

**February 22, 2021**  
**Springfield, Missouri**

The City Council met in regular session February 22, 2021 in the Council Chambers at Historic City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken McClure. A moment of silence was observed.

**Roll Call** Present. Craig Hosmer, Richard Ollis\*, Andrew Lear, Abe McGull, Matthew Simpson, Mike Schilling, Phyllis Ferguson, Jan Fisk, and Ken McClure. Absent. None.

\*Member attending via videoconference.

**Minutes** The minutes of February 8, 2021 City Council meeting and February 9, 2021 and February 16, 2021 Special City Council meetings were approved as presented.

**Consent Agenda** The Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

**CEREMONIAL MATTERS**

**Recognizing Clay Goddard** Sponsor: City Council. Council Bill 2021-039.

A resolution recognizing the retirement of Director of Public Health and Welfare, Clay Goddard.

Councilman Simpson provided an overview of the proposed. He commended Mr. Goddard on his accomplishments and dedicated service to the City and community. He expressed his appreciation to Mr. Goddard and noted he will be greatly missed.

Jason Gage, City Manager, expressed his appreciation to Mr. Goddard for his dedicated service to the City and community, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Councilman Lear commended Mr. Goddard for his dedicated service to the City and community. He expressed his opinion the guidance he provided during the COVID-19 pandemic was invaluable and truly appreciated.

Councilman Ollis expressed his gratitude to Mr. Goddard for his guidance about public health in the community, such as the issues of mental health and smoking. He expressed his belief the guidance he provided during the COVID-19 pandemic was truly appreciated. Councilman Ollis congratulated Mr. Goddard on his retirement.

Councilwoman Fisk expressed her appreciation for Mr. Goddard's guidance during his tenure with the City. She congratulated Mr. Goddard on his retirement.

Councilman Hosmer commended Mr. Goddard for his dedicated service to the City. He noted his guidance for the issue of Tobacco 21 was invaluable. Councilman

Hosmer expressed his belief his dedicated service helped save lives, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson expressed her appreciation to Mr. Goddard for his dedicated leadership and service to the community. She congratulated Mr. Goddard on his retirement.

Councilman Schilling commended Mr. Goddard on his retirement and for his dedicated leadership and service to the City and community.

Councilman McGull expressed his appreciation to Mr. Goddard for his dedicated service and leadership to the City, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor McClure expressed his appreciation to Mr. Goddard for his dedicated leadership and service to the City Council, City, community, and region. He noted his knowledge and expertise in public health was vital and invaluable. Mayor McClure further noted countless lives have been saved because of Mr. Goddard's guidance and leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic response.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Brian Fogle, Community Foundation of the Ozarks, expressed his appreciation to Mr. Goddard for his dedicated service to the community, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted a donation fund entitled the Clay Goddard Fund for Public Health has been established in his honor.

There being no additional speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

Mr. Goddard expressed his appreciation to the City Council, City staff, and the community for the proposed and for their dedicated support during his tenure with the City. He expressed he is overwhelmed and humbled by the response of his retirement.

Council Bill 2021-039. Resolution 10550 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**City Manager  
Report**

Jason Gage, City Manager, commended the Public Works Department for their efforts in response to the recent historic cold temperatures and snow weather during the week of February 14, 2021. Mr. Gage noted approximately 4,000 hours were dedicated by Public Works employees at a total cost of approximately \$333,146.00. He noted those hours and costs were primarily attributed for snow removal and treatment of the City's roadways and sidewalk areas. Mr. Gage further noted the Public Work's snow removal crews within Street Operations logged approximately 2,106 hours for clearing the City's roadways regarding the two separate snowfall events. He added a total of approximately 633 tons of salt was utilized during the cold and snow weather response efforts. Mr. Gage added a full summary has been provided for City Council's review.

Mr. Gage noted the City also complied with City Utilities call to reserve power as required by the Southwest Power Pool. He further noted Building Maintenance spent approximately 12 hours adjusting the temperature settings for various City facilities. Mr. Gage added Building Maintenance also had to respond to calls about frozen pipes at several City facilities due to the historic cold temperatures. He noted City Utilities rolling blackouts and power outages impacted traffic signals throughout the City. Mr. Gage further noted the Transportation Management Center continued to monitor the traffic throughout the historic cold and snow weather event with the coordinated efforts of the Missouri Department of Transportation, City Utilities, City staff, and the Police Department. Those coordinated efforts helped support and assisted with traffic signal operations during the rolling blackouts and power outages.

Mr. Gage noted due to the historic cold weather temperatures and snow fall precipitation numerous potholes have occurred on the City's roadways. He further noted Public Works employees would be working over the next several weeks to repair and fill these potholes. Mr. Gage added the Missouri Department of Transportation is also responsible for several state roadways located within the city limits, such as Glenstone and Kansas Expressway, and would also be working on filling and repairing potholes on these roadways. He noted individuals may file a pothole report with the City by contacting the Citizens Resource Center at 417-864-1010 or may utilize a smart phone app for Go Springfield MO by indicating the location of the pothole and submitting it to the City.

Mr. Gage commended Dwayne Shmel, Building Development Services Director, and David Pennington, Fire Chief, and their dedicated employees of inspectors for assisting with the opening of additional cold weather shelter facilities for the homeless this past week. He also recognized the efforts of the faith community, such as The Gathering Tree for expanding their capacity at the Eden Village 1 Community Center and continuing to expand the Revive 66 Trailer Park facility located on West Sunshine. Mr. Gage also recognized the efforts of other faith-based organizations who helped assist with the cold weather sheltering.

Mr. Gage noted the City has been receiving citizen input over the past several months about the future land use and development along Grant Avenue. He further noted a virtual public meeting is scheduled from 6:00-7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 where City staff will be presenting details for the Grand Avenue Corridor Plan. Mr. Gage encouraged the public to attend the virtual event and to participate in a question and answer session by visiting [www.grantavenueparkway.com](http://www.grantavenueparkway.com).

Mr. Gage noted the Missouri Job Center will be conducting a two-day event on February 23 and 24, 2021 to help assist Amazon in hiring for their new facility in Springfield. He further added job seekers must fill out an application online and make an appointment prior to the interview. He noted individuals may apply by visiting [www.Jobs.Mo.Gov](http://www.Jobs.Mo.Gov) and search Amazon for a link.

Mr. Gage noted the Missouri Job Center's Green for Greene program, which is an Environmental Protection Agency grant-funded green job training program designed to train and secure well-paying environmental jobs for residents of under-resourced

areas, is now accepting applications. He further noted individuals may apply by visiting <https://www.springfieldmo.gov/GreenforGreene>.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson expressed her sympathies to the family and friends for two individuals from Zone 1 who recently passed away, Yolonda Taylor and Ted Higgs. She noted Ms. Taylor coached and mentored many youth individuals through the Grant Beach Sports League, the Springfield-Greene County Parks Departments, and Lake Country Soccer. Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson further noted Ms. Taylor was the 2018 recipient of the Gift of Time award for her many hours of volunteerism in youth sports programming. She added Ms. Taylor lost her battle while fighting cancer at age 44.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson noted Mr. Higgs, who was 93, was a dedicated public and community servant. She further noted he volunteered on several City boards and commissions, such as the Springfield-Greene County Park Board, CU's Citizens' Advisory Council, and the Midtown Neighborhood Association.

