

City of Springdale Council

January 15, 2025

President of Council Anderson called Council to order on January 15, 2025.

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

President Anderson provided the Invocation.

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

The minutes of the January 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: Good evening Council. I'd like to report that the Civil Service Commission did meet on January 2nd. Attending the meeting was myself, Robert Coleman, along with Ms. Kathy McNear, also, Ms. Stephanie Morgan, Mr. Brian Uhl, Ms. Renetta Edwards. In order to conduct the business following the disposition of the minutes, the minutes were approved 2-0 in order to include those in the official record. Next up on the agenda were the reports, and, the reports were as follows. We reviewed an update on the status of hires. And, to that extent, the Building Inspector hiring position is still open, and will remain open until filled. There are still applications being reviewed. Also, the Patrol Officer hiring position. That's in the background check. Police Clerk hiring, that also is in background check. Public Works Inspector, that is also in the background check, and the Public Works Maintenance position has indeed been filled. So, things are moving along fairly well within the hiring process for the City of Springdale. Also, under New Business, Facilities and Grounds Superintendent position was presented. That was a timeline that was presented for approval following the discussion, the timeline for that particular position, the hiring timeline was, in fact, approved. Also, we discussed a request for reinstatement from a former employee, and that was Mr. Sam Fogle of the Tax Department, and following that discussion, the Commission also approved 2-0 for reinstatement, particularly now as we approach Tax time. They certainly don't want to be left short-handed within the Tax Department. Following that item, that concluded the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned. Any questions? (None)

Rules and Laws

Mr. Jacobs: Rules and Laws Committee met just previously this evening. We called to order about 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Vanover, and myself were present. Administration was there, including the Mayor, Mr. Uhl, and Ms. Morgan. And, Joe Braun was in attendance as well. And, we discussed just, to kind of preface it, a bunch of miscellaneous items, so there's not really a flow to my report tonight. It was our first meeting, and we did address, the first thing we talked about was just to clarify that it is true that the Rules and Laws Committee doesn't typically address issues like this. We

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Mr. Jacobs (continued): do also, and I'll skip to the end, we anticipate that to be our only meeting, depending on how things go tonight. But, we clarified that jurisdiction issue, and then the rest of this is miscellaneous in fashion in terms of what we talked about. As we were going through the Code, we did check for vicious dog updates, in other words, to see if our language on vicious dogs maybe needed an update. Our charge was only, of course, on the number of dogs, but we did take a look at that, and, as we discussed the idea of adjusting the limit of two animals, the major ideas and directions we discussed were either maybe raising that number to five, or, we also heard from Mr. Braun, he's canvassed other cities. Nearly every City Mr. Braun checked has no number whatsoever. So, our two options were maybe to go up to four or five, or to have no number whatsoever, and, we need our colleague's input on that before we go much more forward on it. Mr. Vanover and myself, and he can speak to this of course as well, we lean more towards keeping it at maybe a five as opposed to having no limit whatsoever, even though that is, apparently very common in southwest Ohio. We noted that companion animals are excluded from whatever changes we make. We heard from Administration in terms of what their opinions are, and, of course, they can speak for themselves as well. But, Administration doesn't see a change to this number leading to a big change in how the City exists. So, we don't feel like any changes are going to be mammoth that we may adopt going forward. It was noted that the Code already has lots of mechanisms for things like noise, nuisance dogs, so there is lot of controls already in our current legislation. And, we did, in general, the tone of the meeting included that if you have a problem dog, it's typically the owner, as opposed to the animal themselves. Administration shared that there had been about 20 bite reports over the last two years. And, we just kind of wanted to get a sense of how things were going in the City. Pretty minimal noise complaints overall in the expanse of Administration. And, then, there was a very small note that we noted. I was going through the Code. Currently if you're walking in a public park, you can't be walking more than two dogs. And, we got into the weeds a little bit on that one. If Council does see fit to raise the number, Mr. Vanover and myself seem to think that two dogs in a public park has its own rationality to it. And, so, maybe that's something that we would keep. Beyond that, at the end of the meeting, it was kind of agreed that we're going to present to Council just the idea of not even needing a future meeting. We want to get a sense of what our colleagues think on whether there's an interest in removing the number completely as a lot of communities have done, or, moving the number up to a four or a five. And, again, I don't want to speak for my colleague, but, I lean more towards just simply raising the number and keeping a number. But, those are the two options in front of Council at this point, in terms of just discussion. And then, based on what we hear from our colleagues, then we could move forward rather quickly. That concludes my report unless there's some questions or anything Mr. Vanover or Administration would like to add.

