

City of Springdale Council

March 4, 2026

President of Council Anderson called Council to order on March 4, 2026.

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

Ms. Browder took roll call. Councilmembers Anderson, Gleaves, Hall, Jacobs, McFarland, Thompson, and Webster were present.

The minutes of the February 18, 2026, meeting were considered. Mr. Jacobs made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Gleaves seconded. The minutes were approved with seven affirmative votes.

Communications - None

President Anderson: Before the floor is open, I just want to give a quick reminder to Council and the audience regarding Communications from the Audience. Everyone should be aware as we said in previous meetings that Springdale does have a Code of Conduct that controls how we operate inside of our meetings. That means that both speakers and Councilmembers are expected to remain in a professional, non-abusive cordial manner as we conduct the business of the City. That includes not, and for the Councilmembers as a reminder that means that during Communications from the Audience it is the audience members' opportunity to speak. And they'll be given their time to speak, and we should not be interrupting them for any purpose. It also means that during this part of the meeting, we should not be having cross-talk or looking for deliberation between Councilmembers during that time. If there's questions that Council or Administration has for the speaker, we have the opportunity to ask those questions, but it's not an opportunity for us to do deliberation or make changes. So, just keep that in mind as we start this process again.

Communications from the Audience - None

Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 11-2026 (First Reading)

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL UNDER THE OMNIA PARTNERS COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DESIGN2WELLNESS FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF CERTAIN FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Mr. Gleaves: Mr. Uhl, about the ordinance here, 11-2026, the purchase of the fitness equipment. Do you know if this will be replacing all the fitness equipment, or will some of the old be staying?

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Mr. Uhl: Yes, this will be replacing all of that existing nautilus equipment. A lot of that was original to the addition back in early 2000's, and although we service it every year, those pieces are becoming obsolete, so we can't get parts, we can't get pieces. We've had to take pieces off the floor, so we've been kind of nursing those right now. We talked to some of our vendors and they're unable to get parts and pieces as well, so their recommendation was just replace with the new items.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you. Much needed.

Ordinance No. 12-2026 (First Reading)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH RUSH TRUCK CENTERS OF OHIO DBA RUSH TRUCK CENTER, CINCINNATI FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2026 FORD F-550 TRUCK CAB AND CHASSIS

Mr. Uhl: Just want to let Council know that this unit we're replacing a 2006 Ford F150 that the Public Works Department has used for the last 21 years now and the piece of legislation that you'll see next will give us a lot more capabilities than what this existing unit does as well.

President Anderson: And this was in the budget if anyone didn't go back and look. This was included in the line item that we approved earlier this year. I don't see any other questions or discussion. We'll see this again at our next meeting.

Ordinance No. 13-2026 (First Reading)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH W.A. JONES TRUCK EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF DUMP TRUCK UPGRADE EQUIPMENT

President Anderson: Council, you've heard the first reading of Ordinance No. 13-2026. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? (None) Seeing none, we will see this again at our next meeting.

Ordinance No. 14-2026 (First Reading)

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL REVENUE FUND KNOWN AS THE "EQUITABLE SHARING PROGRAM FUND"

Mr. Jacobs: Just a brief question. This relates to what is referred to as civil asset forfeiture, and I just wanted to kind of confirm the decisions of such forfeiture, that's way above us. That's a DEA decision?

Mr. Uhl: Correct. That will be a legal process. So, there will be a judge who actually determines whether or not the asset would be forfeited and then there's a matrix that the DEA and the task force members use to determine what the distributions will be per department.

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Mr. Jacobs: Would our City have any role in attempting to secure such forfeitures or is it all above our heads is kind of what I was looking for.

Mr. Uhl: I'm not following your question.

Mr. Jacobs: A decision to seize a certain asset. That decision to green light that process. Is that all above us?

Mr. Uhl: A lot of it depends on what the crime they're investigating is and how it's used in the commission of the crime, but ultimately, it's above our pay grade. A judge has the ultimate authority to say that that asset can be forfeited or not.

Mr. Jacobs: So, we may actually seek such forfeiture, but obviously the decision of whether it, that's a judge, but we might actually seek it?

Mr. Uhl: Correct.

