

May 3, 2021
Springfield, Missouri

The City Council met in regular session May 3, 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. Mike Schilling, Craig Hosmer, Richard Ollis, Andrew Lear, Heather Hardinger, Angela Romine, Abe McGull, Matthew Simpson, and Ken McClure. Absent. None.
- Minutes** The minutes of April 19, 2021 City Council meeting were approved as presented.
- Consent Agenda** The Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

- Election of Mayor Pro Tempore** Councilman Ollis moved to nominate Councilman Simpson for the position of Mayor Pro Tempore.

Councilman Lear seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote:
Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Anita Cotter, City Clerk, administered the oath of office to Mayor Pro Tempore Elect, Councilman Simpson. Mayor Ken McClure congratulated Mayor Pro Tempore Simpson and thanked him for his willingness to serve the community.

- City Manager Report** Jason Gage, City Manager, noted as of May 1, 2021, approximately 1,276 people have registered for the Clean Green Springfield Initiative. He further noted volunteers have removed more than 500 trash bags, constituting roughly 11 tons of trash from the City's roadways, trails, and streams. He added many volunteers have also conducted one-time roadway and stream clean-ups within the community. Mr. Gage noted these efforts have reinvigorated the City's Adopt-A-Street and Adopt-A-Stream programs. He further noted many organizations and entities have been recruited to participate on an ongoing basis for clean-up efforts within the community. He noted this past weekend, volunteers collected nearly 2 tons of trash from the Grant Avenue viaduct dump site clean-up and approximately 1 ton of trash from the Fassnight Creek Point of Pride Clean-up. Mr. Gage further noted Cora Scott, Director of Public Information and Civic Engagement, has provided a copy of a flier, which provides information about three major disposal opportunities in May 2021 for your information. He added the City and various partnering organizations are hosting an upcoming mattress drop-off event and tire disposal event on two consecutive Saturdays. Mr. Gage noted through the month of May, special discounts and a few no-cost disposal opportunities for electronic waste, such as televisions, computers, etc. will also be conducted.

Mr. Gage noted the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Department recently announced a \$2.1 million award funds for the Upper James River Watershed. He further noted these funds would go to the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks and partners to help support the protection of clean drinking water for more than 150,000 Missourians, improve the local farming economy, and help Springfield and Greene County meet federal water quality requirements, as well as improve aquatic ecosystems along the James River Headwaters. He added the City, City Utilities, and Greene County are among the local partners for the James River Headwaters Regional Conservation Partnership Program. He noted these funds would provide significant cost-share opportunities for producers and landowners within the James River Watershed upstream of Lake Springfield for activities like the following: planting trees along waterways; fencing infrastructure for prescribed grazing systems; improve wildlife cover and habitat; forest and soil health improvements; and voluntary conservation easements and land rentals.

Mr. Gage noted Paul Williams, Police Chief, has provided a copy of the Police Department's Annual Report for Council's review.

Mr. Gage noted the Springfield Firefighters and the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 152 will be conducting a vaccination clinic to help fight COVID-19 this Friday, May 7, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Fire Station Number 8, which is located at 1405 South Scenic Avenue. He further noted there is no cost and no registration required.

Mr. Gage noted organizers of the Birthplace of Route 66 Festival recently announced the festival will be held in August 2021 pending any negative issues with local COVID-19 cases and continued vaccination progress. He further noted more than 300 cars have already registered for the upcoming festival and there will be an impressive lineup of music, food, and entertainment. He added the festival's parade, which will be organized by the City, will celebrate our healthcare heroes and essential workers for their efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Gage noted a fund has been set-up to provide proceeds to those groups who have bravely served the community during the pandemic. He further noted individuals interested in obtaining additional information about the festival may visit www.route66festivalsgf.com.

Councilman Hosmer noted he has received citizen complaints about inappropriate pop-up signage within the community about President Joe Biden. Mr. Gage noted City staff is reviewing this issue about signage permits and would provide Council with additional information. Councilman Hosmer also expressed he has also received citizen complaints about the United States Postal Services (USPS) not delivering mail to neighborhoods near East Morningside due to a possible dog-at-large issue. Mr. Gage noted City staff would conduct research and would provide Council with additional information.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson noted the issue of mail delivery is with the USPS and there is very little the City can do. He expressed his belief the USPS is working with the neighborhood residents to possibly reinstate mail delivery near East Morningside.

