

**August 23, 2021**  
**Springfield, Missouri**

The City Council met in regular session August 23, 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, Heather Hardinger, Angela Romine, Abe McGull, Mike Schilling, Matthew Simpson, Ken McClure. Absent: None.

**Minutes** The minutes of August 3, 2021 Special City Council Meeting, August 9, 2021 City Council Meeting, August 10, 2021 Special City Council Meeting and August 17, 2021 Special City Council Meeting were approved as presented.

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

**The following items appeared on the agenda under Ceremonial Matters.**

**Sworn In** Anita Cotter, City Clerk, swore-in David Yancey to the Springfield- Greene County Public Library Board and Sally Payne as Director of Workforce Development.

**City Manager Report** Jason Gage, City Manager noted after an extensive proposal development and selection process, a design and construction contractor will be selected later this week for the Grant Avenue Parkway corridor improvement project. The City will announce the winning contractor team and showcase their proposal during a virtual Grant Avenue Parkway Project Reveal announcement at 2 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 31. The public is encouraged to tune in at [GrantAvenueParkway.com](http://GrantAvenueParkway.com) and [facebook.com/CityofSGF](https://facebook.com/CityofSGF) to watch live or view a recording. He further noted The Grant Avenue Parkway will create a pedestrian and bicycle pathway along Grant Avenue between Sunshine and College Streets, in the heart of Springfield.

Mr. Gage noted the City and Greene County will be preparing a Birthplace of Route 66 float recognizing Springfield and Greene County's claim to fame as the birthplace of the mother road. The float is an entry in the Governor's Bicentennial Inaugural Parade, which will take place at 10 a.m., Sept. 18 in Jefferson City.

Mr. Gage acknowledged Springfield as one of thirteen communities in the nation that has successfully improved water quality through an integrated planning approach required by a regulatory permit, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Report to Congress on Integrated Plans to Comply with the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2019. The report, which is required of EPA by Congress, outlines progress using the integrated planning approach to environmental mandates and highlights municipal programs throughout the country. The City of Springfield, City Utilities and Greene County have collaborated for nearly a decade on the development of Springfield's Integrated Plan to protect the region's natural resources in a way that is effective and affordable.

Mr. Gage noted the Springfield Police Department and Missouri State University's men's basketball program will resume Bears, Badges and Basketball this weekend as an opportunity to bring local youth, Missouri State men's basketball players and local law enforcement officials together for monthly basketball clinics throughout the Springfield community. The events are free for children in grades K-6 and will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon on the fourth Saturday of every month. Saturday's clinic will take place at The Dream Center, 829 W. Atlantic.

Mr. Gage recognized Sally Payne who was selected to permanently fill the role of Director of Workforce Development for the City of Springfield. He noted she has served as Interim Director since December 2019. He further noted Sally joined the City in 2008 as an accounting supervisor before being promoted to fiscal administrator and then assistant director of Workforce Development. He highlighted Ms. Payne's hard work in workforce development and her creative approach to working with many partners in this area.

Councilman Hosmer inquired about the rehire program for retired police officers. Jason Gage, City Manager noted currently they are reviewing policies and procedures to ensure this program does not interfere with retirement plans for those who are interested.

Katie Towns, Director of Health gave an update on COVID-19. She noted the FDA announced the approval of the Pfizer Biotech COVID-19 vaccine. She further noted this approval came after months of safety and efficacy data reviews. Ms. Towns acknowledged more than 4.9 billion doses of the vaccine have been administered throughout the world. She noted 46% of Greene County residents are fully vaccinated. Ms. Towns acknowledged the Kaiser Family Foundation, noting 3 in 10 individuals will be motivated by the step the FDA took today to get vaccinated.

Ms. Towns gave an update on Greene County hospitalizations. She acknowledged the seven-day average of COVID-19 cases is 111 per day, a decline from the peak last month. Ms. Towns noted 186 patients are currently being treated in Springfield Hospitals, including individuals from other areas with urgent cases. Ms. Towns further noted of the 186 patients, 65 are Greene County residents while others are residents from outside of the county who are in medical need. She noted last week nearly 3,000 Greene County residents became fully vaccinated. She further noted this is the momentum needed to prevent the next surge of COVID-19. She informed the Council that the FDA has approved a third dose of the vaccine for those who are immune compromised. She further noted Pfizer and Moderna booster vaccines are available at already established vaccine clinics. This additional dose would provide a boost to the immune system to help combat the effects of COVID-19 and the variant. Non-immune compromised individuals will be eligible to receive a third dose of the vaccine in early September. Ms. Towns noted as of now, a third dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine has not been announced. Community Foundation of the Ozarks, Community Partnership of the Ozarks, and the Health Department launched Green for Vaccine incentive program to help motivate residents to get their COVID-19 shot. Between now and September 18<sup>th</sup>, any Greene County resident who initiates vaccination will automatically be entered to win a \$1000 prize.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson thanked Ms. Towns for her report. He inquired with the FDA approval, what are the Health Departments plans to engage those individuals that waited to get the vaccine until this approval. Ms. Towns noted the plan is to reengage those individuals with this new information provided by the FDA to help alleviate any concerns.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson noted recent articles he read about current events that have taken place in Springfield. He expressed the importance of treating one another with respect. He noted individuals should be able to disagree on the issues but still should treat others with dignity.