## **Public Health Director Report**

Clay Goddard, Springfield-Greene County Health Director, gave a COVID-19 updated. Mr. Goddard noted tonight's update would be his last one due to his upcoming retirement. He thanked the City Council for their dedicated support to the Health Department during his tenure, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Goddard also expressed his appreciation to the community for their dedicated support during this employment with the City.

Mr. Goddard noted the COVID-19 disease trends continue downward, which continues to be a good sign. He further noted the updated 7-day rolling average is approximately 33 positive cases a day, which an approximate 25% drop from last week. Mr. Goddard added during the historic cold temperatures and snow weather from last week, vaccine distributions and clinics were cancelled. He noted this week vaccine distributions and clinics will be held for COVID-19 immunization efforts.

Mr. Goddard urged caution while proceeding to move forward with normalcy by utilizing a data driven approach, because the COVID-19 pandemic is still occurring. He encouraged everyone to remain vigilant by practicing social distancing at least 6 feet apart, handwashing and sanitizing, and wearing a mask until additional vaccines become available for further immunizing individuals. Mr. Goddard noted the Health Department launched efforts to encourage the community through the Finish Strong pledge to have at least a 70% commit to staying vigilant and pledging to get the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available.

Mr. Goddard once again expressed his appreciation to the City Council for their dedicated leadership and support to him and the Health Department, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic response efforts. He thanked the Health Department staff and City staff for their dedicated support and service to the community during this tenure.

Mayor McClure thanked Mr. Gage and Mr. Goddard for tonight's updates.

## City Utilities Report

Gary Gibson, General Manager at City Utilities, gave an update regarding City Utilities call to reserve power as required by the Southwest Power Pool by utilizing rolling blackouts, power outages, and energy conservation measures during last week's historic cold temperatures. He thanked the community for their patience and cooperation with City Utilities during last week's historic event. Mr. Gibson noted the community has experienced warmer than average temperatures until approximately February 6, 2021 when the temperatures started to significantly decline. He further noted the significantly lower cold temperatures had a dramatic impact upon the power system due to customer usage, which is why the rolling blackouts and energy conservation measures were enacted by the Southwest Power Pool. Mr. Gibson added the significant lower cold temperatures below 0 degrees Fahrenheit were not only affecting us locally, but in numerous other states, who are also members of the Southwest Power Pool. He noted there were numerous natural gas wells frozen in Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico, as well as some coal plants and blades on wind turbines also frozen due to the significantly lower cold temperatures and a large nuclear power plant dropped off-line. Mr. Gibson noted all these combined helped contribute to the lack of energy being able to be supplied to the power grid system, which is why the call to reserve power was administered by the Southwest Power Pool. He further noted last week was an unexpected event, and the Southwest Power Pool has not had to request a call for rolling blackouts since its creation in 1941.

Mr. Gibson noted on Monday, February 15, 2021, City Utilities was ordered by the Southwest Power Pool as an energy emergency alert to shed 8 megawatts of load. He further noted City Utilities de-energized two feeders, and approximately 3,287 customers were impacted for approximately 50 minutes. Mr. Gibson noted on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, City Utilities was ordered once again by the Southwest Power Pool to initially shed 17 megawatts of load, but then the quantity increased to 34 megawatts. He further noted City Utilities de-energized approximately 36 feeders for one hour each over a 3 ½ hour period, and approximately 35,186 customers were impacted for approximately an hour. Mr. Gibson added when City Utilities receives an energy emergency alert from the Southwest Power Pool, measures must be enacted immediately, which provides very little notice to customers. He noted the North American Electric Reliability Corporation and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission would be conducting investigations on the issues of the energy, such as the lack of energy transmission for customers, related to last week's historic event.

Mr. Gibson also spoke about the issue of natural gas for February 2021 regarding last week's significantly cold weather historic event. Mr. Gibson noted City Utilities has not asked customers for curtailment since approximately 2018, which was for a 2-day period. He noted he had to sign a certified affidavit agreement this past weekend to allow a natural gas pipeline to distribute gas to the Springfield area, stating this gas would only be utilized for human needs necessary, and had to contact the pipeline company. Mr. Gibson outlined City Utilities natural gas purchase strategy with the City Council. He thanked the City for their support in helping assist CU during last week's historic event.

Mr. Gibson noted it appears due to last week's significant cold temperatures, customers utilized 30-40% more energy during the month of February 2021 than in January 2021. He further noted last week's cold temperature events will have a cost

impact on customers, but hopefully not as much of a dramatic increase like some other areas of the country are currently experiencing.

Mr. Gibson commended the City Utilities staff, such as linemen, bus operators, natural gas pressure controller, and water line crews, for their efforts in keeping the community operating with energy, water, and transit needs during last week's historic event.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson expressed her appreciation to City Utilities for their efforts in keeping the community operating with energy, water, and transit needs during last week's events. She asked for clarification regarding the energy costs that will be passed on to customers for the dekatherms. Mr. Gibson noted the average costs per residential customer will be approximately \$375.00 for the costs of the dekatherms, which is a unit of energy used primarily to measure natural gas, needed during the month of February 2021. He further noted these costs will be passed on to customers, both residential and commercial, hopefully over approximately a 2-year period during their billing cycles to help cover the increased cost of the natural gas needed during the month of February 2021. Mr. Gibson added City Utilities staff would be discussing this with the Board of Public Utilities and then would be coming before the City Council for possible consideration. He noted he does not have an average number costs regarding commercial customers due to the wide range of natural gas costs they consume. Mr. Gibson further noted additional information would be provided to the City Council in the future.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification whether natural gas well heads are weatherized to help with cold weather temperatures, such as last's week historic event. Mr. Gibson noted most natural gas well heads are mainly located in warmer climates, such as Texas, so most are not appropriately weatherized. He further noted last week's cold weather temperatures were unprecedented. He expressed his belief more weatherization for natural gas well heads may be possibly mandated per regulations, as well as possible weatherization regulations for power plant facilities to help ensure events experienced during last week's historic event does not occur again.

Councilman Simpson expressed his appreciation to Mr. Gibson for tonight's presentation. He asked for clarification whether City Utilities believes customers made a conscience effort to help conserve energy during last week's historic event. Mr. Gibson expressed his belief City Utilities customers did make a conscience effort in helping to conserve energy consumption within the community last week. He noted City Utilities tried to be transparent with customers in trying to provide timely information when available about the Southwest Power Pool's energy emergency alerts last week.

