGS TAX IN THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE, OHIO

President Anderson: Council this was the first reading of Ordinance No. 30-2025. At this point I invite the representative from RITA I believe is here if you wanted to come forward to the podium and share the presentation with Council, and then after the presentation there'll be an opportunity for Council to ask questions or do our normal deliberation before we conclude this item.

Angela Veazey of the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) gave a presentation regarding the services offered by their organization. Ms. Veazey also stated that the conversion would either need to take place January 1, 2026, or mid-year which would be July 2026.

President Anderson: While you're still on the timeline, when you say January 1<sup>st</sup>, does that mean that if we follow this happy path and went down this road that the 2026 filing would happen through RITA or with the transition happening, it wouldn't be until second or third quarter that people would start using this system instead?

Ms. Veazey: No, if we began on January 1, 2026, that would mean beginning December 31, 2025, would be the last day that your Tax Department would enter any type of information. Beginning January 1, all of your business and your taxpayers would feed through RITA.

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President Anderson: So, it would feed through starting on that date. That's not the start of migration.

Ms. Veazey: Correct. The conversion itself would begin as soon as possible once we get all the joining legislation, we can start everything with that.

Mr. Jacobs: It's a great presentation. I was glad we could see the slides beforehand. I reached out to one of your newer communities, and they had great things to say about you. I don't have any questions for you. I've got a question for Administration. If Council were to approve this, we don't have any idea what the anticipated scope of the service would be. It sounds like they could provide different levels of service, and, so, I would need to know what this does to our staff and not just staff, but positions; in the short, in the medium, and in the long term before I could really even come to a conclusion of this.

Mayor Hawkins: It's important. We've had these discussions. Mr. Uhl and Ms. Morgan met with our Tax and Finance Department, going back several months and having discussions about what RITA would look like and what that would like in terms of their jobs and tasks. Nobody will be terminated, fired, or relieved of their duties. There's not going to be any kind of reduction of staff that we have currently. Right now, we're down two staff members that we have not replaced. It's not including somebody serving as the head of the Tax/Finance Department, but two actual Account Clerks. If we're going through with RITA, it saves us from filling those positions, and so you guys got a little sheet that breaks down what the costs look like for those employees. The big thing that we get out of RITA is, taking a step back, we'll still have a Tax Department, we will still have staff during tax season, and not during tax season, that will be there to answer questions that you can come in and file there and they'll input the information through RITA, so, nothing is going to look different for our residents in terms of anything being taken away. They're going to get something with having RITA they can go and file online all those things on their own if they want to. But, in terms of service, we're going to have service here just like we've always have. There is not going to be a difference with regard to that. In terms of staff, we're not getting rid of any staff. Now, the big things that we're looking at administratively that are a plus for the City in addition to what RITA is providing in terms of the online service, it's an additional opportunity for residents, is the opportunity to collect taxes in a way, they have an opportunity and ability to I don't want to say, "claw", but go get resources that we otherwise cannot track down and get. So, that's a big deal as we've talked about if someone's in the state of Ohio, we'll get some access with regard to the Ohio filings. If they're outside of the state of Ohio, we're kind of on the short end of that. RITA can go and track that down and get those dollars. So, that's why when you're looking at the cost benefit analysis of everything, when you're looking at the difference of what the cost of those two employees would be, what the cost is with regard to RITA, and what we could estimate to go and get in terms of dollars that we're not getting, we're to the positive \$600,000+, so if it's like \$200,000 in terms of having that personnel/staff, that's what the cost is about for having RITA, but there's an estimate that we may be able to "claw back" around \$750,000 with regard to taxes that we can't get our hands on right

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Mayor Hawkins (continued): now. It more than offsets that. We're getting more revenue back into the City for those dollars. So, that's the thought process. Our staff has been engaged; Mr. Uhl and Ms. Morgan have been absolutely fantastic and on top of it, and obviously the first thing that staff thinks about if they hear this kind of thing is, "You're getting rid of everybody". They've been assured over and over again that is not the case.

Mr. Jacobs: Thank you.

Mayor Hawkins: I don't know if there's anything else.