President Anderson: Well, two questions. One question, and then we'll talk about the process moving forward. You mentioned companion animals. Is that the same thing as service animals? I know that has a special designation. Is that what you intended, or is there a different meaning to that?

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Mr. Braun: Yes, actually, in Ohio they don't have service animals. ORC (Ohio Revised Code) calls them companion animals. Most states use the other term, but we call them companion animals.

President Anderson: Okay. In terms of process for how we move forward, because we are in Committee and Official Reports. We're not actually debating legislation inside this part of the meeting. And, since we didn't know that we'd be having that discussion tonight. What I'd suggest is that we put the item back with this feedback from the Committee on our next meeting under Old Business. That way Council members can take a look at the Code themselves, think about what they want to do, and then we can have a discussion about if we want to have legislation created then as opposed to doing it off the cuff tonight. That's what I propose. Is there feedback on that or in general, obviously, the floor is open for anyone.

Mr. Vanover: This is also an item that would have to go to Planning, so, both Mr. Jacobs and I agreed that if we come up, Council comes up with a consensus, we can send that to Planning, get their feedback, and then it would obviously come back to us; public hearing and all that. We talked, and it's totally up to you. But, we could pull this discussion open as discussion again in New Business tonight if Council so desires. Next meeting is not going to make that much of a difference, but, I don't see a hard path on this one.

President Anderson: And again, the reason I was thinking to give us a beat for the next meeting is to have Council to have an opportunity to review the Code themselves and have questions thought out.

Mrs. Webster: I guess I have a couple of questions. Why, when somebody comes up here and wants to change what we've had for many years do we automatically put it on Committee and automatically want to change it? I think two pets is fine. Two dogs, two cats, one of each, whatever. Why do we have to go through with this all the time? That's my question. I think two pets in a household is fine. Now, I personally know people that have more than two, but, I'm not reporting them because they cause no problem. So, why can't we just let things alone? Anybody? No answer?

President Anderson: Well, I think what you're finding is we're not having a debate on the topic.

Mrs. Webster: Huh?

President Anderson: I think what you're finding is people aren't prepared to debate the topic on whether we should legislate, in general, from up here. In terms of, the reason I thought it made sense, for what it's worth, if you want to hear it, is I support law and order in that that means that there are demand. There are people that do it, so we should have that discussion if it should change. We're one of the only Communities that has a limit, so, it seemed worthwhile to take that up as a topic. You're certainly

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President Anderson (continued): entitled to your opinion that nothing should change, but, that doesn't stop the business of Council.

Ms. McFarland: I just was curious if there was anybody that's been here for a while that knows was that ever changed at any point? Has it always been two? Is there a reason it's two? Thank you.

Mr. Vanover: Actually, this topic was discussed a number of years back. I was involved in those discussions again, and it ended to stay where it is. One of the problems, and we've seen it before us, that this is one of those rules that neighbors will use against their neighbors. I understand one side of it. I find it disheartening on the other is, well, in the Committee meeting we were talking. It's pretty much the same thing as when somebody gets a letter from the Building Department, they will go through their neighborhood, and point out every perceived fallacy that exists, and it's the "Why me?" gene. I guess you would call it that. Well, I subscribe wholeheartedly to the late Barbara Woodhouses' philosophy that there are more bad owners than there are bad dogs. We've been through, well, we've touched briefly on pit bulls. I remember when Doberman pinschers were the bad dog. I remember German Shepherds being the bad dog. The problem, really, you boil it down it becomes that bad owner allowing the dog. And, we could project it over on a whole lot of other things; children, and the whole ball of wax. Like Mr. Jacobs' lean to putting a number in there. I don't think the freedom, and again, this is not in stone, so it can be readdressed at any point in time, but, my feeling is that I have no problem with increasing the number. I think there are more people with more than two, and that could be more than two cats, it could be more than two dogs, or, a combination of both. That's where we kind of ended. So, it's not change for changes sake, but, times have availed themselves that maybe it's time to look at it.

Ms. McFarland: Thank you.