Councilman Ollis expressed his appreciation to Mr. Gibson and City Utilities staff for tonight's presentation, and for being proactive with pre-purchasing energy, such as natural gas, to help keep costs lower for customers. He asked for clarification whether customers may contact City Utilities if they are unable to pay their utility bills due to the unexpected costs. Mr. Gibson noted customers who may be unable to pay their utility bills due to the unexpected costs and circumstances should contact City Utilities, so arrangements can be made for possible payment assistance.

Councilman Lear expressed his appreciation to City Utilities staff for their efforts in keeping the community operating with energy, water, and transit needs during last week's significantly cold weather temperatures. He asked for clarification regarding energy reliability with other states, since some states, such as Texas and Oklahoma, are considering measures to keep natural gas and energy resources contained within their own state as opposed to allowing energy sources to be outsourced to other states, such as Missouri. Mr. Gibson noted the Southwest Power Pool currently encompasses approximately 14 states.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification regarding City Utilities' determination on how they conduct the rolling blackouts and power outages in the community. Mr. Gibson noted City Utilities staff examines and estimates the load on each of the feeders, and determines the critical feeders that should not be interrupted unless necessary, such as hospitals, police, and fire responders, etc. He further noted City Utilities staff also reviews the load on each of the feeders periodically, so if something occurs, actions can be taken in an emergency when needed. Mr. Gibson noted City Utilities' control room staff will work down the feeder listing and determine how many feeders will need to be de-energized for the wattage needed per the energy emergency alert from the Southwest Power Pool.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification whether City Utilities has contact information available for customers who have critical life support devices at home, such as oxygen machines, life alert devices, or heart monitors, etc., who should not have their power interrupted for long periods of time. Mr. Gibson noted City Utilities has a form for customers who have critical life support devices can have their doctor fill out a form and provide it to City Utilities, so information can be noted on their customer account. He further noted it is difficult for City Utilities to exclude a customer from a massive blackout power emergency when feeders are de-energized, but as new technologies develop and occur it may be possible in the distant future. Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification whether energy efficient housing and energy conservation measures would help prevent possible emergency blackouts in the future. Mr. Gibson noted customers should utilize energy conservation measures, such as limiting light usage, to help reduce energy usage. He further noted City Utilities has an energy rebate program, such as if customers would like to install insulation to help improve the energy efficiency in their home. Mr. Gibson reiterated if customers need assistance regarding their CU bills, they should contact City Utilities, so payment assistance could be arranged.

Councilman Hosmer expressed his appreciation to City Utilities for their dedicated service to the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification whether City Utilities conducts energy audits for customers. Mr. Gibson noted City Utilities staff does not currently conduct energy audits for customers. He reiterated City Utilities does have an energy rebates program for customers to utilize, such as if they want to install insulation to help improve the energy efficiency in their home. He noted City Utilities staff does conduct lighting audits, especially for commercial customers. Mr. Gibson further noted City Utilities staff within the energy rebates program are always available to

assist customers by providing ideas on how they can save energy. He added customers can obtain usage information via City Utilities website to see their energy usage estimates. Mr. Gibson noted City Utilities will be releasing an app within the next couple of months where customers can receive notifications on their smart phones with daily usage rate information.

Jason Gage, City Manager, expressed his belief numerous communities throughout the country may experience a significant increase in utilities for energy costs due to last week's significantly cold weather temperatures more than what City Utilities is proposing locally. He commended City Utilities for being proactive in assisting the community to prepare them for the potential increase in utilities for energy costs.

Mr. Gibson expressed his appreciation to the City Council and City staff for their dedicated service and support of City Utilities.

Mayor McClure and Mr. Gage thanked Mr. Gibson for today's presentation and discussion.

Mr. Gibson expressed his condolences to the family and friends of Ted Higgs. He noted Mr. Higgs served as a board member on City Utilities Citizens' Advisory Council.

**The following bills appeared on the agenda under Second Reading.**

**Rezoning at  
2832 East  
Sunshine Street**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-031.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 1.27 acres of property generally located at 2832 East Sunshine Street from R-SF, Single-Family Residential, to O-1, Office District; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 194; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (By: 2832 E. Sunshine Street, LLC; 2832 East Sunshine Street; Z-2-2021 w/COD #194.)

Councilman Schilling expressed his opposition for the proposed. He expressed his belief the cutting of the trees on the property in question by the owner was unnecessary. He further expressed his belief there needs to be better ways of protecting trees from being removed within the community.

Mayor McClure expressed his support for the proposed.

Council Bill 2021-031. General Ordinance 6639 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, and McClure. Nays: Schilling. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Special Obligation  
Bonds Series 2021  
– Sewerage System**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-032.

A special ordinance authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$15,010,000 principal amount of Special Obligation Bonds (State of Missouri – Direct Loan Program) Series



2021 of the City of Springfield, Missouri, for the purpose of extending and improving the City's sewerage system; amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget of the City in the amount of \$15,010,000; prescribing the form and details of the bonds and the agreements made by the City to facilitate and protect their payment; and prescribing other related matters; and declaring an emergency.

Council Bill 2021-032. Special Ordinance 27466 was approved by the following vote:  
Ayes: Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, Simpson, and McClure.  
Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Preliminary  
Funding  
Agreement with  
West Sunshine  
Development,  
LLC.**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-033.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to execute a Preliminary Funding Agreement between the City of Springfield, Missouri, and West Sunshine Development, LLC; and amending the budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 in the amount of \$50,000 for the purpose of funding the preparation and review of a redevelopment plan and redevelopment agreement in accordance with the provisions of the Real Property Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act.

Council Bill 2021-033. Special Ordinance 27467 was approved by the following vote:  
Ayes: Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, Simpson, Schilling, and McClure.  
Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Fee Schedule-  
Coronavirus  
Testing  
Processing Fee**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2021-034.

A general ordinance adopting a new fee and amending the Fee Schedule for certain City services as provided in the Springfield City Code, by establishing a Coronavirus Test Processing Fee.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification whether the proposed charges other public health agencies to process their coronavirus test kits, and does not include the cost of the test kits. Mayor McClure answered affirmatively.

Council Bill 2021-034. General Ordinance 6640 was approved by the following vote:  
Ayes: Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, and McClure.  
Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Springfield R-12 –  
School Crossing  
Guard Program**

Sponsor: Fisk. Council Bill 2021-035.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into Modification No. 1 to Contract # 2020-1061 between the City of Springfield and the School District of Springfield R-12 modifying the shared costs of the third-party vendor which operates the school crossing guard program inside the city limits of Springfield.

Council Bill 2021-035. Special Ordinance 27468 was approved by the following vote:  
Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, and McClure.  
Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Carryover Funds –  
Laboratory  
Testing Costs of  
Sexual Assault  
Forensic Evidence  
Kits**

Sponsor: Hosmer, McClure, Fisk, Ferguson, Schilling, and McGull. Council Bill 2021-036.