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

**Public Health
Director Report**

No report was provided by Katie Towns, Acting Springfield-Greene County Health Director.

The following bills appeared on the agenda under Second Reading.

**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.

Councilman Hosmer expressed his belief Council Bill 2021-044 should be tabled until the June 7, 2021 Council meeting for further consideration. He further expressed his belief the public and private partnership for camera security should be further implemented. Councilman Hosmer expressed his opinion City staff needs to develop a comprehensive plan on fighting crime within the community for Council's review within the next 35-40 days. He further expressed his belief the City's laws should be enforced. He also expressed his opinion the City should do a better job at recruiting and retaining police officers for public safety, as well as offer better pay and benefits for police officers.

Councilman Hosmer moved to table Council Bill 2021-044 to the June 7, 2021 Council meeting.

Councilman Ollis expressed his agreement with Councilman Hosmer. He further expressed his opinion ShotSpotter is not currently the appropriate technology needed due to the proposed cost. Councilman Ollis noted Municipal Court has seen a decrease in citations being issued over the last several years, but crime seems to be increasing within the community. He noted the issue of crime is a concern that needs to be addressed and a comprehensive plan for fighting crime is needed. He also expressed his opinion the City should do a better job at recruiting and retaining police officers for public safety, as well as offer better pay and benefits for police officers. Councilman Ollis expressed his belief an outside consulting firm may be needed to review and analysis the City's departments to possibly help address the systemic problem that is occurring.

Anita Cotter, City Clerk, noted the Council meeting dates are June 1, and June 14, 2021. She further noted no meeting date is scheduled for June 7, 2021.

Councilman Hosmer modified his original motion to change the June 7, 2021 date to June 14, 2021.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed his belief police officers are needed for public safety, and personnel and benefits for police should be reviewed for recruitment and retention. He further expressed his belief the proposed is not currently the best use of funds. He expressed his belief the proposed should be voted on tonight as opposed to tabling.

Councilwoman Romine noted the issue of crime is a major concern within Zone 1. She expressed her belief the proposed is not the best use of funds.

Councilwoman Hardinger expressed her opinion numerous companies and organizations are also experiencing difficulties in attracting and recruiting employees. She further expressed her belief an innovated approach may be needed for recruiting and attracting individuals. She noted she would like to review a comprehensive plan for recruiting and retaining police officers from City staff.

Councilman Lear expressed his belief personnel is a major issue for police but is also a long-term problem. He also expressed his opinion a comprehensive plan is needed for Council's review regarding the Police Department. He further expressed his belief the proposed should be voted on tonight as opposed to tabling.

Mr. Gage noted City staff is enforcing the laws and regulations, which are based upon statistical information. He further noted the rate of citations for Municipal Court is not where City staff would like, but serious crimes are being responded to by police. Mr. Gage expressed his belief if Council does not want to pursue the proposed, to please move forward with consideration. He further expressed there may be some resource limitations regarding increasing pay and benefits for police officers, which will need to be reviewed by Council and City staff in the upcoming budget process. He added if Council would like a comprehensive review with an outside consultant, it would take at least 60-90 days for the process for obtaining an agreement. Mr. Gage asked Council to please provide direction to City staff for possibly proceeding with an outside consultant for a comprehensive review.

Councilman Schilling asked Councilman Hosmer if he would withdraw his motion.

Councilman Hosmer withdrew his motion to table Council Bill 2021-044.

Mayor McClure expressed his belief the jail situation several years ago with Greene County and Senate Bill 5 both significantly impacted the City for processing warrants and citations in Municipal Court with the Police Department. He further expressed the issue of policing and public safety is a major concern not only locally but also nationally. Mayor McClure noted the City must handle and deal with the issues that we can address on a local level. He expressed his opinion the City has a great Police Department with great police officers, which should be supported by Council and the community.

Council Bill 2021-044 failed by the following vote: Ayes: None. Nays: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Mayor McClure asked Council to contact Mr. Gage regarding their thoughts and direction about a possible comprehensive plan for City staff to proceed.