Mr. Uhl: Just a couple of things. We started these conversations about a year ago with RITA and Angela to more or less explore what this would look like, what this partnership could be. A lot of the feedback that we've heard through the Tax Department is I'd like to do online payments, I'd like to do online filing, so we looked at how we could enhance our services, and once we started looking at our current software provider, we can do a lot of those functions, but we have to pay additional for them. One of the other challenges that we have within the Tax Department is that it seems like we're always replacing at least one, sometimes two Tax Account Clerks every year. When I've talked to other City Managers around, that tends to be one of their challenges as well as maintaining people in their Tax Department, so it's difficult to get those people and retain those people. With a Tax Department our size as well it's difficult because there's not a lot of advancement opportunity either. So, I think some people see that and maybe don't apply or maybe that's why their stint here is short-served. But, nonetheless, we looked at this as an enhancement of services on how we can provide more efficient services for our residents, our taxpayers. Looking at providing those means to their requests through online filing, online payments, and what not kind of minimizing some of the back up that occurs here in the lobby during tax season, but, if no one were any the wiser about any of these discussions and they still come in and they ask us to complete their taxes for the City for us, we can still do that. We will still have the staff, it's just instead of logging into the system that we currently do, our staff will have access to RITA software, and we'll go right into their software to update the information. We can accept the payments. It's really an enhancement of services that we're going to now be able to provide and then also use RITA's services and their enhancements to go get some of those taxes that we haven't been able to collect or are very laborious for us to track down.

President Anderson: You mentioned in that space "tracking down" and having RITA work with us on that. Are we giving up control of who's the last say of truth for what's owed? Right? So, this isn't that we're giving up our tax and authority or decision making to RITA. They're just a tool that we can use to be more efficient and provide more services at a lower cost, but we still have the final word if there's a discrepancy say with the data that was entered. RITA is not going to go chasing after people unless we've approved that first.

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Mr. Uhl: Correct. We still have the ability to amend our tax code. We have the ability as well too, for any Board of Revisions, people can come in for appeals. We still maintain that as well, that appeal process. So, there's, again a lot of everything stays the exact same, it's just a different software that we're putting the data into.

President Anderson: Thank you for that clarification.

Mr. Gleaves: Great presentation. Thank you for coming down. I have no problem with this service. I think it's a good idea, but my concern is do you have any additional outreach for elderly people who might want to use this service but aren't inclined to be online savvy?

Ms. Veazey: As far as taxpayer assistance? They can call in to our customer service line and our customer service auditors will assist them. It depends with the elderly, if they do not have any W-2 type income, except lottery winnings or things like that, they would be exempt from filing, so, we would send out welcome letters on behalf of the City and within that welcome letter it lets them know how to file the extension and if they're retired, then we would file that extension for them and they wouldn't hear from us again, unless, again, they hit the lottery or something like that or they got W-2 income and it pings in our system with that.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you. How many employees does RITA have?

Ms. Veazey: We have approximately 250 employees.

Mr. Gleaves: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Vanover: Just a quick question on your data center. Is it a central location, or is your server farmed out?

Ms. Veazey: It's located in our Brecksville office, which is our main office. So, it's "in-house". And, all of our systems, our software is specific to us.

President Anderson: Any other questions from Council or Administration? (None) Again, thank you for coming down and sharing the information with us. I'm sure that if Council if you have any questions between now and then because there was a lot of information that we didn't go over tonight that was in your packets, including the spreadsheet and the wider presentation. We'll still funnel those questions through Administration as a central form of contact and then get the answers back if that's alright Mr. Uhl, and Mayor Hawkins. So, if you have questions after you've thought about it, send questions that way and, again, this was the first reading, we will see this again at our next meeting. Thank you for coming in.

Ms. Veazey: You're welcome. Thank you.

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Ordinance No. 31-2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION AGREEMENT WITH AEP ENERGY, INC. AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 31-2025; Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

President Anderson: I just have one question. So, this is the master service agreement, but we don't have the actual rate that we'd be locking in. This is to enable you to select that, or is the rate included?

Mr. Uhl: Correct. This is a moving target. That's why we have the emergency clause with it. This rolls around about every year. Right now, we're looking at about .6499 per cubic foot of gas is what we're looking at. Last year we were locked in at .5894 and then it was lowered back in June to .5024 when Duke shifted some costs. So, your memorandum there from Energy Alliance kind of explains a little bit of that rate fluctuation, but locking into this does provide stability for our gas rates, but they provided that rate to over 30 other communities, I believe AEP is going to honor that for us as well. I think we're one of the last ones in on this one.

President Anderson: And what was the rate?

Mr. Uhl: .6499.

President Anderson: It's interesting because I was going to share with you that Springfield Township just announced that they had locked in with AEP as well and that was the rate that they had advertised to their community. So, that was going to be your target if you couldn't do better.

Mr. Uhl: Gotcha.

