

**March 24, 2016  
Springfield, Missouri**

The City Council met in regular session March 24, 2016 in the Council Chambers at Historic City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bob Stephens. A moment of silence was observed.

**Roll Call**

Present: Ken McClure, Jan Fisk, Phyllis Ferguson, Mike Schilling, Justin Burnett, Craig Fishel, and Bob Stephens. Absent: Craig Hosmer and Kristi Fulnecky.

**MINUTES.**

**CONSENT AGENDA.**

**CEREMONIAL MATTERS.**

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.**

**SECOND READING BILLS.**

**RESOLUTIONS.**

**EMERGENCY BILLS.**

**PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.**

**GRANTS.**

**AMENDED BILLS.**

**PUBLIC HEARING.**

**FIRST READING BILLS.**

**West Wye Connector  
Project**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2016-068. A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to enter into a Real Estate Transfer Agreement with BNSF Railway Company (BNSF), to transfer certain property underlying the West Wye Connector project (the "Project") to BNSF, and finding that the Project supports the public purposes of improving public safety, providing a more efficient rail system, and promoting economic development in central Springfield.

Sarah Kerner, Interim Economic Development Director, gave a brief overview of the proposed. She stated this is the first step in a long-range plan to separate trains from vehicles and pedestrians and reconfigure the rail system within central Springfield. Ms. Kerner noted the City commissioned the Rail Reconfiguration and Grade Separation Study in 2006. She stated the goals of the study were to have safer pedestrian and vehicular environments, expanded open space system, safer and more efficient rail system through the City, improved coal delivery to the Southwest Power Plant, and enhanced economic development opportunities for residential, business, and recreational facilities within Central Springfield. Ms. Kerner noted the proposed diverts coal train activity from the Ft. Scott and

Cherokee subdivisions out of BNSF's main yard and frees up space in the main yard for rail storage currently located in West Meadows. She stated the proposed will reduce crossings at Eldon, Meteor, and Farm Road 123. Ms. Kerner noted the proposed transfers 2.614 acres to BNSF in exchange for credit towards future land purchases from BNSF or construction work to be performed by BNSF. She stated the estimated credit is \$752,079.20. Ms. Kerner noted the majority of the funds involved are federal funds in the amount of \$2,398,444.00 and state funds equal \$150,000.

Councilman Schilling asked how often a coal train delivers to City Utilities. Ms. Kerner introduced Nicholas Konen, BNSF Manager of Public Projects. Mr. Konen responded the frequency of coal train delivery varies based on seasonal usage.

Mayor Pro Tem McClure asked for clarification on the time line. Ms. Kerner responded there are multiple projects planned that have yet to be scheduled. Mr. McClure asked when construction on the connection track will begin. Ms. Kerner responded the project is scheduled to begin in mid-April.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. With no appearances, the public hearing was held over until the next City Council meeting.

**PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES, AND COMMUNICATIONS.**

**NEW BUSINESS.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

**CONSENT AGENDA FIRST READING BILLS.**

**CONSENT AGENDA ONE READING BILLS.**

**CONSENT AGENDA SECOND READING BILLS.**

**Adjourn**

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:45 a.m.

Anita J. Cotter, CMC/MRCC  
City Clerk

Prepared by Tom Smith  
Assistant City Clerk