**Rezoning at 1640 East
Sunshine Street**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-097.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 0.07 acres generally located at 1640 East Sunshine Street from R-SF, Single-Family Residential District to GR, General Retail District; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (By: 3410 Kingshighway LLC; 1640 East Sunshine Street; Z-9-2021.)

Council Bill 2021-097. General Ordinance 6650 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Conditional Use
Permit No. 447 – 1640
and 1650 East
Sunshine Street**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-098.

A special ordinance granting Conditional Use Permit No. 447 for the purpose of authorizing an automobile washing business to operate within the GR, General Retail District generally located at 1640 and 1650 East Sunshine Street as a conditional use. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission recommend approval.)

Council Bill 2021-098. Special Ordinance 27491 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Repealing General
Ordinance 6585**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-099.

A general ordinance repealing General Ordinance 6585 titled "Suspending enforcement of portions of sections 36-368(9) and 36-473(e) of the Zoning Ordinance."

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed his support for the proposed.

Council Bill 2021-099. General Ordinance 6651 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Surface
Transportation
Program-Urban
Program Agreement –
Transportation
Management Center**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-100.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Surface Transportation Program-Urban Program Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission; and amending the budget of the Department of Public Works for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, in the amount of \$360,000, for the purpose of partially reimbursing the base salaries of up to six City employees who operate and manage the Transportation Management Center.

Council Bill 2021-100. Special Ordinance 27492 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Agreement with
Missouri State
Highway Patrol and
Marshall University
Research Corporation
– Sexual Assault
Forensic Evidence
Kits**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2021-101.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Professional Service Agreement with the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Marshall University Research Corporation on behalf of Marshall University Forensic Science Center to provide independent review of privately tested Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence kits.

Council Bill 2021-101. Special Ordinance 27493 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

The following bills appeared on the agenda under Resolutions.

**Intent to Annex – 5505
West Sunshine Street**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-102.

A resolution declaring the intent of the City of Springfield to annex approximately 25 acres of private property generally located at 5505 West Sunshine Street into the City of Springfield. (Staff recommends approval.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, gave an overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the proposed is an annexation request by the owner of the private property in question. He further noted the proposed only initiates the proposed annexation and does not annex the property in question. He added the property in question is currently zoned Greene County M-1, Light Manufacturing or Industrial District. Mr. Griesemer noted the owner is requesting the property in question be rezoned to Highway Commercial District, which will be concurrently reviewed with the annexation public hearing in June. He further noted Council is required to conduct a public hearing before the proposed annexation can be approved. He added if the proposed is approved, City staff would submit a Council Bill for a public hearing to consider annexation on June 1, 2021 with a second reading and consideration on June 14, 2021.

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

Council Bill 2021-102. Resolution 10577 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Intent to Annex – 5900
through 6200 Blocks
of West Highway
266/Chestnut
Expressway**

Sponsor: Romine. Council Bill 2021-103.

A resolution declaring an intent to initiate annexation into the City of Springfield of approximately 5.11 acres of Missouri Department of Transportation right-of-way, generally located along the 5900 through 6200 blocks of West State Highway 266/Chestnut Expressway, immediately west of North Airport Boulevard. (Staff recommends approval.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, gave an overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the City is requesting the proposed for right-of-way to be annexed that is contiguous to the City limits and abuts the north side of SGF Sports, LLC's proposed private athletic facility located just west of the Deer Lake Golf Course. He further noted the purpose of the proposed is to ensure a Community Improvement District (CID) can be properly established to entirely reimburse the City the costs of the public improvements that has been agreed to fund in association with proposed private athletic facility. He added per a development agreement between the City and SGF Sports LLC, which was approved on March 8, 2021 per Ordinance 27472, the City will fund up to \$2.1 million in public improvements and interest expenses associated with the proposed facility including public sidewalks on the subject right-of-way. Mr. Griesemer noted the City will be reimbursed for these costs by establishing a CID over the facility that will impose a 1-cent sales and use tax. He further noted in order for the CID to reimburse the City for the costs of the public sidewalks, the sidewalks must be located inside the CID, and the CID boundaries need to be entirely located inside the city limits in order for the City to establish the CID. He added the proposed only initiates the proposed annexation and does not annex the right-of-way. Mr. Griesemer noted public hearings, and review and approval by the Council are required before the annexation of the property in question can be executed. He further noted if the proposed is approved, City staff would submit a Council Bill for a public hearing to consider annexation on June 1, 2021 with a second reading and consideration on June 14, 2021.