A special ordinance amending the General Fund budget for the City of Springfield, Missouri, for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, by appropriating a portion of the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 carryover funds and increasing expenses in the amount of \$120,000 for laboratory testing costs of Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence kits.

Councilman Simpson expressed his support for the proposed. He expressed his belief the City should possibly consider utilizing a contract with a private testing facility for testing sexual assault kits, so there does not become a backlog of testing kits in the future.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson expressed her support for the proposed. She thanked Councilman Hosmer for his support and sponsorship, which will help victims possibly receive justice.

Council Bill 2021-036. Special Ordinance 27469 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Ollis, Lear, McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**The following bill appeared on the agenda under Resolutions.**

**State Revolving  
Fund Loan –  
Wastewater  
Infrastructure  
Projects**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-040.

A resolution authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to apply for a State Revolving Fund loan of up to \$5,000,000 from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of funding wastewater infrastructure projects required by the Amended Consent Judgment and approved Overflow Control Plan. (Staff recommends approval.)

Errin Kemper, Environmental Services Director, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Kemper noted the purpose of the proposed is to fund wastewater infrastructure projects required by the Amended Consent Judgment and approved Overflow Control Plan. He further noted if the City is selected to receive this loan, the City would be eligible to receive up to \$1,000,000.00 in grant funding to help incentivize this type of work. Mr. Kemper added if the City is selected for the proposed, City staff would come back before City Council in approximately a year for consideration and approval regarding the State Revolving Fund loan.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification whether the proposed would have a positive impact on wastewater rate increases if received. Mr. answered affirmatively.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

Council Bill 2021-040. Resolution 10551 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Lear, McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Minor  
Neighborhood  
Improvement  
Program – Signs  
for the Mark  
Twain  
Neighborhood  
Association**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-041.

A resolution approving the use of funds from the Minor Neighborhood Improvement Program in the amount of \$1,416 to support the fabrication and installation of neighborhood identification signs for the Mark Twain Neighborhood Association (Zone 3).

Alana Owen, Senior Planner, provided an overview of the proposed. Ms. Owen noted in February 2009, City Council adopted a policy and guidelines for the placement of neighborhood identification signs on the rights-of-way. Ms. Owen further noted the intent of the Neighborhood Sign Program is to communicate clear and identifiable boundaries that create a sense of place within a neighborhood area through the placement of neighborhood identification signs that represent the individual character and identity of the neighborhood. She added since the policy was adopted, twenty of the City’s registered neighborhood organizations have requested and received neighborhood identification signs through this program. Ms. Owen noted the Mark Twain Neighborhood Association was formed in October 2019, and is requesting neighborhood identification signs, which are estimated to cost approximately \$1,416.00.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

Councilman Hosmer expressed his support for the proposed.

Councilman Schilling expressed his support for the proposed.

Councilman McGull expressed his support for the proposed.

Council Bill 2021-041. Resolution 10552 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Grant for the  
Implementation  
Toolbox  
“SGF Yields”**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-042.

A resolution authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to apply for a grant from the Missouri Department of Transportation in the amount of \$90,000 for the purpose of developing a shareable “Implementation Toolbox” of the City’s “SGF Yields” program for use by other communities.

Brett Foster, Traffic Engineer, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Foster noted City’s “SGF Yields” has been successful at improving rates of driver compliance at crosswalk areas within the community. He further noted the Missouri Department of Transportation is encouraging City staff to brand a shareable version of “SGF Yields” with an implementation toolbox for use by other communities. He added the proposed will allow the City to contract assistance to expand the “SGF Yields” locally and regionally. Mr. Foster noted no matching funds will be needed for the proposed.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification whether the \$90,000.00 would be utilized for a training program to help assist other communities with pedestrian safety. Mr. Foster answered affirmatively, and reiterated an implementation toolbox would be created to share a version of the City's "SGF Yields" program. Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification whether the City would continue with an implementation toolbox if the City is not granted the proposed funding from the Missouri Department of Transportation. Mr. Foster noted this could be a possibility depending upon the resources needed between several departments, such as Public Works and Public Information, for executing a sharable version for the City's "SGF Yields" program.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

Council Bill 2021-042. Resolution 10553 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

## **City Council Priorities**

Sponsor: City Council. Council Bill 2021-043.

A resolution adopting the City of Springfield's City Council Priorities.

Jason Gage, City Manager, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Gage noted the proposed is a guide for City's elected officials and City staff to utilize in their work for 2021 and beyond, which is subject to further review and amendments when needed. He noted the priorities are as follows: Quality of Place; Legislative Engagement; Fiscal Sustainability and Accountability; Economic Vitality; and Public Safety. Mr. Gage further noted the finalized version of the proposed is attached as Exhibit A.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

Council Bill 2021-043. Resolution 10554 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

## **EMERGENCY BILLS**

## **PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS**

## **GRANTS**

## **AMENDED BILLS**

## **COUNCIL BILLS FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

**The following bills appeared on the agenda under First Reading Bills.**

**Contract with  
ShotSpotter Inc.**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2021-044.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a contract with ShotSpotter Inc., for the implementation of the ShotSpotter Respond gunfire detection system.

Paul Williams, Police Chief, provided an overview of the proposed. Chief Williams noted the community has experienced an increased number of calls for service relating to gunshots being heard. He further noted the proposed is a system that is designed to identify, locate, and track active gunshot incidents to allow for rapid response by police. He added research data shows that gunshot incidents are underreported to police nationwide. He noted ShotSpotter would deploy a network of sound sensors covering a total of three-square miles within the City. He further noted the sound sensors are monitored by software to detect the sounds of gunshots and filters out sounds, such as fireworks, that could be mistaken as gunshots. He added when the software detects suspected gunshots, the audio is reviewed by acoustic experts to determine if an alert to the police is needed. Chief Williams noted the entire typical review process takes less than one minute. He further noted the proposed will help provide police with immediate and accurate information, so they can respond more effectively and efficiently to gunshot incidents within the community. He noted the proposed would be initially a three-year term agreement that will require no additional allocation of funds but will be funded by a transfer of funding available within the Police Department's budget. He further noted the proposed would be evaluated over the three-year term through regular reporting and the analysis of data provided. Chief Williams noted the proposed was a priority within the Police Department's budget last year, which did not get funded. He further noted some negotiations occurred with ShotSpotter Inc., and they have reduced last year's cost estimate by approximately 36%.