Mr. Jacobs: Okay. Thank you very much.

Mayor Hawkins: Along the lines of what Mr. Jacobs was saying and just piggy backing on what Mr. Uhl said, every County is going to be a little bit different in how they do what they do. Hamilton County usually does not attach forfeiture specifications to their criminal indictments so it's usually a civil process that will go through if it's federal then it may be a different thing that they do in terms of it being attached to the actual criminal case; different from Butler County that would put the specification on the criminal indictment, but yes, law enforcement may talk with whatever prosecuting entity it is to say, "Hey, it would be great if you would try to get these assets that were illegally obtained or used in the commission of a crime." And then, based on the judge or magistrate's decision, that would come back to us potentially.

President Anderson: To be clear, this is just for the DEA Task Force that we're a part of, we contribute resources to. We're not creating a new civil forfeiture team or fund. This is just a way for us to account for it because the federal government requires us to in order to receive our share of the funds.

Mr. Uhl: Correct. These have to be segregated from other funds and their specific use.

President Anderson: And their limited use. They can only be used for law enforcement purposes.

Mr. Uhl: Correct.

President Anderson: And that's why. Okay. Thank you. Any other questions or discussion? (None) Seeing none, we will see this again at our next meeting.

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Old Business

Mr. Jacobs: I'm just seeing some stuff on social media as we get closer to tax time and when I voted for the adoption of the RITA system, I had confirmed several times that a resident can file their taxes without going through RITA. That's still confirmed, correct? I can walk up with paper; I do not have to create an account with RITA?

Ms. Morgan: Yes, that is correct. Our tax office is still open and available to us. As with filings, we are working within RITA's database. Our staff is able to file within that software. In some instances, we may not be able to directly enter it, but we can still accept payments, accept the paper forms, and submit those to RITA for entry into that database.

Mr. Jacobs: Thank you. I think some of the confusion might be that there were local tax preparers that were maybe telling some of our residents they had to go through RITA and that was never my understanding. So, I wanted residents to be aware it's an additional option as opposed to a replacement, so I appreciate that. Thank you.

Mrs. Webster: I would like to announce tonight that I am volunteering to do the invocation the third Wednesday, or second meeting of the month from this day forward. If anybody else would like to do it, fine, let me know and I will step aside that time. On another note, I want to advise everybody that Joan and Ed Knox lost their son this week. It was very sudden, very tragic. Joan and Ed Knox have been great, great people in this community. Joan would be like Mrs. Garden Club, and Ed was a Councilman, the Clerk of Council, and he was on the Board of Zoning Appeals. And it was very sudden for them and very shocking. So, if we all just could say a little prayer for them, that would be great. Thank you very much.

New Business

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None

Meetings and Announcements

Ms. McFarland: The Planning Commission meeting that was scheduled for March 10th has been cancelled due to no agenda items, and the Board of Health meeting is scheduled for March 12th at 6:30 p.m. in these chambers.

Mr. Gleaves: Volunteer Firefighters and Dependents meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room and the Board of Zoning Appeals is scheduled for the 24th of this month at 7:00 p.m. in these chambers. That's all I have. Thank you.

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Mayor Hawkins: State of the City address is going to be on March 25th at 7:00 p.m. at the Rec Center in the old gym. It is a free event. All are welcome. Also, Dave and Busters is going to do a refresh ribbon cutting this Friday, March 6th at 10:30 a.m. Thank you.

Ms. Morgan: The Civil Service Commission will meet on Thursday, March 5th, tomorrow, adjacent to these chambers at 2:00 p.m. Also, just to reiterate piggy backing on earlier conversation, the Tax Department does remain open and available to residents and businesses with their tax filings, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., our regular business hours. We will have extended hours as we approach the filing deadline of April 15th. We'll make some posts on Facebook with additional information as that time approaches. Thank you.

Communications from the Audience

Mr. Haugh: Good evening. My name is Kevin Haugh. I live on 12090 Elkridge Drive. A couple of times I've heard...

President Anderson: I'm sorry, Mr. Haugh, could you move a little closer and move the mic up. I want to make sure we get...

Mr. Haugh: Can you hear me now?