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

Council Bill 2021-103. Resolution 10578 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Initiating
Amendments to Land
Development Code -
Tree Preservation**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-104.

A resolution initiating amendments to the Springfield Land Development Code, Article III, 'Zoning Regulations,' for the purpose of addressing tree preservation.

Councilman Schilling withdrew his sponsorship from Council Bill 2021-104. Since there is no sponsorship, Council Bill 2021-104 is unable to proceed for consideration and will die within 48 hours.

The following bill appeared on the agenda under Emergency Bills.

**Chapter 58 – Revise
Regulations Related
to the Use of Face
Coverings Outdoors**

Sponsor: Council. Council Bill 2021-115.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield City Code, Chapter 58, 'Health and Sanitation,' by amending Article XIII, 'COVID-19 pandemic,' to revise regulations related to the use of Face Coverings outdoors; and declaring an emergency pursuant to City Charter Section 2.12.

Katie Towns, Acting Director of the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, gave an overview of the proposed. Ms. Towns also provided an update pertaining to COVID-19. She encouraged everyone to be vaccinated if able to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the community. She noted the positive case count has increased approximately 80% within the last week to approximately 32 positive cases per day. Ms. Towns further noted last week, the daily positive case count was approximately 18. She added this past Friday, approximately 75 new positive cases of COVID-19 were received by the Health Department, which was the highest day reported since February 23, 2021. She noted the demand for the vaccine continues to decline locally. She further noted if the vaccine demand continues to decrease, the local vaccination rate by Memorial Day will not be met for the phased approach matrix to achieve at least 50%.

Ms. Towns noted the Health Department, hospitals, and local organizations are preparing for COVID-19 to be a permanent presence within the community due to the variants. She further noted there are currently approximately 36 patients locally hospitalized of which 14 are Greene County residents. She added 12 of the 36 individuals are in the Intensive Care Unit for treatment with 5 of those individuals being on ventilators. Ms. Towns noted approximately 3 individuals have recently tested positive for the United Kingdom (UK) COVID-19 variant, which she expressed is more contagious and deadly. She further noted a total of 5 individuals have tested positive for the UK variant. Ms. Towns noted approximately 33% of Greene County residents ages 16 and older have been fully vaccinated with approximately 39% being partially vaccinated. She once again encouraged everyone who can receive the vaccination to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 to please do so.

Ms. Towns noted studies have shown some individuals who have contracted COVID-19 do suffer health effects caused by the virus. She further noted everyone should take this virus seriously. She added if individuals need information about the vaccination to please contact the Health Department, their physician, or close family or friends who have received their vaccination. She noted approximately 215 were vaccinated during last weekend's vaccination clinics with the Springfield-Greene County Library and approximately 150 were vaccinated at the recent Arts Fest event.

Ms. Towns noted the Health Department and the Jordan Valley Health Center are working with the Springfield Firefighters and the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 152 to host a vaccination clinic this Friday, May 7, 2021 at Fire Station Number 8, which is located at 1405 South Scenic Avenue, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. She further noted the Health Department will be also working with the National Avenue Christian Church to host a vaccination clinic from 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at 1515 South National Avenue. Ms. Towns added the Health Department is also partnering with Mercy to offer free vaccinations at the upcoming Springfield Cardinal baseball games beginning with their home opener tomorrow evening. She noted individuals, businesses, or organizations may contact the Health Department for additional information at 417-874-1211 or www.vaccine417.com.

Following the update, Ms. Towns noted on April 27, 2021, the Center for Disease Control issued guidance allowing individuals to remove their masks in certain outdoor settings. She further noted these recommendations are based upon a general lower risk of transmission when outdoors and largely pertain to vaccinated individuals. She added only approximately 3.6% of local COVID-19 cases have had a probable association with an outdoor transmission. Ms. Towns noted this is coupled with a growing number of fully vaccinated individuals within Greene County, which helps create a safer outdoor environment. She further noted the proposed would include the removal of the masking requirement in most outdoor settings. She added the requirement would remain for gatherings of 500 or more individuals that have people in proximity within 6 feet for an extended period greater than 15 minutes, like the remaining occupancy requirements. Ms. Towns noted the proposed does not alter the masking requirement for indoor settings. She further noted the Health Department also recommends individuals who are not fully vaccinated continue to mask in outdoor settings when around other individuals. She added the proposed allows for the community to take another step on the Road to Recovery while the community continues to seek vaccination.