Mrs. Webster: Well, like I said, and like I think he just figured it out, we've had this rule for years; two pets. And, everybody knows, everybody up here knows more people that have more than two pets. And, nobody is reporting them. And, if they do get a report, then the authorities go. So, I just don't see the need to change something. You're up here changing rules right and left from the way this Community was made. Thank you.

President Anderson: Anything else from Rules and Law?

Mr. Jacobs: No.

President Anderson: Alright, then we'll go ahead and add the discussion for the next meeting under "Old Business – The Feedback from Rules and Laws Regarding the Domestic Animal", and then we can decide as Council if we want to request an ordinance or do something with Planning.

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Finance Committee Mr. Vanover - No report

Planning Commission

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission met last night, and, our first piece of business was a Concept Plan for 345 Glensprings. They had come the month before about townhomes, and, they originally were asking for 35 units, and now they want to knock that down to 23, and there's two properties and it's going to be on the property that's not in the flood plain. And, it would eliminate the entire western plot. They were only going to be building on the eastern plot, and, that it's currently zoned "GB" and it would need to be rezoned if they decided to go through with this. They just came and talked to us about the changes that they made, and, they will be back at a later date with an actual request. We also had Dave and Busters PUD Minor Modification, both myself and Ms. McFarland found it to be Minor, but what they want to do is paint the whole building a charcoal color with an orange band, and paints and have signage on top of it. And, have new panels to replace the panels they currently have, and that was passed with a 7-0 vote. We had a residential treatment services come with a concept plan for 1171 East Kemper Road. It's the old art college on Kemper Road, and it was a concept only for a women's long-term facility for people who are needing mental health help, possibly who would need help with getting off of drugs, and also to help with homelessness. So, that was just a concept plan and they will be back if they want to move forward with that. And then, finally, we had the thoroughfare plan, and Mr. Shawn Riggs came and he was talking to us about it, and we had a presentation, and, on the presentation, there were a couple of changes that we had talked about, and he was making those. There will be a public hearing before Planning Commission on February 12th with the Thoroughfare Plan and, then will vote to recommend or deny it to Council, and the letter will be sent to Council on the February 19th meeting, and we'll go from there. And, that was everything that we had, unless you had anything to add Ms. McFarland.

Ms. McFarland: Nope, that's all.

Board of Zoning Appeals Mr. Gleaves - No report

Board of Health

Ms. McFarland: The Board of Health met last week on January 9th. We did have a final COVID update from last year. We ended with 229 cases for the year. That is obviously significantly down from 2020, and actually lowest year since then, but, we did have a lot of discussion about the fact that a lot of COVID cases aren't reported anymore. So, they have seen a few raises in the number in December, but, overall, it was still a lower number. We did have some Food Program updates. Obviously, Wawa's in progress, a couple of other places that are waiting on Building Department permits. The Health Department did have three of their employees take the ServSafe Certification so that they can proceed with evaluations at local restaurants. They're waiting on the results for those. And, they are continuing their Emergency Preparedness additional training for the Health Department staff. The Nurse's Report was pretty short

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Ms. McFarland (continued): as well. We had no Narcan use in the month of December, and that was it. February 13th is our next meeting.