Councilman McGull expressed his support for the proposed. He noted ShotSpotter Inc., has been utilized in New Orleans, Louisiana, which has been effective in reducing gunshots. Councilman McGull further noted the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives was also a partner with the police officers to help implement this program in New Orleans. Chief Williams noted the Police Department currently partners with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives regarding another program, but would explore other possibilities for grants with other entities, such as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification regarding where the funding for the proposed was being reallocated from within the Police budget. Chief Williams noted due to numerous vacancies in personnel, he has monies available he can reallocate to provide funding for the proposed within this year's budget as a capital expense. Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification regarding the sensors that will be utilized for the proposed and if these are shatter proof, so individuals cannot destroy them. Chief Williams noted ShotSpotter Inc. has proprietary information about where the sensors will be placed that the police will not even know about for the sensor placements. He further noted the sensors will not be placed at ground level, but will probably be located at higher levels, such as on poles or buildings that will be unable to be easily detected. Chief Williams added he is not aware of many incidences of

individuals trying to shoot or destroy the sensors. He noted the Police Department has not had issues associated with individuals trying to destroy or shoot out the surveillance cameras currently located within some areas within the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson expressed her belief many individuals do not report gunshots fired within the community. She further expressed her opinion more police officers will be needed to respond to the increase in gunshots fired if the proposed is approved for implementation. Chief Williams noted on March 28, 202, the City will be rolling out a new deployment strategy for the Police Department to better address the current resources available. He further noted the Police Department will also be adjusting some calls for response with Emergency-911, which do not need a police response for assistance. Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification regarding the amount of call volume for police response in other communities that have implemented the proposed. Chief Williams noted other communities who have implemented ShotSpotter Inc. have experienced an increase in call volume for police response due to gunshots fired. He further noted over time, the calls for police response have decreased due to gunshots fired becoming less prevalent in those communities after implementation of ShotSpotter.

Councilman Simpson asked for clarification regarding the pricing structure for the proposed. Chief Williams noted a one-time service startup fee for service initiation and onboarding is needed plus annual subscription fee costs for the initial three-year term agreement regarding the proposed for a total cost of approximately \$430,000.00. Councilman Simpson asked for clarification whether there have been discussions about possibly providing additional incentives to help assist in recruiting efforts for additional police officers to the City. Chief Williams noted there are ongoing discussions with City staff from the Police Department, Human Resources, City Manager's Office, and the Law Department about possible incentives to help recruit police officers to the City.

Mr. Gage noted once City staff discussions have been completed, there may be some proposals coming before the City Council for review and possible consideration. Chief Williams further noted if the Police Department needs additional resources and funding for hiring additional police officers, City staff would let the City Council know. Mr. Gage added the costs for personnel to hire additional police officers is greater than the funding for the proposed. Chief Williams noted the Police Academy from February 2021 was postponed until May 2021 to help extend the testing dates for admittance. He further noted he hopes the upcoming May 2021 Police Academy class will possibly have 10-15 police recruits versus only 5 originally scheduled for the February 2021 class.

Councilman Simpson expressed his belief the issue of recruiting police officers for public safety is important and should be a priority.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification whether Kansas City and St. Louis have implemented ShotSpotter. Chief Williams answered affirmatively and noted Kansas City has utilized the proposed for approximately 10 years. He further noted both Kansas City and St. Louis have also broadened their usage and coverage in their communities, which have been successful. Chief Williams added over the years,

ShotSpotter has improved their capabilities. He expressed his opinion he is impressed with their software and acoustic expert capabilities for detecting gunshots fired. Chief Williams reiterated the total cost for a three-year initial agreement is approximately \$430,000.00. He noted the Police Department has selected the locational area for the sensor placement if approved, but would not release the location. Chief Williams added if the proposed is implemented City staff would review and track the data to see if ShotSpotter has been a successful program for further consideration. He noted the issue of celebratory gunshots, such as gunshots fired during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations, have been dramatically reduced in other communities who have implemented ShotSpotter.

Councilman Ollis asked for clarification whether the appropriate comprehensive approach for the City's budgeting process for approving items has been utilized for consideration of the proposed. Chief Williams expressed his belief the proposed is an appropriate use of funds, which has been a budgetary request for several years by the Police Department. He added there has been a significant decrease in the amount offered by ShotSpotter, Inc. for implementation, which is why the proposed is currently being considered by City Council. Chief Williams noted if the proposed is approved by City Council, ShotSpotter could be utilized before the end of spring. He further noted there would be additional budgetary request proposals by the Police Department in the upcoming budget workshops for City Council's review and consideration. Councilman Ollis expressed his opinion the lack of police officers and recruits for public safety are a major concern, which needs to be addressed. He further expressed he would like to see additional options for utilizing these funds.

Councilman Schilling asked for clarification whether gunshots fired can be detected from within a building structure or only outside. Chief Williams noted ShotSpotter can detect gunshots fired within a building structure dependent upon how well built the building structure is. He added it may not be as accurate or as easily to detect as gunshots fired outside, since the software is designed to track the soundwaves of the gunshots fired. Councilman Schilling asked for clarification whether there is any data available from Police about detection of gunshots fired within a building structure and outside, as well as how many individuals were shot or killed. Chief Williams noted he would try to provide additional information for City Council's review. He further noted Police staff has been tracking the issue of gunshots fired within the community since approximately 2016. Chief Williams added since 2017, Police staff has also been tracking the amount of gunshots fired and non-fatal injuries. He noted there is proprietary information by ShotSpotter, Inc. that the City will not have permission to utilize, but they will be releasing reports to Police, which the City will have for tracking and informational purposes.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification whether the step increases for City employees, such as for police officers, have been implemented. Chief Williams noted in January 2021, City Council approved a salary ordinance increase for employees, such as police officers, and the step increases were re-implemented for City employees. Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification whether these funds for the proposed could be utilized for sign-on bonuses for police officers. Chief Williams expressed the City is unable to utilize sign-on bonuses for hiring police officers. He reiterated City staff is conducting ongoing discussions for possibly providing

additional incentives to enhance the benefits for hiring additional police officers. Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification whether police officers are provided a uniform allowance. Chief Williams answered affirmatively and noted the City currently purchases the initial police uniform and gear for police officer recruits.

Councilman McGull noted the military utilizes triangular information to help pinpoint where gunshots are being fired. He expressed his belief the practice the military utilizes to help with a rapid response to the gunshots fired has been successful. Councilman McGull reiterated the ShotSpotter has been successful in New Orleans, Louisiana. He added when the police officers can respond quicker to the gunshots fired in a neighborhood, hopefully citizens will be more responsive and interact with the police officers to possibly help reduce crime within their neighborhood.

Councilman Lear expressed his belief the issue of public safety is important within the community. He further expressed his belief items should be prioritized for the City and Police Department, since limited funding is available.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

**Infrastructure  
Reimbursement  
Agreement with  
SGF Sports, LLC**

Sponsor: Ollis and Ferguson. Council Bill 2021-048.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, on behalf of the City of Springfield, to enter into an Infrastructure Reimbursement Agreement with SGF Sports, LLC, for certain public improvements and incentives to facilitate the development of a Private Athletic Complex in an amount not to exceed a total of \$2,100,000; and adjusting the budget of the Public Works Department for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 in the amount of \$2,100,000.