Councilman McGull asked for clarification whether positive cases are tracked like hospitalizations for knowing where individuals are coming from. Ms. Towns noted positive cases counts are calculated at various testing sites within the state, so knowing exactly where individuals are coming from is difficult to detect for tracking purposes, since those reports are sent directly to the State's Department of Health. She further noted the State's Health Department only provides the counties with the total number of positive case information.

Councilman McGull asked for clarification whether the Health Department contacts the positive cases within Greene County to see if they have been vaccinated. Ms. Towns answered affirmatively and noted Health Department staff does contact the positive case individuals to see if they have been vaccinated. She further noted many of those individuals they contact have chosen to be fully vaccinated to help reduce their risk of contracting COVID-19. She noted one of the benefits of the vaccine is if someone does contract COVID-19 their symptoms are usually less severe.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson thanked Ms. Towns and the Health Department for their efforts in helping to vaccinate the community to prevent the spread of COVID-19. He asked for clarification regarding the number of individuals who were hospitalized for COVID-19 have been fully vaccinated. Ms. Towns noted she does not have information currently available and information would be limited due to privacy. Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked for clarification whether the Health Department has been notified of any severe reactions to the various vaccinations for COVID-19. Ms. Towns noted the Health Department has not been notified of any severe reactions to the vaccinations, which she expressed is a good sign.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Lisa Meeks spoke about the proposed. Ms. Meeks expressed her belief there is no scientific data available about the effects of the vaccines for COVID-19 because there has not been enough time to gather specific data. She further expressed her belief masking does not prevent the spread of COVID-19. Ms. Meeks expressed her opinion masking should be eliminated, not just for outside settings.

Heather Dietz spoke about the proposed. Ms. Dietz expressed her opinion a civil emergency was not necessary regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. She further expressed her opinion the number of cases for COVID-19 were not enough to justify instituting a civil emergency. She expressed her belief individuals and businesses should have the ability to choose how they respond to COVID-19.

Patricia Tursi spoke about the proposed. Ms. Tursi expressed her belief there have been more deaths associated with the vaccines for preventing COVID-19 than the past 10 years from other vaccinations. She further expressed her belief a lot of money is being made by pushing the vaccines to prevent COVID-19 than helping to treat the symptoms in the early stages of the disease. She expressed her opinion the vaccines for treating COVID-19 are an operating system for transhumanism and not a true vaccine.

Jan DuMas spoke about the proposed. Ms. DuMas expressed her belief it is time to free America from COVID-19. She further expressed her belief masking and the vaccines to prevent COVID-19 are perpetuating crimes against humanity.

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

Council Bill 2021-115. General Ordinance 6652 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

The following bill appeared on the agenda under Grants.

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Grant Funds – Health Department

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2021-105.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to accept additional Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act grant funds through the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services in the amount of \$55,000 for use by the Springfield-Greene County Health Department to continue expanded Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity; amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget of the Springfield-Greene County Health Department in the amount of \$55,000 for the purpose of appropriating the additional grant funds; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval in one reading.

Katie Towns, Acting Director of the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, gave an overview of the proposed. Ms. Towns noted the proposed would allow a budget adjustment to increase the amount of funds and amend Health's budget in the amount of \$55,000 for Fiscal Year 2021-2021. She further noted the proposed would be utilized to further assist the Health Department for efforts regarding COVID-19 case investigations, contact tracing, case reporting activities, and laboratory testing. She added the original grant amount was \$71,150, which was approved by Council on November 30, 2020 per Ordinance 27429.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked for clarification whether all the threshold matrix was met when the community proceeded into the yellow phase for the Road to Recovery. Ms. Towns answered affirmatively.

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

Council Bill 2021-105. Special Ordinance 27494 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

AMENDED BILLS

The following bills appeared on the agenda under Council Bills for Public Hearing.