Ordinance No. 31-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 32-2025

AN ORDINANCE REDUCING AND RECERTIFYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS LEVIED FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 32-2025; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 32-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

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Ordinance No. 33-2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AMENDED AGREEMENT WITH ENABLE INJECTIONS, INC. RELATED TO A JOB RETENTION AND CREATION INCENTIVE AGREEMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 33-2025; Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Mr. Uhl: Just by way of a little more background as well, Administration met with Enable Injections a couple of weeks ago. As you know, they're occupying half of Building One of the Springdale Commerce Park. They've done some interior renovations, created some office space, and an I.T. area, and just recently submitted more permits for warehousing. So, they did not commence their operation as stated in the former agreement which they had 18 months when we initially agreed, so that would have put them around the August 8<sup>th</sup> mark to commence operations, otherwise we could do a "claw back" of that TIF money that we had pledged. So, we spoke with them and there were a couple of things that were far out of their control with the FDA on how they get regulated, but they have a very, very, very promising outlook by way of their business, and they will be making more than, they'll essentially be tripling what they're currently producing now in the next 24 months. So, they told us, "Believe us. We need the space yesterday". And they're doing everything within their power to get warehousing in there so that they can get finished devices from their Evendale plant to the Springdale plant, but then also move in the additional bio-tech equipment. I guess the FDA regulation, the process and inspections can take up to two years, so there's a lot involved, a lot on the back end. There were some things that they were hoping for, optimistically, that would kind of trickle down a lot sooner to allow them to begin some of that interior renovation that needs to take place, but they said they're at capacity at their current site, and they said, "Trust us. We wish we could be in there today". They've taken several of their investors up there to kind of show them the site, walk through the plant and what not, and they want to be up here sooner than later, so, we're going to give them an additional 12 months to start their operations up here.

President Anderson: Does this slide the back end of the agreement as well by 12 months, or does it keep the same end date?

Mr. Uhl: That all stays the same. The only thing that they just have to start their operation within 12 months. So, everything else you see within their incentive agreement stays as is right now. We're only amending that one section.

President Anderson: Perfect.

Ordinance No. 33-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

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## Ordinance No. 34-2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATORY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH HUSAC PAVING AND EXCAVATING, INC. FOR THE SPRINGDALE INDUSTRIAL PARK CONCRETE REPAIRS AND CATCH BASIN RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 34-2025; Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Ordinance No. 34-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

## Resolution No. R14-2025

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF IMPROVING DRIVEWAY APRONS IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY AS PART OF THE SPRINGDALE INDUSTRIAL PARK CONCRETE REPAIRS AND CATCH BASIN RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE ASSESSMENT OF THE COSTS FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS ON CERTAIN LOTS AND PARCELS OF PROPERTY

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R14-2025; Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Resolution No. R14-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

## Resolution No. R15-2025

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURES RELATED TO THE MARCH 2017 STREET IMPROVEMENT BONDS

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R15-2025; Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Resolution No. R15-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

## Old Business

Mr. Jacobs: A couple of items from quite a bit in the past. The first one more recently. At our last meeting, it was discussed that there were concerns about the Hooter's property and people parking there and spending a lot of time there as well as trash. I wanted to know if we had a follow-up on that and if things are going well. I did notice that they no longer have the lights on, which could have been confusing to people going up to the business thinking it was still open. But I didn't know if we still had reports of problems on that property.

Mr. Uhl: I'll follow up with the Building Department. But, in our discussions, it hasn't come up of late. I don't know if anyone who drives maybe has seen something, but I do know there was a conversation that they had with the property owner, but I can follow up to find out what is going on. I do know that one of the cases was going to

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Mr. Uhl (continued): Mayor's Court. That was already in the pipeline prior to them closing, but I'll get an updated status on where things stand.

President Anderson: I think Mr. Gleaves, was your comment related to Hooter's?

Mr. Gleaves: I have noticed, that's in my neighborhood, a larger Police presence in that parking lot. They've been doing a good job monitoring things. The grass has just been cut. It seems like it's in good order as of now. That's what I've seen. Thank you.

President Anderson: Mr. Jacobs did you have another item?

Mr. Jacobs: Yes. The second one was from quite a while back, and I just wanted to follow up. We had some residents talking about crumbling sidewalks in District Four, and it's been quite a while. Have we had some repairs made to those sidewalks?

Mr. Uhl: I'm not sure exactly what. We do a sidewalk maintenance program every year. I can find out which sidewalks specifically were done. I know there was some done in Heritage Hill this year, but I'll find out what that list was and let you know.

Mr. Jacobs: Thank you.