Capital Improvements

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup - No report

O-K-I

President Anderson: The OKI Board of Directors did meet on January 9th. A few items of note. We received an update on the 471 Bridge Repairs. For people watching the news closely, you saw those large 100 foot-long steel beams that were one of the key components that they were needing to get the repairs going. It's about 100 X 40 foot section, and they're about 25,000 pounds each. Each of those beams. These guys have been out there working every day since the accident. Every day except for two days; New Year's and Christmas. That's it. Those guys have been working through that snow storm up there killing it to get that work done. But, seeing those beams warped was something. If you have an opportunity to look for it, I think they'll be publishing pictures. It's pretty impressive the damage that was done. They believe the damage was done by a shredded tire mix in the playground, along with pressure-treated wood, composite wood burned hotter than expected, closer than it needed to be, or should have been. Also, I thought it was interesting, but maybe it's just me, but, if the actual damage had been just on the other side of that yellow curve of the bridge, it would have been Kentucky's problem. So, it came right up to the edge of Ohio. Obviously Kentucky's a partner in the bridge, and they've been working on it as well. But, the ODOT representative at OKI, you could see his shoulders kind of sigh when we talked where it would become Kentucky's problem. So, that was an update, and they're making good progress. They're still expecting March as the deadline, but, there have been rumors that it could be done as early as Mid-February, which is very impressive considering the damage. The other thing of note is the TIF Amendment. That's that funding that we do benefit from frequently. Projects that were included in the TIF amendment. There were projects in Loveland, changes to bridge work related to 471, EV chargers, Safer Streets for All grants were given out. Street car real-time tracking. Bus replacements and bike pedestrian improvements. In the city, near Ezzard Charles, if you've been down that way, you know those are very badly needed. Those were all approved at the meeting. The Board then had Administrative Work nominating and approving the members for the coming year, and that was it. Our next meeting is February 13th.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Hawkins: First off, January 3rd, we had our Annual Winter Sports Pep Rally and Coaches Memorial Hall of Fame Induction. It was a great opportunity to recognize our two inductees; Richard "Dick" Neyer, and Rusty Teague were inducted into the Hall of Fame. I actually played baseball for Coach Teague for a number of years. We had record snowfall on January 5th through the 7th. Our Public Works did an outstanding job cleaning our streets, and getting out there. They started on Sunday, the 5th around 11:00 a.m., so they were on the front end of it out there treating the roads and getting the plows going. An excellent job. Kudos to Mike Huxsoll and

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Mayor Hawkins (continued): the crew down there at Public Works. I was out on Sunday when the snow started, went through a couple of different communities on my way to the Butler County jail, and it was noticeable on Sunday, as well as being out on Monday morning coming in for a Director's meeting and Tuesday as well. Springdale was in much better shape than our surrounding communities, so, again, a big thanks to Public Works and all the work that they did, and all the long hours through the night that they put in. Several great events going on down at the Rec Center that everyone should be made aware of. There's the "Achieve Challenge" which is an eight week program that runs from January 20th through March 16th. January 20th is significant because that is usually the point where people have broken their New Year's resolutions, so, they're trying to start it up then to make sure people are engaged. It will be a focus on exercise four times a week, water intake, and having a proper diet, and people will set personal goals they'll be looking to achieve. And, that is free to the Community. There's also going to be a Galentine's Day workout, which will be a free full day of fun, fitness and friends where, essentially, they're going to run from 9:30 in the morning, until 8:00 at night all of the variety of different classes that they have down at the Rec Center. So, folks can come in. All those classes are free to the public as well, so you can come down to the Rec Center and check that out. That's February 13th. We also have for veterans, on Tuesday, January 28th, at 9:00 a.m., and also 6:30 p.m. there will be a program to provide information about resources that are available for our veterans. So, again, January 28th 9:00 a.m., and again at 6:30 p.m. down at the Rec Center program talking about some resources for the veterans. Lastly, there will be a State of the City address. We're looking at March 26th at the Rec Center. Actually, lastly, and I want to thank, and you guys will have before you, information with regard to there have been negotiations with the Fire Union, and I want to thank the men and women of our Fire Department, their negotiating team, and a special thanks to our Administrative negotiating team with Mr. Uhl, Ms. Morgan, Ms. Edwards, Chief Stanley, Assistant Chief Williams. Everyone worked together to find a fair and sustainable agreement for this year's union. So, that concludes my report, unless there's any questions.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Uhl: I had a couple of things logged down here, but, the Mayor described them much better than I could, so, I have no further report. Thank you.

Law Director's Report

Mr. Braun: I just wanted to report that we're currently combing through all the last minute legislation approved in Columbus. Looking to see what changes we'll need to be bringing to you for revision. One that I know Administration and the Police Department are both very excited about is the fact that beginning in April, unless there's any kind of challenge to it, we will be able to begin to start charging for video requests that are made. While it's not intended to create a burden for people that want to get public records, it becomes a problem when we have these commercial requestors from all over the United States asking for all video related to "x", "y", or "z". And, it's not that we haven't been able to keep up with those. We have, but they're very expensive when it comes to staff time, resources, and redactions, and the State recognized that. So, we'll

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Mr. Braun (continued): be working to bring some kind of legislation before Council to implement that on behalf of the City should that continue through as law. The only other thing I would point out is that when you get to Resolution No. R06-2025, I just wanted to be heard to give a little update on that before your consideration. And that concludes my report.

President Anderson: And, just one question on the Fee Schedule. That does require Council action; it's not an Administrative rule?