**Street Name Change -
4500 block of South
Main Avenue to West
El Camino Alto Drive**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-106.

A general ordinance amending the Official Map of the City of Springfield, Missouri, adopted pursuant to General Ordinance 1478, by changing the street name of the 4500 block of South Main Avenue to West El Camino Alto Drive. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the proposed is for a request to rename the 4500 block of South Main Avenue to West El Camino Alto Drive. He further noted this segment was dedicated in the final plat of James River Commons and was intended to be the name for any future extension of the street. He added, however, when the street was extended to the south, the final plat of The Ridge at Ward Branch named the street West El Camino Alto Drive. Mr. Griesemer noted the proposed would provide for an efficient addressing system to reduce confusion and improve emergency response.

Mayor McClure asked for clarification whether there are any businesses located on this segment that would be affected by the proposed. Mr. Griesemer expressed to his knowledge currently no businesses are operating on this segment that would be affected. Mayor McClure asked for clarification regarding the City's process for a possible street name change. Mr. Griesemer noted when the City receives a request to rename a street, the request first goes before the Planning and Zoning Commission for their review as a public hearing and consideration. He further noted City staff publicizes the request for public hearing with the public and surrounding property owners, which is like the process for rezoning requests. He added City staff also posts the property to notify the public. Mr. Griesemer noted after the request to rename a street has been reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Commission, the request proceeds to Council for public hearing and consideration.

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

**Street Name Change –
300 Block of East
Weaver Road and 500-
600 Block of West
Weaver Road to Old
Weaver Road**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-107.

A general ordinance amending the Official Map of the City of Springfield, Missouri adopted pursuant to General Ordinance 1478, by changing the name of the 300 Block of East Weaver Road and the 500-600 Block of West Weaver Road to Old Weaver Road. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the proposed is to rename the old alignment of Weaver Road, which is located at the 300 Block of East Weaver Road and the 500-600 block of West Weaver Road, to Old Weaver Road to help reduce confusion and assist with emergency response. He further noted in 2012, Weaver Road was re-routed to the north due to safety concerns with the intersection with Campbell Avenue.

Mr. Griesemer added the old alignment has remained to give access to existing properties but was never renamed. Mr. Griesemer noted City staff coordinated with Greene County about the proposed for changing the eastern segment within the county, which the Greene County Commission has approved for recording.

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

**Rezoning at 1727
North Washington
Avenue**

Sponsor: Romine. Council Bill 2021-108.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 0.18 acres of property generally located at 1727 North Washington Avenue from R-MD, Medium-density Multi-family Residential District with Urban Conservation District No. 3, to CC, Center City District with Urban Conservation District No. 3; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 197; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (By: 540 Commercial Partners LLC; 1727 North Washington Avenue; Z-7-2021 w/COD #197.)

Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Griesemer noted the proposed is to rezone approximately 0.18 acres from Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District with Urban Conservation District No. 3 to a Center City District with Urban Conservation District (UCD) No. 3 and establishing Conditional Overlay District (COD) No. 197. He further noted the applicant intends to develop the property in question with commercial off-street parking that supports tenant parking for the mixed-use commercial development that is planned at 530, 536 and 540 East Commercial Street, which is adjacent to the property in question. Mr. Griesemer noted the Mid-Town Urban UCD No. 3 Area E will remain. He further noted the COD would limit future development to three stories to match the Commercial Street District No. 1 and requires a bufferyard adjacent to the Residential Medium District property.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Matt Miller noted he is employed with Toth and Associates and is representing the developer to address any questions posed by Council about the proposed.

There were no questions from Council.

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

Rezoning at 844 South National Avenue

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-109.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 0.18 acre of property generally located at 844 South National Avenue from R-SF, Single-Family Residential District with Urban Conservation District No. 2, to R-HD, High Density Multi-Family Residential District with Urban Conservation District No. 2; establishing Conditional Overlay District No. 198; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (By: Springfield Lutheran Student Center, Inc.; 844 S. National Avenue; Z-8-2021 w/Conditional Overlay District No. 198.)