Sarah Kerner, Economic Development Director, provided an overview of the proposed. Ms. Kerner noted City staff has been working on the proposed for the several weeks. She further noted the City would reimburse SGF Sports for up to \$2,000,000.00 for public improvements and up to \$100,000.00 for interest carry costs. Ms. Kerner added SGF Sports and the City would establish a Community Improvement District of the entire development site to generate an additional 1-cent sales tax to reimburse the City up to \$2,100,000.00. She noted SGF Sports, LLC, has indicated its desire to construct a Private Athletic Facility, which would include the following: 12 lighted soccer fields including a turf type championship field with seating for over 1,500 individuals; an indoor sports facility with 2 indoor soccer fields and 4 basketball courts, which could be converted to 8 volleyball courts; at least 720 parking spaces; permanent restroom facilities; a large entryway sign and attractive landscaping on a site just west of Deer Lake Golf Course. She added additional future development on this site could also include 90,000-120,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space and two 100-key hotels. Ms. Kerner reviewed the other developer obligations with the City Council, as well as the public improvements eligible for reimbursement, such as offsite road and sidewalk improvements, on and off-site sanitary and water and gas main extensions, and a regional detention basin. She further noted the developer will be required to provide itemized invoices for reimbursable project costs and interest expenses. Ms. Kerner noted if the developer has not



completed its development obligations by March 31, 2024, the agreement would be terminated, and the City would no longer be obligated to reimburse the developer for any public improvements.

Councilman Schilling asked for clarification regarding the definition of reimbursable project costs. Ms. Kerner noted City Council previously approved an intent to assist the developer with funding certain public improvements per Resolution 10538 on November 30, 2020. This resolution directed City staff to enter negotiations with the developer and submit a development agreement for consideration in accordance with Resolution 10538. Mayor McClure noted City Council has discussed utilizing these types of concepts, such as reimbursable project costs, before. Ms. Kerner noted the proposed is unique than other past developer agreements. Jason Gage, City Manager, noted the proposed will help attract regional, state, and nationally sporting type events to the local area. He further noted the City's costs are directly related to public improvements only for the proposed.

Councilman Ollis asked for clarification whether the reimbursable projects costs are associated with the public improvements for the proposed. Ms. Kerner answered affirmatively. Councilman Ollis asked for clarification whether the on and off-site sanitary and water and gas main extensions for utilities would be able to be accessed for any future commercial development opportunities in this area, such as a hotel. Ms. Kerner answered affirmatively.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification regarding the proposed location of the regional detention basin. Ms. Kerner noted the proposed approximate location of a regional detention basin, which would serve both lots 1 and a portion of lot 2, is located near the additional sewer extension for the commercial lot and the future private access point to commercial lot 1. Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification whether the City has conducted a Community Improvement District in this manner. Ms. Kerner reiterated the proposed is a unique agreement.

Mr. Gage noted based upon City Council's priorities, City staff is reviewing the City's economic development toolbox for possible additional incentives to help provide for future development opportunities within the community. He further noted it is not uncommon for communities to utilize incentives, such as reimbursable project costs for public improvements, to help assist with economic development opportunities with developers to stay competitive against other communities.

Mary Lilly Smith, Planning and Development Director, noted the City previously partnered with Mercy Hospital regarding the past Evans Road and Highway 65 project for the roundabout project road improvements with an agreement for a transportation development district, which was constructed similarly to the proposed. Ms. Kerner noted the City does not have any control of the developer's timeline regarding the proposed.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views. There being no speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

The City Council took a recess at approximately 8:50 p.m. They reconvened at approximately 9:05 p.m.

The following bills were read and discussed simultaneously.

**International  
Residential  
Building Code**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-045.

A general ordinance declaring the intent of City Council to adopt either the 2018 or 2021 International Residential Building Code to become effective January 1, 2023, and establishing deadlines for City staff to meet with stakeholders and present a report to City Council regarding stakeholder input and staff recommendations; and repealing Section 3 of General Ordinance 6564.

**International  
Residential  
Building Code –  
Substitute 1**

Sponsor: Lear, Hosmer, and Schilling. Council Bill 2021-045. Substitute No. 1.

A general ordinance amending Chapter 36, Article XIII of the Springfield City Code, known as the Land Development Code, by repealing Article XIII, 'Residential Building Code,' in its entirety, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Article XIII, 'Residential Building Code' to become effective April 1, 2022; and repealing Section 3 of General Ordinance 6564.

Rhonda Lewsader, City Attorney, provided an overview of the proposed. Ms. Lewsader outlined General Ordinance 6564, which was approved by City Council in 2019. She noted Council Bill 2021-045 provides updated deadline dates for City Council and City staff to follow relating to proceeding with possible modifications to the City's residential building code. Ms. Lewsader further noted there would be no changes proposed regarding adopting the modified version of the 2018 International Residential Building Code and adopting a revised 'Building Thermal Envelop' table effective July 1, 2021.

Ms. Lewsader noted Council Bill 2021-045 Substitute No. 1 provides for adopting a modified version of the 2018 International Residential Building Code effective April 1, 2022. She further noted the modifications are the same as the ones outlined within General Ordinance 6564 with the exception of the 'Building Thermal Envelop' table is not revised, and the table printed in the 2018 International Residential Building Code will apply. Ms. Lewsader added the requirements regarding City staff to begin stakeholder meetings by February 8, 2021 and City staff to present a report on stakeholder input and City staff recommendations to the City Council no later than June 20, 2021 would be eliminated.

Dwayne Shmel, Building Development Services Director, was also available to respond to any questions posed by the City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification regarding the membership of the stakeholder group. Ms. Lewsader expressed her belief the stakeholder membership would include the groups who provided input to the Plans and Policies Committee a few years ago, such as the Habitat for Humanity & Affordable Housing Collaborative, Sierra Club, Home Builders Association, Springfield Contractors Association, and Building Development Services.

Councilman Ollis asked for clarification whether Council Bill 2021-045 Substitute No. 1 would eliminate any additional input from the various stakeholder groups. Ms. Lewsader reiterated the requirements regarding City staff to begin stakeholder meetings by February 8, 2021 and City staff to present a report on stakeholder input and City staff recommendations to the City Council no later than June 20, 2021 would be eliminated. She noted a modified version of the 2018 International Residential Building Code effective April 1, 2022 would occur regarding Council Bill 2021-045 Substitute No. 1. Ms. Lewsader reiterated the 'Building Thermal Envelop' table would not be revised, and the table printed within the 2018 International Residential Building Code would apply.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification regarding the deadline dates proposed by City staff to work with the various stakeholder groups. Mr. Shmel noted he did not make a request for an extension to work with the various stakeholder groups. He expressed his belief City staff would be able to work with the current deadline dates, which were outlined in General Ordinance 6564.

Councilman Hosmer asked for clarification whether the City of Bentonville, Arkansas has adopted an energy code. Mr. Shmel noted he is not aware whether the City of Bentonville, Arkansas has adopted an energy code. He further noted he would locate additional information for City Council's review.