Mr. Vanover: Well, I can tell you that there are a number of sidewalks. Primarily they focused on unlevel/uneven, and they were ground off. I have actually reported to Mr. Uhl a couple of others that got missed, and they have since been taken care of, but that is essentially what the sidewalk repair program was.

### New Business – Second Annual Town Hall Q&A Meeting – Scheduling/Discussion

President Anderson: There was one item that was on the agenda so people could be prepared for the discussion. The item was the second annual town hall Q and A meeting. After last year's town hall, we had discussed, as a Council, that we wanted to have it as an annual event and there was some discussion that needed to happen inside of Council. In order for us to have a meeting scheduled that close to the coming election, it would take an action by Council as a whole, so I wanted to introduce the topic and give Council an opportunity to discuss it if they had feelings on whether we should keep it as a second annual meeting, or because of the election upcoming recognize that that is something that our ordinances do also speak to and it would require action by Council in order to have. So, Mayor Hawkins, did you have some comments on that first?

Mayor Hawkins: So, I did want to restate for Council, and I sent an email out last week. I know some people saw it; some didn't. I had some discussions with some people that had not seen it. So, publicly, it's clear, I know I initiated this last year. We did it. Most Councilmembers and Elected Officials participated in it, and we had scheduled one this year for September 10<sup>th</sup>, and only through some oversight in terms of dates that it fell within the 75-day window that Ordinance No. 30.053 talks about in terms of

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Mayor Hawkins (continued): pre-election meetings and mailings, and, so, I'd sent an email out to all of the Councilmembers saying, "Hey look, it's my intention to vacate or not participate in that town hall meeting based on the issue that we have in terms of the scheduling of it, being inside the 75 days had spoke with Mr. Braun and I forwarded everyone Mr. Braun's legal opinion with regard to it. Mr. Anderson is correct, if Council chose to go and do something, Council could. I personally do think, as I said in the email it's really important that the election process is fair and it feels fair to everybody whether it's an incumbent, or it's someone who's not in office who's running. And, you know, it can go both ways in terms of the impact. I think you initially look at it and go, "Well, if you're an incumbent and you're having a town hall meeting, it probably favors you." But there's also instances where you can be on the spot, and some things can work against you as well. So, it's my position that I withdrew. We took it off of the website, and all those things. So, obviously, Council could do whatever Council wants to do, but, Administratively, as far as the Mayor, I'm stepping back from doing that and going back to the reason why we had it and I wanted to do it in the first place was timing wise, it's right before you get into August, September, right before we get heavy into budgeting. Our Directors are already working through that as they round out the third quarter, getting into the fourth quarter, we've started a new process with Mr. Uhl and Ms. Morgan where they're going through quarterly meetings with Department Heads and seeing where they are with regard to their budget and spending so there's a conscientious monitoring of that throughout the year. And, when you get to around August, September, they're really meeting internally in their departments and going through what do we need, forecasting, and they're starting that preparation that then is going to go through Administration, eventually is going to come through Finance, and then will come through Council. So, that's part of the idea of doing that. Obviously, it's not something that we've had to do in the past. I've been on Finance for a number of years when I was on Council, we were able to figure out what people were interested in, they need and it's been pointed out, I think Mr. Vanover indicated, that folks get opportunities to come in and speak if they want to. No one's being silenced, and, obviously, you can always call in to your Elected Officials if you have things that you want to have consideration of. But that's the reason why Council, I sent the email asking to vacate. That's the reason. Publicly, if someone is wondering, "Hey, what happened to the town hall meeting for September 10<sup>th</sup>?", that's the reason why. We've got an ordinance going back a number of years. The last time it was looked at, I was on a Committee was 2011, but it was on the books before that. We just tweaked it some back in 2011. So, the idea for it is to make sure that no one is getting an unfair advantage or disadvantage in the election process. Thank you.

President Anderson: Thank you, Mayor Hawkins, for explaining the background on that. The 75 days, if you look at the calendar, actually takes Springdale back basically to the last day that someone could file to run for election. That's where that number came from. I can tell, just to share publicly, when Administration, Mayor Hawkins, and I were talking about scheduling again, based on our discussions in the last meeting, not even once did it come up the closeness to the election. We were focused primarily on how do we split the time between the State of the City meeting