Mr. Braun: That's correct. It would need to be a policy. You could consider this the request to do that in case you were waiting for that formally.

Mr. Braun: No problem. Thank you.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Riggs: Just a few quick items this evening. We have the Tri County Parkway Sidewalk Project. That work is substantially complete. It was close to being wrapped up right before Christmas. Unfortunately, the snow caught them, so, there's a few little things that they have to go back out there and clean up, but, they're going to wait until the snow melts just a little bit more before going back out there. The East Kemper Improvement Phase I Project; you may recall late December that we were authorized to begin work on that project. We were hoping to start surveying in January. Unfortunately, the snow caught us there as well. We've been able to do a little bit of deed research and some of the things on the front end. We have had a crew out there establishing control, but, the bulk of the field work with topo (topographic) survey is going to be on hold until some of the snow clears again. Then, the Northland Intersection Realignment and Kemper Road Shared Use Path; this is the OKI funded project that was awarded a couple of years ago where the City has an RFQ (request for quote) out for design services on that, and that all responses are due on the 17th at 4:00 p.m., and an ODOT scoping meeting is going to be held on January 22nd. And, that's all I had.

Rental Program Committee

Mr. Vanover: Just kind of a reiteration of last meeting's report. The Committee hasn't met since then, but, we are anticipating that we will have legislation before Council for our February 19th meeting for a first reading, and we will then have a public hearing set for March 5th for that second reading. And, again, if Council desires, we could have more than two, but at this current point, we're figuring two.

President Anderson: Just as a matter of process, so, we'll have it on the agenda for the second February meeting, and then we can decide there to schedule a public hearing. So, we're not asking to advertise that yet. Is that right? Okay. I guess we might need to though is the reason I'm asking. If you're doing the following meeting, don't you need the extra days, or are we okay?

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Mr. Uhl: Yes, we need the 15 day notice for the public hearing.

President Anderson: So, we'd need to ask today, or the first February meeting to schedule the public hearing, unless we just want to do that now. Because we can't ask for the public hearing on the 19th for the 5th. We'd have to do that.

Mr. Vanover: The 5th we can ask. So, Mr. Uhl and I discussed. So they can meet the time window, can we go ahead and schedule that at this point so we can make our calendar.

President Anderson: And that's fine unless anyone on Council has any issue with that. I just want to make sure before we schedule public hearings that Council's had a chance to weigh in on it. Anybody have concerns about having the public hearing on the 5th for the Rules and Law changes? (None) Good. I just wanted to make sure we're good on process there. Any other questions on the Rental Program Committee? (None)

Urban Farming Special Committee Ms. McFarland - No report

President Anderson: Just one question on that. Is the Committee planning to or wanting to address the other items that were in the charge, specifically I think these were the other issue, or should we look at disbanding it based on the feedback that we got with the first set of changes?

Ms. McFarland: I don't think Mr. Jacobs and I really had a chance to sit down and talk through that, but, I can update you at the next second meeting in February.

President Anderson: Let's go ahead, if I could ask, that we have a meeting and decide if you think the Committee's work is done.

Ms. McFarland: Yep.

President Anderson: So we can disband the Committee if it's finished.

Ms. McFarland: Okay. Will do.

President Anderson: But, if you plan to do more work, you certainly have that in your charge.

Ms. McFarland: Right. Okay. Thank you.

Communications - None

Communications from the Audience - None

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Ordinances and Resolutions

President Anderson: Before we get started with Ordinances and Resolutions, Mayor Hawkins had mentioned a request for Council to take up an item for the agenda. The Chair will entertain motions to amend the agenda.

Mr. Jacobs: I'd like to move that we add Ordinance No. 05-2025 to the agenda. An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Springdale Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 4027, and Declaring an Emergency.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Second.

President Anderson: Did you have a question, Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup?

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: At what point are we putting this? After the last Ordinance then?

President Anderson: If it's approved, I would add it at the end of Resolutions; at the very end of the section.

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Okay. Thank you so much.

Motion to add Ordinance No. 05-2025 to the agenda passes with seven affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 02-2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A BUSINESS INCENTIVE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH G5 ENTERTAINMENT, LLC

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 02-2025; Mr. Gleaves seconded.

President Anderson: I think we have a presentation, is that right?