Mr. Shmel noted on November 18, 2019, City Council approved General Ordinance 6564, which adopted the 2018 International Residential Building Code with certain deletions and amendments. He noted the Building Development Services staff and he will follow General Ordinance 6564 unless City Council decides to amend it.

Councilman Hosmer expressed his belief the City should adopt better regulations, such as utilizing insulation, to encourage energy efficient housing construction within the community.

Councilman Ollis asked for clarification regarding General Ordinance 6564 and the City's residential building code. Mr. Shmel noted the City was previously utilizing the 2012 International Residential Building Code, before adopting the 2018 International Residential Building Code per General Ordinance 6564 with certain deletions and amendments. He further noted the energy conservation provisions will be effective on July 1, 2021. Councilman Ollis asked for clarification whether the costs of building materials, such as lumber supplies, has increased over the past couple of years. Mr. Shmel expressed his opinion the costs of building materials to utilize in residential and commercial construction projects has increased over the past couple of years. Councilman Ollis asked for clarification whether utilizing a stakeholder group to gather input about whether minor deletions, modifications, amendments, and additions should be made to the Code adopted and to present a report to City Council regarding stakeholder input and staff recommendations would be beneficial for City staff. Mr. Shmel noted a delay in the analysis and implementation of the City's residential building code for gathering and reviewing additional information for further analysis and input from a stakeholder group would be beneficial for City staff. He further noted City staff would proceed as directed by the City Council. Mr. Shmel

expressed his belief the City Council did a thorough job at reviewing the City's residential building code in 2019.

Councilman Lear ask for clarification whether additional time for determining a cost benefit analysis relating to energy efficiency is needed for City staff. Mr. Shmel expressed his opinion there are numerous variables in trying to determine a cost benefit analysis relating to the issue of energy efficiency that everyone may agree upon for a conclusion. Councilman Lear expressed his belief a lengthy discussion and review was held in 2019 and does not believe another lengthy discussion should take place. He further expressed his opinion an opportunity was left for stakeholder input only for minor possible amendments not a complete reworking regarding the City's residential building code.

Councilman McGull asked for clarification whether Mr. Shmel has become familiar with any new residential home construction projects within the community. Mr. Shmel noted he has obtained a copy of the number of permits obtained for new residential home construction for the past three years, which he has been reviewing. He noted in 2018, there were 171 building permits, in 2019, there was 129 building permits and in 2020, the City issued 147 building permits for new residential home construction within the city limits. Councilman McGull asked for clarification whether the new homes being constructed are being built above the City's current residential code regulations, such as implementing energy efficient standards. Mr. Shmel expressed he does not currently have information available about if the new homes being constructed are being built with energy efficiency standards. Councilman McGull asked for clarification regarding the geographic location patterns for new home construction being built within the community. Mr. Shmel noted he does not currently know the geographical location patterns for new home construction projects.

Councilman Simpson asked for clarification whether the time Building Development Services staff would need to spend on addressing the timetable deadline would interfere with the staff's time to handle and address with the issue of nuisance properties. Mr. Shmel noted the time spent on Building Development Services staff working on the timetable deadline pertaining to the City's residential building code would not interfere with the staff time to handle and address the issue of nuisance properties. Councilman Simpson asked for clarification whether other municipalities solicit stakeholder group input regarding residential building code regulations. Mr. Shmel noted he does not have enough municipal experience to currently address this question.

Councilman Hosmer expressed his belief there was enough stakeholder group input provided in 2019. He further expressed his belief new home construction should be built with more energy efficiency codes in place, which would help with energy cost savings for individuals and families.

Mr. Gage noted City Council has the following three options: to keep current General Ordinance 6564 in effect, consider approving Council Bill 2021-045, or consider approving Council Bill 2021-045 Substitute No. 1. He further noted a 'Building Thermal Envelop' table will become effective on July 1, 2021 no matter what option is selected by the City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson asked for clarification whether the Assistant Director for Building Development Services has been hired. Mr. Shmel noted he currently has applications for his review, but no one has been hired for the Assistant Director position yet. He further noted the newly added three full-time equivalent positions within Building Development Services for inspectors are currently being interviewed for hiring. Mr. Shmel noted the inspectors for new housing construction permitting have been receiving training for the energy efficiency code standards.

Councilman Lear moved to substitute Council Bill 2020-045 Substitute No. 1 for Council Bill 2020-045. Councilman Hosmer seconded the motion.

Councilman McGull expressed his belief handling the issue of nuisance properties within the community should be a priority. He further expressed his belief some developers are building new homes that far exceed the City's current residential building code, such as with energy efficiency standards. Councilman McGull expressed his opinion he would like additional input from the stakeholder group about the City's residential building code and the issue of energy efficiency standards. He further expressed his opinion he does not feel these issues should be delayed and would like the Plans and Policies Committee to conduct a future meeting. Councilman McGull expressed his opposition for the proposed motion.

Councilman Lear expressed his support for the proposed motion. He noted Council Bill 2021-045 Substitute No. 1 would help the Building Development Services Department focus on other duties, such as handling and addressing nuisance properties within the community, for the City to move forward in a more efficient manner.

Councilman Ollis expressed his opposition for the proposed motion. He expressed his belief the easiest thing to do is not always the right thing to do. Councilman Ollis further expressed his belief having a stakeholder group provide additional input is the right thing to do. He added the prices of building materials for construction have also significantly increased for developers, which should be a consideration for affordable housing within the community. Councilman Ollis also expressed his belief the City's development review process needs to be better streamlined.

Councilman Simpson asked for clarification whether remodeling or rehabilitation projects of an existing housing structure must comply with the City's current residential codes for new construction. Mr. Shmel noted within General Ordinance 6564 there are exceptions noted on page 13 pertaining to additions or alterations shall not be required to comply with the requirements for new construction provided that the energy use of the building is not increased. He noted there are 8 exceptions noted within this section. Councilman Simpson asked for clarification regarding an example of an energy use of the building not increasing for a remodeling project. Ms. Shmel noted he does not know how to address this question. He further expressed installing new appliances, such as in a kitchen remodeling project, could impact the energy use of a building for a remodeling project.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferguson expressed her opposition for the proposed motion. She further expressed her belief the issue of handling and addressing nuisance properties needs to be a priority with the City.

Mr. Gage noted City staff will continue to focus on handling and addressing the issue of nuisance properties as a priority.

Mayor McClure expressed his opposition for the proposed motion. He further expressed his belief stakeholder input is important. Mayor McClure added the handling and addressing nuisance properties by City staff is important and a priority.

Councilman Lear continued to express his support for the proposed motion. He noted input was previously received by a stakeholder group in 2019 and does not believe a lot of information has changed since those discussions were held.

Council Bill 2021-045 Substitute No. 1 failed to replace Council Bill 2021-045 by the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Lear, and Schilling. Nays: Ferguson, Fisk, Ollis, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views for Council Bill 2021-045.