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President Anderson (continued): and then the budget process. And then we picked the date that was between Council meetings. It's just an opportunity for residents to come and ask questions. I certainly share Mayor Hawkins' belief that even if you know, people can come and ask questions any time, and we welcome that at every Council meeting. They can also reach out to members at any time. This was just a way to give a less formal setting. In our last meeting when we had this a year ago, it was well-attended, and well-received. We received very positive feedback. I do share Mayor Hawkins' concern once it was brought up and I appreciate the way the Mayor shared that with everyone on Council. As soon as that concern was brought up, it made sense to me. It hadn't even been something that we had discussed. Those are all done over email. Anyone could see that. It was completely above board, and there were no intentions of trying to influence the election, but being sensitive to that, I also share that concern that we don't to present ourselves that way. There's an ordinance for a reason. To be clear though, the ordinance does allow Council to override that prohibition, which is why I wanted to put it on the agenda. I did not add it to the agenda because I have a specific reason that I want it or don't want it, but because we had said publicly we would have the meeting, I thought it was worthwhile to have at least a discussion here on Council so if anyone on Council felt strongly that we should have it, we could understand that as a group and make a decision. So, it's not a decision made just by the Mayor or made just by the President of Council. So, with that background, there's a couple of lights of people that want to share their thoughts.

Ms. McFarland: I was just going to ask if we do not have it, will there be another one scheduled for after the election? And I ask that because of the feedback that we had. People really enjoyed coming out for that. I think they would be sad to see it go away. For lack of a better word. I think they just really liked seeing us all there in that, like you said, informal setting.

President Anderson: So, at least from my side, and then I'll ask Mayor Hawkins his views is Council can make that decision if we want. This was a project that was an idea that Mayor Hawkins had brought forward when he started his Administration. It's just another opportunity to raise things and Council was supporting that. I know we all get plenty of phone calls. People know how to find us, but as Mayor Hawkins pointed out to me when we were talking about scheduling, because I was saying, "Hey, we just redid this nice room. Why don't we use it? We have a nice t.v., we can show pictures, do presentations." But then it started feeling more like the State of the City again, or a Council meeting. So, he really was focused on and helped me understand the informal setting was important to some people. Because sometimes these meetings can be intimidating, right? Because you're coming to a podium in the well. We don't have to make that decision tonight. We can decide that, or people can think about it if we want to reschedule it. We can call a special meeting anytime. I just want to make sure that Administration would be there because I think if it was just Councilmembers I don't think it's quite the same. The way that we had interactions were very beneficial because we got all those views in real time. I also wonder about the utility of having it later. It was timed to be able to influence the budget if needed, and if we do it after the election, two of the concerns I have is some of the members that would be there answering

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President Anderson (continued): questions may not be the ones implementing that next budget. So, how do you handle that? So, we'd have to think about would you take the elect-Councilmembers to be there as well. So, we might need to wait and see how the election shakes out. As a thought.

Mayor Hawkins: I agree with that. If it's after the election and people just want to have that, it's fine. But there really was a purpose with regard to the timing of it with regard to the budget. I'm open to some more discussion once we get past the first Tuesday in November, but the timing was purposeful.

Mrs. Webster: The issue here is not the matter of having the town hall. The issue here is the date. The chosen date that Mayor Hawkins has decided to have it. There's no reason why this town hall could not be put off until November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Not in that period of the 75 days. I've had a couple of discussions with him, and he has assured me he's not going to bring it up anymore before the election and that's fine with me. Thank you.

Mr. Vanover: As one of two people sitting up here that voted on for in 2011 , was Ordinance No. 13-2011; it was done to level the playing field. And I can speak directly as an incumbent that is being challenged, I find the thought of having the meeting appalling. I am not going to look my challenger in the eyes and say, "I deserve an unfair advantage". That's why this was put in place. We have had, since it was tweaked, we've had 14 elections. Out of 14 years, seven election cycles. This has never been a problem during any of those cycles. There were three sitting Council presidents that were present through that. No problems there. As Mayor Hawkins said and I had said to him, "Twice in each one of our meetings, we have a 'Town Hall' if you want to call it that; Communications from the Audience". They can address any topic they want to bring up. Everyone sitting up here, except Mr. Jacobs, has been challenged. So, we have all been in the challenger's position. I know what it's like. I've been there, done that, and even now I am not willing to say, "You don't deserve a fair chance". So, I think that it's best that it passes away. If you want to have a meeting after the election process has worked. That's fine. I don't have a problem with that. But I can guarantee you if you do, I will not participate. I will not be a hypocrite and say, "I voted. Put this in place.", and then I'm going to go back on my word. That's it.

President Anderson: So far, I've heard a lot of challenges against that, but we're just sharing information at this point.

Mr. Gleaves: I personally don't like changing it. I trust the residents know what this is all about, and Mr. Vanover, you mentioned the Communications from the Audience. I don't really think that there's any need to change Communications from the Audience because of an unfair advantage or anything like that . But the town hall was well received. People like the communication being greater than it was before. So, I understand your sentiments, but I don't think there's any reason to change.