Mr. Kuchta: Slick City Action Parks is the actual operating entity that would occupy the space. Slick City Action Parks is a family entertainment business with 11 locations that have opened up since 2001, so, it's a relatively new business, but it's growing very rapidly. You can see the states that they're currently operating in, multiple locations in Arizona, Colorado, Missouri, Texas, Illinois, and Wisconsin. There's ten additional locations that are under construction currently. The basic operating model is they sell tickets for blocks of time, and you can take your kids, or little kids, grown kids, adults, and you can use your block of time to go slide on all the different slides, and they have some other entertainment options as well. You can also host

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Mr. Kuchta (continued): special events, birthday parties and things of that nature. Then, they have special events that they put on periodically, for example "adult only" nights, "after hours glow", etc. So, you can see this is a typical layout of one of their facilities. It's full of all kinds of very large slides, which surprisingly, there's some patents that they've taken on some of these slides, and how they work, so, it's a pretty unique location. The specific location they're looking at occupying in Springdale is next to the Dave and Busters in the beltway plaza. So, it's the former Sam Ash location that's outlined, next to the Dave and Buster's. It's a 39,000 square foot space. Projected annual payroll of \$750,000. There's a range of monthly visitors. I've been using our data that we subscribe to that tracks cell phone movement, and it's hard to get a read on some of the other locations because they're in much larger, multi-tenant facilities, and some of them haven't been around that long. So, that's the low and the high end of what I've been able to see as far as monthly food traffic going into these locations. The franchise owner that would operate this specific location is actually the same person who previously established, and later sold our Sky Zone and Full Throttle locations, so, he's familiar with doing business in Springdale, wants to come back and do some more business in Springdale, and very excited about this project. The proposed incentive is a \$70,000 grant, payable within 90 days of their opening for business. There's a claw back requirement to repay the grant if operation ceases in Springdale within seven years. That claw back is reduced by \$10,000 until it goes away. This is not the layout of our specific location. They don't have the pretty version ready yet. There is an engineering version that would not be very helpful, but, this is the basic layout of what ours is going to look like very closely to this. You can see they have two indoor basketball courts, they have the bulk of the slide areas, they have a soft play area, some more smaller slides, and some other entertainment areas. They have lots of picnic tables so people can bring in their food, their cakes, and have their birthday parties, and have some rest time for the kids in between playing. And, they actually, on the plan for the Springdale location, they actually do show a small arcade area as well. So, this is a strategic incentive from our standpoint. It's just going to add to what's turning into a nice family entertainment hub in that beltway plaza facility, and there's one more that's being worked on right now that will hopefully be yet another addition in the coming months, but, it's a little bit early to talk about it, but, very excited to have this fill in a spot that hasn't been empty that long. They hope to start renovations in May, and be open by December this year for business. There is a representative of the company here with us tonight if there's any other questions that I can't answer, but, I'd be happy to try and answer any questions you might have.

Ms. McFarland: It may be a little personal question for myself, but, do they have concessions or food there, or you're just able to bring your own in?

Mr. Moormann: People are permitted to bring in their own...

President Anderson: I'm sorry, just for the record, could you come forward, state your name, and then answer the questions, just so we have a record.

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Mr. Moormann: Sure. My name is Doug Moormann, I'm with Development Strategies Group located here in Cincinnati, and we do represent the company developing this site. They do encourage people very strongly to bring in their own food, but, there will be limited food options available within the facility itself, as well as some beverage options.

Ms. McFarland: Thank you.

President Anderson: Other questions? (None) Well, I'll tell you this, if I hadn't thrown my back out shoveling that snow, I'd be really excited about those slides, now I'm starting to wonder if this is the right fit for me. But, I'm glad to see it as adding to the entertainment hub that we've talked about. I think it's a great opportunity to grow that space, especially in a large warehouse space like that. Those are increasingly difficult to fill, so, I just want to say we haven't voted, but I certainly appreciate you considering and staying in Springdale for this type of build out. It is appreciated.

Ordinance No. 02-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 03-2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MITCHELL'S SALON & DAY SPA, INC. RELATED TO A JOB CREATION AND RETENTION PROGRAM AGREEMENT

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 03-2025; Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Ordinance No. 03-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 04-2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SALAS O'BRIEN, INC. RELATED TO A JOB CREATION AND RETENTION PROGRAM AGREEMENT

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 04-2025; Mr. Gleaves seconded.