Bob Hosmer, Planning Manager, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Hosmer noted the proposed is to rezone approximately 0.18 acres of property from a Single-Family Residential District to a High-Density Multi-Family Residential District and establishing Conditional Overlay District (COD) No. 198. He further noted the property in question is currently being administratively combined with the property to the west, which are both owned by the Lutheran Student Center, Inc. He added the COD will limit the residential density on this portion to 11 dwelling units per acre. Mr. Hosmer noted the Rountree Neighborhood Plan and the Urban Conservation District both support the rezoning of the property in question.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Billy Kimmons spoke in support of the proposed. Mr. Kimmons noted he is an architect with Hood Rich Architects and is representing the applicant to address any questions posed by Council about the proposed. He further noted the owner wants to clean up the lot and rezone it into one lot, which allows them not to have a required bufferyard. Mr. Kimmons added the conditional overlay district would ensure the proposed does not cause any density issues and follows the City's Comprehensive Plan.

There were no questions from Council.

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

Second Amended and Restated Redevelopment Plan – East Cherry Pocket Neighborhood Redevelopment Area

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-110.

A special ordinance approving the Second Amended and Restated Redevelopment Plan for the East Cherry Pocket Neighborhood Redevelopment Area, generally located on 0.51 acres on the north side of the intersection of East Cherry Street and South Fremont Avenue; and authorizing the City Manager to execute an amended and restated redevelopment agreement with the developer, Say You Can, LLC, relating to the implementation of the Second Amended and Restated Redevelopment Plan. (The Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority, the Planning and Zoning Commission, and City staff recommend approval.)

Sarah Kerner, Economic Development Director, provided an overview of the proposed. Ms. Kerner noted the redevelopment plan for the East Cherry Pocket Neighborhood Redevelopment Area was approved on January 14, 2019, by Ordinance 27138 and amended on November 2, 2020, by Ordinance 27407. She further noted the proposed consists of approximately 0.51 acres located on the north side of the intersection of East Cherry Street and South Fremont Avenue. Ms. Kerner added the redevelopment project for the East Cherry Packet Neighborhood is currently under construction and near completion. She noted to accommodate additional off-street parking for future tenants, as well as to mitigate rising construction costs, the developer has filed the proposed, which would allow construction of an 11-space surface paved parking lot in lieu of the originally proposed six-stall detached garage. She further noted all other details and characteristics of the redevelopment project will remain unchanged. She added City staff concludes the proposed remains consistent with previous findings that the redevelopment project conforms to the City's Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Kerner noted there would be no change from the amended plan pertaining to the value of abatement. She further noted the Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority and the Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously approved the Seconded Amended redevelopment plan.

An opportunity was given for citizens to express their views.

Matthew Wine noted he is representing the developer to address any questions posed by Council about the proposed.

There were no questions from Council.

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

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

**Cherry Street
Pedestrian
Improvements and
Accepting Bid of
D&E Plumbing and
Heating, Inc.**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-111.

A special ordinance approving the plans and specifications for Cherry Street Pedestrian Improvements from Fremont Avenue to Weller Avenue; accepting the bid of D&E Plumbing and Heating, Inc., in the amount of \$485,044.00 for said improvements; and authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a contract with such bidder.

Dan Smith, Director of Public Works, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Smith noted the proposed includes the construction of traffic calming measures and improvements to pedestrian features in the project areas. He further noted concrete islands will serve to narrow the street visually and physically, causing traffic to slow down while also reducing the crossing distance for pedestrians. He added raised and stamped crosswalks will also add for traffic calming and, coupled with landscaping, will improve the area's aesthetics. Mr. Smith noted D&E Plumbing and Heating, Inc. was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the proposed. He further noted City Utilities' relocation of gas and water would also be constructed to facilitate the project and needed replacement of utility infrastructure.

Mr. Smith added the utility improvements included in the project are estimated at approximately \$315,534 and will be reimbursed by City Utilities reducing the net City cost to approximately \$169,510.

Councilman McGull expressed his appreciation to City staff and City Utilities for the proposed. He further expressed the proposed should help improve traffic calming and provide a safer area for pedestrians and community. Councilman McGull asked for clarification regarding the start and end dates for the proposed. Mr. Smith noted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, extra time was built in for regarding the proposed. He further noted approximately 90 days will be allotted for construction begin by the contractor after the award of contract is issued. He added there is no definitive start date currently but would provide Council with additional information once the contract has been finalized. Mr. Smith noted City staff would be issuing a press release once the contract has been finalized to inform the public about the project.