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Mr. Jacobs: When we were first made aware of this, and it's good that we were made aware of it, it just would have been fantastic if we had done it before we'd notified the residents that we were going to have it. So, there will definitely be residents who are upset. We can postpone; we can move forward as is. When I first read the email, I was wondering if we could find a middle ground somehow where officials on the ballot, contested or otherwise, didn't attend, but then we don't have a quorum, so we can't do that. I wondered if we could have elected officials on the ballot be there but not speak as a way to try and maintain the spirit of it. But I do understand the opposition. I will say no matter what I am in favor of town halls annually, and I think we can get ahead of this next cycle and schedule it earlier outside of the 75-day window. But I sure wish we could find a middle ground where residents don't lose that opportunity. I don't have a creative one, like I said, if it made a difference for me to sit in the back row with sunglasses and hat on, and not say a word, I would do that because we did put it out there for residents as an event, and now we're taking it away in a sense if we don't move forward in some way. I don't have any other creative ideas than those, to be honest.

Mayor Hawkins: Mr. Jacobs, it's a great event; a great opportunity. The issue in terms of, this is part of the reason why I asked for Mr. Braun's legal opinion on it, because I thought you could have the possibility where you don't have folks that are up and running and engaging in it, but the way the legislation reads is "any elected official". And the only way that that would be overcome is if Council, by a majority voted to go do something. And, so, again, from my standpoint, being the initiator of it before, and, again, you don't have to have a quorum. I had the idea, I said I wanted to invite Council to have the opportunity to participate in this kind of thing. I'm pulling back on that with regard to this just because of the timing of it. And, we'll make sure in the future we get to the years to come that we'll be well in advance of that and maybe we're looking at the first week of August or what have you to make sure there's no issue and we've still got the inertia going for budgeting, but, the takeaway for what's gained and lost, it's really important that anybody that's running feels like they're getting a fair shake and obviously everybody who's up here knows what it is because we've all run and been elected, but, it's important that process is fair and appears fair, and so we go through this and we always can do something in the future.

President Anderson: For what it's worth, I agree with that. I think maybe we should look at maybe using some of our summer schedule for moving the town hall as a regular basis so that maybe that last date that Council has a summer meeting date becomes a town hall instead so that it's not this rush at the end to find the right date. I think there's solutions there for it. I think this was just an oversight. Again, when we talked about scheduling, it was never a concern about the election. We didn't count the days to the election. And that was an oversight and I'm glad that Mayor Hawkins brought that forward to us so we could address it. I do see how people could feel like they were having something taken away. I hope people don't see that. I hope people know that they can ask us questions. It does not get that informal setting, but without the enthusiastic support of Administration in a meeting like that, it really just sets us up for just more fracture and division, and I don't see the benefit to the City for that. So, I would struggle with trying to push through a town hall like that if everyone on the dais

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President Anderson (continued): wasn't an enthusiastic supporter. I think it's a disservice to the residents at that point because even if you could force the date, it doesn't mean that you're able to have those open and honest communications with them and I think that's so important for the town hall, right? So, you hear some of the concerns; whether we share them or not, whether we believe the residents could understand or see that differently, the fact that there is a part of the population that feels that way, I think we need to respect that too knowing that the ordinance was there before we set up the town hall last year and set it. So, to me it's a lesson learned. Now, if we want to have one later, we can do that, but I feel like it's probably in the City's best interest if we didn't try to do more than what we're doing now. That's where I'm sitting. There's a couple of lights. I didn't mean to jump in front of anyone when I started talking. I didn't see them.

Mr. Gleaves: I didn't know if Mr. Braun would like to expound on this a little bit more to get some clarity of why this ordinance came about, and the reason it can be overruled.

President Anderson: Well, we can go to Mr. Braun for a second, but just to be clear, we already have some of that information and he can affirm, although he doesn't typically engage in the debate. But the ordinance is very clear in its language that within 75 days no Councilmember should, or elected official should call a special meeting. Some people might argue that this was an annual meeting that we talked about last time, but it's not part of our regular recurring, so, the ordinance does allow for Council to override that if it's in the public interest, right? And that's why we're having the discussion right now. So, what that would look like is simply, after we're done with the discussion, I'll certainly give Council an opportunity to make a motion if they want and we can take a vote on it. I'm just cautioning that without enthusiastic support of Administration and certainly the majority of Council, I feel like we'd be doing a disservice more than helping, but that's my view. I'm just one of those votes. Mr. Braun, did you want to add anything to that? I didn't want to preempt you, but I know you're not typically one to engage in the debate itself.