President Anderson: Better. Thank you.

Mr. Haugh: A couple of times I've heard before Council residents talking about trash in the City. One thing I've noticed is the red recycle bins that don't have a lid allow trash to blow around a lot, and I'm constantly picking up Amazon tumbleweeds from my neighbors and put them away. I know the City has a contract with Rumpke that provides for two of those red bins and I wondered if in the future if we could change that contract to include the green bins or replace with the green bins that have a lid on them in order to try to mitigate some of the trash that's blowing around. I don't know how much additional cost that would be to the City if there is additional cost but definitely think it would be worth talking to Rumpke and seeing for the future.

Mr. Uhl: Mr. Haugh just to address that, that is an option for anyone who would like it. It's not a thing that we supply because some of the residents had expressed concern about where they would store it, so they like the red toters, the red bins, rather than the bring green toters, but you can get one. It is discounted as part of our package as well. You would just need to contact Rumpke to set that up.

Mr. Haugh: I did contact Rumpke, and I'm going to order mine. For those of you that don't want to pay for a free service, if we could put an option there they could choose the red toter or the green bin to give them that option to help to mitigate some of the trash because that's the biggest thing that I see in my neighborhood is just recycle day, things blowing around.

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Mr. Uhl: Yes. Understood. Understood.

President Anderson: And, I'll add to that, I agree. We just signed a renewal of the contract, and I don't remember if it's a one or two-year term, but it's something that I made a note too. We had a lot of windy days recently, and my neighbors were walking and picking up a lot of trash, so it is good feedback and something we can consider the next time this comes around.

Mr. Haugh: Yes. I usually chase a box down back from the bus stop on my way back from dropping the kids off.

President Anderson: For sure. Thank you.

Mr. Haugh: Thank you.

Recap of Legislative Items

Mr. Jacobs: Council, as you review your Legislative Summary, Item I; An Ordinance Establishing a Special Revenue Fund Known as the Equitable Sharing Program Fund was addressed by Ordinance No. 14-2026, receiving a first reading. Item II; An Ordinance Accepting a Proposal Under the Omnia Partners Cooperative Purchase Program and Authorizing the Mayor and the City Administrator to Enter Into an Agreement with Design2Wellness for the Purchase and Installation of Certain Fitness Equipment was addressed by Ordinance No. 11-2026, also receiving a first reading. Item III An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into an Agreement with Rush Truck Centers of Ohio DBA Rush Truck Center, Cincinnati for the Purchase of a 2026 Ford F-550 Truck Cab and Chassis was addressed by Ordinance No. 12-2026, receiving a first reading. Item IV; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into an Agreement with W.A. Jones Truck Equipment for the purchase of Dump Truck Upgrade Equipment was addressed by Ordinance No. 13-2026, also receiving a first reading.

Legislation in Development

Mr. Jacobs: Item in development is Item V; An Ordinance Accepting a Bid and Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Enter Into an Agreement with the Best Bidder for the East Kemper Road Improvements and Shared Use Path, Phase I Project and Declaring an Emergency. That will come before Council at our next meeting on March 18, unless there's anything else coming from Administration.

Mr. Uhl: Nothing to add to that, but I do have a follow-up comment regarding our Rumpke contract. Effective March 1st, 2026, residents can actually obtain the toter at no additional cost. So, there should be something coming to every resident here in the very near future. They indicated to us that they will be sending some type of a flyer out making that known to everyone who would be interested and can properly store a larger toter.

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President Anderson: Well, that's welcome news. Thank you.

Mr. Uhl: Hot off the press.

President Anderson: We're more clever and forward looking than I expected.

Ms. Thompson: So, for residents that already pay the annual cost for the toter, will there be a reimbursement or how will they handle that?

President Anderson: Mr. Uhl, do you want to take that now, or a follow up?

Mr. Uhl: I'll take that offline, but I don't know that there will be any reimbursement for that, but that would be something to work out with Rumpke.

Adjournment

President Anderson: Seeing no more lights, all we have left before us is Item 14.

Ms. McFarland: Move to adjourn.

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

Council adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Browder
Clerk of Council

Minutes Approved:

Jeffrey Anderson, President of Council

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