Councilwoman Romine thanked Ms. Towns for all the hard work she has done at the Health Department. Councilwoman Romine clarified misinformation presented to the public about herself. She expressed we should not be working against each other, but rather working together to help those in the community. She expressed her concerns we can no longer treat individuals with differences of opinions with civility and respect, but she will continue working to ensure each individual voice is heard.

Councilman Lear expressed vaccinations are the way to slow the spread of this virus and mitigate any mutation created. He noted it is his obligation to consider the arguments and concerns citizens may have and to do what is best for those he represents after hearing all facts. He expressed people who are trying to do their jobs should not be harassed.

Councilman Hosmer inquired whether the statistics about the unvaccinated and vaccinate deaths are still accurate. Ms. Towns expressed this information is still accurate. She noted the Health Department is working to factor in the waning effects of the vaccines already administered, providing additional information about receiving an additional dose. She noted this is part of the evaluation of ongoing data.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed individuals should ask their healthcare professionals any medical questions they may have.

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

**Rezoning 3482 and  
3839 South State  
Highway FF and  
4003 West Farm  
Road 168**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-199.

A general ordinance amending Section 1-9 of the Springfield City Code, 'City Limits;' and amending Section 46-1 of the Springfield City Code, 'Boundaries of wards, precincts and council zones;' for the purpose of annexing approximately 98 acres of private property and right-of-way generally located at 3482 and 3839 South State Highway FF and 4003 West Farm Road 168, referenced as Annexation A-4-2021, into the City of Springfield.

Council Bill 2021-199. General Ordinance 6676 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**Rezoning  
approximately 73  
acres of property;  
3482 and 3839  
South State  
Highway FF; 4003  
West Farm Road  
168**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-200.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 73 acres of property generally located at 3482 and 3839 South State Highway FF from County R1, Suburban Residence District, to City R-SF, Single Family Residential District; rezoning approximately 17 acres of property generally located at 4003 West Farm Road 168 from County C-2, General Commercial District, to City GR, General Retail District; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (By: Hoover Brothers Farms Inc., Rick Hoover Properties and Hometown Commons, LLC; 3482 & 3839 South State Highways FF and 4003 West Farm Road 168; Z- 17- 2021)

Councilwoman Romine inquired about the architect firm working on the proposed. Brenden Griesmer, Acting Director of Planning and Development noted at this stage of the process, the firm is currently unknown.

Council Bill 2021-200. General Ordinance 6677 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, and McClure. Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**Rezoning  
approximately 1.84  
acres of property;  
2000 East  
Commercial Street**

Sponsor: Romine. Council Bill 2021-201.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 1.84 acres of property generally located at 2000 East Commercial Street from GM, General Manufacturing, to HM, Heavy Manufacturing; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (By: Superior Industrial Solutions Inc.; 2000 East Commercial Street; Z-15-2021)

Council Bill 2021-201. General Ordinance 6678 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, and McClure. Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**Rezoning  
approximately 1  
acre of property  
generally located  
at 1136 and 1144  
East Sunshine  
Street and 1816,  
1820, and 1826  
South Florence  
Avenue**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-202.

A general ordinance amending the Springfield Land Development Code, Section 36-306, 'Official zoning map and rules for interpretation,' by rezoning approximately 1 acre of property generally located at 1136 and 1144 East Sunshine Street and 1816, 1820, and 1826 South Florence Avenue from R-SF, Single-Family Residential District, to O-1, Office District, subject to certain conditions; and adopting an updated Official Zoning Map. (Staff and Planning and Zoning Commission both recommend approval.) (By: B.J. Marsh ETAL, Joni M. Marsh (Jackson) Monte M. Marsh; 1136 & 1144 E. Sunshine Street and 1816, 1820 and 1826 S. Florence Avenue; Z-16-2021)

Councilwoman Romine recused herself and exited the chambers.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson expressed his support of the proposed. He noted the bill is an appropriate use for this site and is confident Cox Health will be a good addition to the neighborhood.

Councilman Shilling expressed he counted 35 mature trees on this property. He noted wanting to get a tree preservation ordinance within the code for future additions to the Springfield area.

Councilman Ollis expressed his support for Cox utilizing this property.

Councilman Lear expressed his support for the proposed.

Council Bill 2021-202. General Ordinance 6679 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, McGull, and McClure. