

One-rdg. \_\_\_\_\_  
P. Hrngs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Pgs. 3  
Filed: 02-15-22

Sponsored by: McClure

First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL BILL 2022-048

SPECIAL ORDINANCE \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE

1 DESIGNATING the official City flag adopted in 1938 as the Historic City Flag.  
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4 WHEREAS, in 1938 Springfield Mayor Harry Durst agreed with citizen Paul  
5 Harris that Springfield should have a flag, and Senior High School art students  
6 submitted twenty-six ideas; and  
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8 WHEREAS, a committee comprised of City government, the Chamber of  
9 Commerce, the Commercial Club, the "City Beautiful Commission" and the Civic Art  
10 Commission, was convened to select a flag design; and  
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12 WHEREAS, on March 1, 1938, the City of Springfield flag adopted an official City  
13 flag by approval of Resolution No. 1763; and  
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15 WHEREAS, on March 13, 1938, the first official Springfield flag was completed,  
16 sewn by Phoebe Hensley, secretary of the Commercial Club; and  
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18 WHEREAS, the flag's design included three historical bars of equal width – one  
19 red, one white and one blue - with four five-pointed stars, one star in each of the upper  
20 and lower corners of the flag; and  
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22 WHEREAS, the red and blue bars symbolized cooperation and civic pride  
23 respectively, the white bar symbolized Springfield's renown for achievements in the  
24 areas of religion, homes, education, and industry, which were each represented by one  
25 of the four stars; and  
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27 WHEREAS, the Springfield Identity Project designed a proposed new city flag in  
28 2017 and requested that the official City flag be updated to the proposed design; and  
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30 WHEREAS, after review of the matter by the Community Involvement Committee  
31 ("Committee") and engagement of the public by a variety of methods by the Department  
32 of Public Information & Civic Engagement, the issue was referred to City Council for  
33 consideration; and

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WHEREAS, City Council approved the new design proposed by the Springfield Identity Project as the official City of Springfield flag on January 10, 2022, in Special Ordinance 27627; and

WHEREAS, City Council wishes to honor the City flag adopted in 1938 for promoting civic pride through its long years of service by designating the flag as the "Historic City Flag."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI, as follows, that:

Section 1 – City Council does hereby designate the City flag adopted via Resolution No. 1763 in 1938 as the "Historic City Flag." The Historic City Flag shall be appropriately displayed in an exhibit in a City building, such as Historic City Hall or the Busch Building, and continuing education about the Historic City Flag's place in the City's history shall be provided.

Section 2 – This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption.

Passed at meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_, City Clerk

Filed as Ordinance: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to form: Rhonda Lewsader, City Attorney

Approved for Council action: Jason A. Hays, City Manager

**EXPLANATION TO COUNCIL BILL 2022-048**

FILED: 02-15-22

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENTS: Public Information & Civic Engagement and Law

PURPOSE: To designate the official City flag adopted in 1938 as the Historic City Flag.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Mayor McClure requested this Council bill.

In 1938, Springfield Mayor Harry Durst agreed with citizen Paul Harris that Springfield should have a flag. After submission of twenty-six designs by Senior High School art students, the City of Springfield adopted an official City flag which remained the City flag for many years. On March 13, 1938, the first official Springfield flag was completed, sewn by Phoebe Hensley, secretary of the Commercial Club. The flag's design included three historical bars of equal width – one red, one white and one blue - with four five-pointed stars, one star in each of the upper and lower corners of the flag. The red and blue bars symbolized cooperation and civic pride respectively, the white bar symbolized Springfield's renown for achievements in the areas of religion, homes, education, and industry. Each area was represented by one of the four stars.

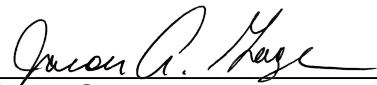
In 2017, a grassroots citizen group, the Springfield Identity Project, created a proposed new flag design and approached City Council members about adopting their design as the official City flag. After review of the matter by City Council's Community Involvement Committee, a community educational campaign and a survey regarding the current flag design and a proposal to change the design, the issue was referred to City Council for consideration. City Council approved the new flag design on January 10, 2022, in Special Ordinance 27627.

Many citizens continue to cherish the flag adopted in 1938. To preserve the history of the 1938 flag and honor the flag for its long years of service, this Council bill would designate the flag as the "Historic City Flag." The Historic City Flag will be displayed in an exhibit in a City building such as Historic City Hall or the Busch Building and continuing education about the flag's place in the City's history will be provided if this Council bill is adopted.

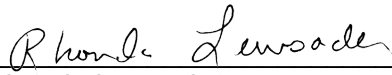
Submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cora Scott  
Director of Public Information & Civic Engagement

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Gage,  
City Manager

Submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rhonda Lewsader,  
City Attorney