Ryan Green spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Green noted he owns First Choice Custom Homes. He expressed his belief new homes should be affordable, but with the delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the building industry has experienced delays and increased costs for building construction materials. Mr. Green further noted the building industry is currently working on obtaining some data information about the issue of energy efficiency based upon the 2016 energy code guidelines versus the 2018 energy code for City Council's review. He expressed his opinion a phased in approach regarding the City's building codes, such as energy efficiency codes, is needed for the local building and construction industry.

Mark Stevenson spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Stevenson noted he is the Director of Operations for Cronkhite Homes. He further noted Chonkhite Homes mainly builds affordable new home construction and plans to build approximately 200 new homes within the Springfield area in 2021. Mr. Stevenson expressed his belief the City staff and the building development community should all work together regarding the City's building code regulations. He noted the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact upon the local building and construction industry. Mr. Stevenson expressed his belief a delay is needed so City staff and stakeholders can continue discussions and possible recommendations to the City's residential building code requirements.

Rick Windes spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Windes, who noted his is a banking professional, expressed his opinion more time is needed to review the City's residential building code for City staff to meet with the stakeholders and to present a report back to the City Council with the input and recommendations. He further expressed due to the COVID-19 pandemic more time should be allowed to help the local economy rebound and recover from the effects caused by the pandemic before further imposing additional amendments and code changes to the City's residential

building code. Mr. Windes also expressed his belief the City should focus on handling and addressing nuisance properties within the community.

Written comments submitted via e-mail in opposition to Council Bill 2021-045 were received from the following individuals: Louise Winckowski, Myra Scroggs, Cathy Primm, Judy Dasovich, Jennifer Ailor, Amy Shelburn-Zarins, Pamela Shaver, and James Rack.

Written comments submitted via email in support to Council Bill 2021-045 were received from Debra Shantz Hart.

There being no speakers, the public hearing was declared closed.

### **PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES, AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Al Acosta addressed the issue of trash. Mr. Acosta noted he has resided in Springfield for approximately 25 years. He expressed his belief Springfield use to be a very clean city with a wonderful parks system. Mr. Acosta noted within the last several weeks, he has witnessed a large amount of trash along side the roadways and neighborhood areas within the city. He further noted there is an adopt-a-road program for organizations, businesses, and individuals to help pick-up the trash. Mr. Acosta expressed his belief if something is not done about the trash situation, the community will look like a trash landfill. He suggested maybe student volunteers from the various schools and universities could help assist with trash clean-ups possibly one day a month to help beautify the community. Mr. Acosta expressed his opinion if the trash was picked-up for community beautification, it may help improve economic development opportunities for the community.

Mike Highfill did not appear to address City Council.

Lisa Meeks addressed the issue of masking. Ms. Meeks expressed her opposition to the City's masking mandate. She expressed her belief it is a privilege to serve on the City Council and not a burden. Ms. Meeks further expressed her belief the City Council should listen to and represent their constituents as opposed to their own interests.

Gerald Keim addressed the issue of the beauty of humanity. Mr. Keim expressed his belief no two individuals are alike within the world, which makes everyone unique like snowflakes. Mr. Keim expressed his opinion everyone should be able to freely see one another without a mask.

Patricia Tursi addressed the issue of masking. Ms. Tursi expressed her opposition to the City's masking mandate. She noted she is a retired psychologist. Ms. Tursi expressed her opinion masking does not accomplish what individuals have been informed by experts that masks are supposed to do, which is to help protect them from COVID-19. She noted there has been a spike in bronchial pneumonia cases due to mask wearing. Ms. Tursi further noted there have also been increased cases in facial dermatitis due to mask wearing. She expressed her belief there is no clean air and quality water within the environment, which has contributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jan DuMan did not appear to address City Council.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Recommended the following appointment to the Industrial Development Authority: Brandon Jenson with term to expire October 31, 2023.

As per RSMo. 109.230 (4), City records that are on file in the City Clerk's office and have met the retention schedule will be destroyed in compliance with the guidelines established by the Secretary of State's office.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

## **CONSENT AGENDA FIRST READING BILLS**

**The following bills appeared on the agenda under Consent Agenda One Reading Bills.**

### **Appointment to the Commercial Street Community Improvement District Board of Directors**

Sponsor: Ferguson. Council Bill 2021-046.

A resolution confirming the appointment of Cindy Ussery to the Commercial Street Community Improvement District Board of Directors. (Staff and the Commercial Street Community Improvement District Board of Directors recommend approval.)

Council Bill 2021-046. Resolution 10555 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

### **Reappointments to the Board of Directors of the James River Commons Community Improvement District**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-047.

A resolution confirming the reappointments of Bob Jakubeck, Stephanie Stenger, and Stuart Stenger to the Board of Directors of the James River Commons Community Improvement District. (Staff recommends approval.)

Council Bill 2021-047. Resolution 10556 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**The following bills appeared on the agenda under Consent Agenda Second Reading Bills.**

### **Preliminary Plat of Kansas at Grand Phase II - 1720 West Grand Street**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-037.

A special ordinance authorizing the Director of Planning and Development to accept the dedication of public streets and easements to the City of Springfield, as shown on the Preliminary Plat of Kansas at Grand Phase II, generally located at 1720 West



Grand Street, upon the applicant filing and recording a final plat that substantially conforms to the preliminary plat; and authorizing the City Clerk to sign the final plat upon compliance with all the terms of this Ordinance. (Staff recommends that City Council accept the public streets and easements.) (By: College of the Ozarks; 1720 West Grand Street; Preliminary Plat at Grand Phase 2.)

Council Bill 2021-037. Special Ordinance 27470 was approved by the following vote:  
Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, and McClure.  
Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Preliminary Plat of  
Mercy Fremont  
Acres - 4431 South  
Fremont Avenue**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-038.

A special ordinance authorizing the Director of Planning and Development to accept the dedication of public streets and easements to the City of Springfield, as shown on the Preliminary Plat of Mercy Fremont Acres, generally located at 4431 South Fremont Avenue, upon the applicant filing and recording a final plat that substantially conforms to the preliminary plat; and authorizing the City Clerk to sign the final plat upon compliance with all the terms of this Ordinance. (Staff recommends that City Council accept the public streets and easements.) (By: Mercy Health Springfield Communities; 4431 South Fremont Avenue; Preliminary Plat of Mercy Fremont Acres.)

Council Bill 2021-038. Special Ordinance 27471 was approved by the following vote:  
Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, McGull, Simpson, Schilling, Ferguson, Fisk, and McClure.  
Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA.**

**Motion to Adjourn**

Councilman Simpson moved to Adjourn. Councilman Lear seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote. Ayes: McGull, Simpson, Ferguson, Fisk, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: Hosmer. Absent: Schilling. Abstain: None. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 p.m.

**Clerk's Note:** Councilman Schilling left the meeting at approximately 10:35 p.m.



Anita J. Cotter, CMC/MRCC  
City Clerk

Prepared by  
Anita Baker