Mr. Braun: Yes, I'm not going to expound on my opinion because you all have a copy of it, but what I will say is I was not here, that was past, and I did not represent the City, and I don't know the legislative history of it. But, I think, like you indicated, the language speaks for itself. There's a mechanism to go around it, and if you want to, it would take a vote of the full Council.

Mr. Vanover: I can give you a little history lesson on it. It was drawn up originally because the possibility and potential and there were some tries that they would have a district meeting and be supported by the City when they're in an election cycle. That's an unfair advantage to the incumbent and to the challenger. So, it was basically rounding up and cutting off some less than, as I would say, honorable intentions. I think the electorate is well-versed and they have the intelligence or will have the choice to make, and it should be up to them without any unfair influence

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Mr. Vanover (continued): from one side or the other. And, quite honestly, if you had a meeting that we were all present, we have a quorum, and then Mr. Braun might jump on this, then we have some sunshine law issues, we have an official Council meeting, I mean the last town hall, they took minutes. So, it was an official meeting. So, every two years we will face that because of the way our elections are. If they want to do it odd years, knock yourself out. You can do it and there's no repercussions to it. But, being fair to all sides, that was why this was done to take away any advantage of being an incumbent; special advantage I should say. It's not fair, and it's not right. So that's the history in a nutshell.

Mr. Jacobs: Just in general from last year's meeting, I know, from my part, I was there to listen. I didn't do much talking at all. It is fundamentally different I think for the resident's experience than hitting that microphone with a three-minute time limit, so, I know that I think the town hall is something worth keeping. I think, you know, making adjustments to avoid this problem in the future, I hope we're all on board. I would hate to lose the town hall long term over this. Because, again, anybody that was there; it was valuable for the residents, and I think for the most part it was about listening as opposed to talking, and so, I hope we don't lose that in the shuffle, but it would obviously come up every two years. I just think we can move ahead. I wouldn't like to see it completely gotten rid of in an election year for example. To me that would be too big of a reaction there, but that's just from this chair. Thank you.

Mayor Hawkins: Mr. Jacobs, I agree with you. The intention would not be to discontinue doing that in the future. It would be my intention to just see that take place again in August, could be July even, and the same thing, it's something that I felt it was important to give an informal opportunity for folks to speak with Elected Officials, but, at the same time, and I said this last year, I don't want anybody on this dais to feel like they're on the spot, or they have to be there. And it's been said, and it's true, if you end up with four Councilmembers there, then it does become a quorum, it does have some different things. If I show up there and nobody from Council goes, I'm going to that, then that's fine too, but I thought it was a good opportunity for folks. Obviously, we reach a quorum, then we've got to do some different things. We would always advertise it anyway for that purpose, but the intention will be that we'll do that. Again, in the future, I will be more mindful with regard to dates; I'll own that. Doing some other things at the time, getting ready for pretzels to be given out and what have you. But I don't plan to do away with it in the future. I think it's something that's important and I think it's a great event and residents enjoyed it, the elected officials that were there enjoyed it, so we'll do it again. This is not a termination of that event in the future.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: I have been very, very back and forth on this since I received the email. I have seen events through things that I've done; PTA, SYB, or even the City where if you change a date, or if you take it away, less people, or no people will show up the next year, so, I agree it shouldn't be within the 75 days after hearing today some different viewpoints on why it should be, when it should be, but I do think that it needs to be either after the election date, or it needs to be told to the people we are going to be doing this because I don't want people to think, "Oh, they're not doing it now".

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Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup (continued): Because we did have a good turnout and it was a very positive thing, and so I hope that they do continue doing that, but I have to agree that if it's within that 75 days, the thing needs to be moved.

Mrs. Webster: Like I said in the very beginning of this discussion, it's not the matter of having a town hall and not keeping the residents informed, it's the timing based on the ordinance that was done in 2011, and I kind of think we've beaten a dead horse here and would like to move on to the end of the meeting. Thank you.

President Anderson: Any other discussion or questions on this? Well, in fairness as I said at the beginning of this item, the Chair is open to motions after hearing the feedback, it is still anyone's option if they would like to do that, this is your opportunity. (None) Not seeing any lights, it seems like we had a good discussion there. I thank everyone for working through that and, again, I do feel very strongly as Mr. Jacobs mentioned and Mayor Hawkins issued as well, we should have this as an ongoing event; be it over the summer schedule, or just outside. I don't think every other year is the right answer, but I do want to make sure that we have that opportunity. I also was suspicious of the informal setting as I said earlier, but it really did make a difference and people really were able to connect, so, we can do better next time.