Ordinance No. 04-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

President Anderson: Next up on our agenda is a resolution. This is the one that was tabled from our previous meeting to appoint a member to the Tax Review Board. Before we do the resolution reading, I'm going to open the floor for nominations for that position. As in the past, we'll do nominations ahead of time. If there's more than one, we'll do a vote. If there's just one, by acclamation we'll add it, and then read the resolution with that name in there. So, with that in mind, I'm now opening the floor for nominations to serve as a member of the City of Springdale Tax Review Board for the term ending December 31, 2026. The floor is now open for nominations.

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Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Megan Chapman said that she would like to return.

President Anderson: We have the name of Megan Chapman. Any other nominations? (None) Seeing none, I'm now closing nominations for the position, and then by acclamation, we will go ahead and read Resolution No. R05-2025 with the name Megan Chapman inserted in for the blank. Mr. Jacobs when you're ready.

Resolution No. R05-2025

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEGAN CHAPMAN TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE TAX REVIEW BOARD FOR THE TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R05-2025; Mr. Gleaves seconded.

Resolution No. R05-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

President Anderson: And Ms. Chapman, if you're watching, thank you for being willing to serve again. We appreciate it.

Resolution No. R06-2025

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE OHIO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE'S CHALLENGE OF AT&T'S TARIFF APPLICATION AT THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R06-2025; Mrs. Webster seconded.

President Anderson: I believe Mr. Braun pegged ahead that he wanted to speak.

Mr. Braun: I just wanted to explain the reason for this and the reason this appeared so suddenly on your agenda. Unbeknownst to many across the State of Ohio, AT & T filed a tariff application with PUCO that essentially would have been an "end-run" around current State law that would have said, they asked for an insertion into the current regulations for PUCO that would have basically said anytime a governmental entity requests a relocation and an undergrounding of communications or communication lines that they were not responsible for paying for the relocation of those. As you know, right now, let's just take a project that's on our radar right now; the Northland Boulevard Project. Any telephone poles, any communication lines, pick any other project in the City, we notify those individuals you need to move your lines, because, as you know, we own those rights of way, and, while the federal government may have intervened and preempted us and said we have to let them locate there, we don't have to let them locate there for free, meaning that when we want those lines moved, they have to move them so that we cannot be impaired in our growth. This would have radically changed the law in Ohio. The Ohio Municipal League correctly, and aptly rose up and said we would like as many communities as they can across the State of Ohio to join with us in opposing this. We brought this application to you tonight in the interest of disclosure, the deadline was actually earlier today to have your name

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Mr. Braun (continued): included in the motion to intervene that was filed. The City of Springdale was included in that upon the recommendation of Administration, however, I don't think that the battle is over, but I have a footnote to add that the motion to intervene was filed listing many communities across the State of Ohio, including the City of Springdale at 1:29 today, and by 2:30, AT & T withdrew the application request within an hour, and basically said, "Oh, it was misunderstood. We didn't intend to take it as far as we said in our filing." I think it's significant though that this be adopted tonight for two reasons. Number one, we did include the City of Springdale in the motion to intervene, and we want AT & T and other service providers, whether it be communications, electric, cable, to know that we will exercise our home rule and protect our rights of way when they're under attack. Number two I don't think that the battle is over. I don't think it was an accident that AT & T asked for this as a test run, and I would not be surprised if this battle is won, that we won't see the last of it. So, in the interest of protecting our rights of way and home rule, I think this is a worthy thing for the City to put its name on, and any of us up here, the Mayor, Mr. Uhl, Ms. Morgan, or myself are familiar with this if you have any questions about it specifically, but, I do want you to know that as a formality, they withdrew that request under pressure because of elected officials like you taking a stand. So, thank you.

President Anderson: Thank you. And, just to be clear, Section 3, by voting for it, we're not committing ourselves to financing an objection with every file; that's what Section 3 protects us from is we understand there might be costs in the future, but, we're not allowing those today.

Mr. Braun: That's correct. Before you would incur those costs, we would come back for another vote. This is more about taking a stand and making a statement. So, thank you.

Mr. Gleaves: Mr. Braun, hopefully you can answer this question. The Ohio Municipal League, who is this entity, and what relationship do they have with Springdale?