Councilman Ollis also expressed his appreciation to City staff and City Utilities for the proposed. He further expressed his support for the proposed. He asked for clarification regarding the location of the traffic calming elements for the proposed. Mr. Smith reviewed the proposed concrete island locations with Council, as well as the visually narrowing areas of the street to help with traffic calming for slowing down motorist.

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

**Surface
Transportation
Program-Urban
Program Agreement –
Walnut Street Bridge
Over Jordan Creek**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-112.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Surface Transportation Program-Urban Program Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the purpose of funding partial right-of-way and construction for the replacement of the Walnut Street Bridge over Jordan Creek; and amending the budget of the Department of Public Works for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, in the amount of \$1,600,000 to appropriate federal Surface Transportation Block Grant funds.

Andrew Flippin, Professional Engineer, provided an overview of the proposed. Mr. Flippin noted the proposed would replace the Walnut Street Bridge over Jordan Creek. He further noted it would include accommodations for a future trail system to pass under the roadway for connectivity. He added the Surface Transportation Program-Urban Program agreement allows for reimbursement of up to 80% of the right-of-way and construction costs associated with the proposed up to a maximum reimbursement cost of \$1,600,000. Mr. Flippin noted the City's 20% cost share is estimated at approximately \$400,000, which would be funded by the 1/4-cent Capital Improvements Sales Tax and is already budgeted. He further noted City staff is working together with the Ozarks Greenways, Springfield-Greene County Parks, Police Department, and the Fire Department for the proposed and the future trail system.

Mr. Flippin added if the proposed is approved, it would allow staff to proceed with the next steps, which would be right-of-way acquisitions, utility relocations, and construction, which would be planned for year 2023.

Councilman Ollis asked for clarification regarding the connection location of a future trail system. Mr. Flippin noted to the north, the trail would connect toward College and the West Meadows area, and to the south, the trail would go towards Kansas Expressway and proceed towards Mt. Vernon to eventually connect to the Grand Street trail area. He further noted there is currently no timeline or funding sources identified regarding the future trail system connection project. He added there may be some challenges and potential issues in constructing the proposed and future trail system, but the various partners, such as Ozarks Greenways and Parks Department, are supportive of the proposed.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed his support for the proposed. He noted a funding source can be hopefully identified in the future for the future trail system connection.

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

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES, AND COMMUNICATIONS

The following appeared on the agenda under New Business.

Recommended

The City Manager recommends the following appointments to the Airport Board: Jerry Compton and Landon Lewis with terms to expire June 1, 2024.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MISCELLANEOUS

CONSENT AGENDA – FIRST READING BILLS

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

Appointment to the Downtown Springfield Community Improvement District Board of Directors

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2021-113.

A resolution confirming the appointment of Sarah Kerner to the Downtown Springfield Community Improvement District Board of Directors. (Staff and the Downtown Springfield Community Improvement District Board of Directors recommend approval.)

Council Bill 2021-113. Resolution 10579 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Appointment to the
Springfield Center
City Development
Corporation**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-114.

A resolution approving the appointment of Cynthia Lipscomb to the Springfield Center City Development Corporation. (Staff recommends approval.)

Council Bill 2021-114. Resolution 10580 was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

CONSENT AGENDA SECOND READING BILLS

Confirmed

Confirm the following appointments to the Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development: Shawna Batty and Mary Nichols with terms to expire May 1, 2024.

Confirmed

Confirm the following reappointments to the Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development: Alexandra Sheppard and Kate Stockton with terms to expire May 1, 2024.

Confirmed

Confirm the following reappointments to the Citizens' Tax Oversight Committee: Charles Cowherd and David Troyer with term to expire May 1, 2024.

Confirmed

Confirm the following appointment to the Police Officers' and Fire Fighters' Retirement System Board of Trustees: Justin Setser with term to expire April 30, 2024.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA.

Motion to Adjourn

Councilman Simpson moved to Adjourn. Councilman McGull seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote. Ayes: Schilling, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: Hosmer. Absent. Abstain: None. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:52 p.m.



Anita J. Cotter, CMC/MRCC
City Clerk

Prepared by
Anita Baker