### Meetings and Announcements

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning will meet in these chambers on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Gleaves: The BZA Board will be meeting August 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in these chambers.

Mayor Hawkins: There's going to be a Ross Park renovation ribbon cutting on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

President Anderson: We also have a presentation, I think at our next Council meeting related to this as well, so that will be in advance, so we'll get another reminder.

Ms. Morgan: The Civil Service Commission will meet next on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. adjacent to these chambers.

Mr. Uhl: I just have a quick announcement in regards to the Hooter's property. Just a quick update for everyone. Since April of this year, we've had three complaints, and the high grass has been resolved and is actively being monitored. The recreational vehicles parked on the lot continues to be monitored, but that is considered closed as well by our Building Department. The Police Department and the Building Department still continue to monitor that as well. The wall sign deterioration that was cited into Mayor's Court on August 8<sup>th</sup>, so that is in process. So,

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Mr. Uhl (continued): those are the three most recent updates regarding that property. The pavement management software of the 30 pages of spreadsheets, I'd have to go through that to dig it out, but I will get some answers for you.

Communications from the Audience - None

### Recap of Legislative Items

Mr. Jacobs: Council, as you review your Legislative Summary, Item I; An Ordinance Amending Section 73.03 of the Springdale Code of Ordinances Regulating Parking and Declaring an Emergency was addressed by Ordinance No. 29-2025 receiving a second reading and seven affirmative votes. Item II; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into a Natural Gas Aggregation Agreement with AEP Energy, Inc. and Declaring an Emergency was addressed by Ordinance No. 31-2025 receiving seven affirmative votes. Item III; An Ordinance Reducing and Recertifying Special Assessments Levied for the Purpose of Constructing Certain Improvements and Declaring an Emergency was addressed by Ordinance No. 32-2025 receiving seven affirmative votes. Item IV; An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of an Amended Agreement with Enable Injections, Inc. Related to a Job Retention and Creation Incentive Agreement and Declaring an Emergency was addressed by Ordinance No. 33-2025 also receiving seven affirmative votes. Item V; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter into an Agreement with Husac Paving and Excavating, Inc. for the Springdale Industrial Park Concrete Repairs and Catch Basin Reconstruction Project and Declaring an Emergency was addressed by Ordinance No. 34-2025 receiving seven affirmative votes. Item VI; A Resolution Declaring the Necessity of Improving Driveway Aprons in the Public Right-of-Way as Part of the Springdale Industrial Park Concrete Repairs and Catch Basin Reconstruction Project and Authorizing the Assessment of the Costs for the Improvements on Certain Lots and Parcels of Property was addressed by Resolution No. R14-2025, receiving seven affirmative votes. Item VII; A Resolution Authorizing the Filing of Continuing Disclosures with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board Related to the March 2017 Street Improvement Bonds was addressed by Resolution No. R15-2025 also receiving seven affirmative votes.

### Legislation in Development

Mr. Jacobs: Item VIII; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into an Agreement with A Regional Council of Governments for the Purpose of Administration and Collection of Municipal Earnings Tax in the City of Springdale, Ohio was addressed by Ordinance No. 30-2025, receiving a first reading, a presentation and that will be back at our next meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Item IX; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Execute an Agreement with the Best Bidder for the Springdale Community Center Phase II HVAC Replacement Project and Declaring an Emergency will receive a first reading at our next meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Item X; An Ordinance Adopting Supplemental Appropriations and Estimated Receipts to Adjust Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures and

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Mr. Jacobs (continued): Adjust Estimated Receipts for the City of Springdale, Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2025, will be on the agenda at our next meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Item XI; A Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor will receive a first reading at our next meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. And Item XII; An Ordinance Accepting a Bid and Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into an Agreement with Rumpke of Ohio, Inc. for Waste Collection and Recycling Services will also receive a first reading at our next meeting. Finally, Item XIII; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Execute an Addendum to the Current Agreement Between the City of Springdale and SwimSafe Pool Management, Inc. will be on our next meeting's agenda receiving a first reading.

Adjournment

President Anderson: All that's left before us is Item 16.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Move to adjourn.

President Anderson: We're adjourned. Thank you everyone for sticking with us. It was a long one today.

Council adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Browder  
Clerk of Council

Minutes Approved:  
Jeffrey Anderson, President of Council

\_\_\_\_\_, 2025