Mr. Braun: The Ohio Municipal League is an entity that represents local governments across the State of Ohio; villages, cities, and even some large urban townships. And, what they do is that they're an advocacy group. They also provide various benefits. The City of Springdale is officially a member. You don't have to be a member, but we are a member. We received benefits from that; many that we exercise, and many that we don't, but, one of the most important functions of the Ohio Municipal League is they keep an eye on things in Columbus for us. And they do. Just as Mr. Anderson updates us on things that happen in our local OKI meetings, the Ohio Municipal League updates us on bills, laws, even suggestions that are being made during discussions that could affect local government, so, it's a very important, I call it an advocacy group, but it is a trade association, and it is, I think it's a valuable tool that we have to assist us in protecting many things that affect our Community.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you very much.

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President Anderson: Mr. Gleaves, just to add to that, I think we've had legislation come in past meetings, I think it was before your time, where we've done things where we've joined letters or petitions as well in these cases as our alignment grew. I think the last one we did was a letter when the State tried to take away some of our zoning ability and change the way that animals would be regulated at the State level. We had written as a Community saying that we should be able to determine that ourselves, and that was something that came through our lobbying group as well. So, we've done this in the past.

Resolution No. R06-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Ordinance No. 05-2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE SPRINGDALE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS IAFF LOCAL 4027 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Webster made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 05-2025; Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

President Anderson: As I understand it, it was unanimously approved by the union.

Mr. Uhl: Yes. They voted last night and it was unanimous in favor of this agreement. We do appreciate their professionalism, and also the folks that they brought to the bargaining table were reasonable, and, as the Mayor stated earlier, this was a fair, sustainable contract moving forward.

President Anderson: I'll also add the accolades. I truly appreciate our Fire Department and first responders. I see a lot of trouble kind of staffing the way that we do and the support that we give and get from other communities so I don't take it for granted, so, I appreciate the work Administration has done to maintain the relationship with the Fire Department. It's never seemed adversarial, and I think that's a testament to your work, as much as their professionalism. So, I appreciate both the work that you do and certainly the work that they do every day. It is very much appreciated.

Ordinance No. 05-2025 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Old Business	-	None
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New Business	-	None
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Meetings and Announcements

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission will meet in these chambers on February 11th at 7:00 p.m.

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Ms. McFarland: The Springdale Youth Boosters will be holding their Annual Horse Races on February 22nd at the Rec Center.

Mr. Gleaves: The Board of Zoning Appeals will be meeting right here in these chambers at 7:00 p.m. January 28th.

Mr. Uhl: Just two quick announcements. Just as a reminder, Monday, January 20th, the Municipal Building will be closed in honor of Martin Luther King, and we will have shortened hours over at the Community Center. The Community Center hours will be 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Ms. Morgan: The Civil Service Commission will meet February 6th at 2:00 p.m.

Communications from the Audience - None

Recap of Legislative Items

Mr. Jacobs: Council, as you review your Legislative Summary, Item I; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into a Business Incentive Grant Agreement with G5 Entertainment LLC was approved with seven affirmative votes. Item II was addressed with Ordinance No. 04-2025; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into a Job Retention and Creation Incentive Program Agreement with Salas O'Brien, Inc. That passed with seven affirmative votes. Item III was addressed by Ordinance No. 03-2025; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into a Job Retention and Creation Incentive Program Agreement with Mitchell's Salon & Day Spa, Inc. That passed with seven affirmative votes. Item IV was addressed by Resolution No. R5-2025; A Resolution Appointing Megan Chapman to the City of Springdale Tax Review Board for the Term Ending December 31, 2026. That passed with seven affirmative votes. Item V was addressed by Resolution R6-2025; A Resolution Supporting the Ohio Municipal League's Challenge of AT & T's Tariff Application at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, also passing with seven affirmative votes. Council also added Ordinance No. 05-2025 with an emergency clause to the agenda; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with Springdale Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 4027 and Declaring an Emergency. That also passed with seven affirmative votes. And that's all I have unless Administration has anything forthcoming.

Legislation in Development

President Anderson: Well, we do have the two items from Rules and Laws that we want to make sure we start tracking as well, so, there's those two meetings that were mentioned earlier. We'll include those in the next report.

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Adjournment

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

Ms. Sullivan-Wisecup: Move to adjourn.

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

Council adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Browder
Clerk of Council

Minutes Approved:
Jeffrey Anderson, President of Council

_____, 2025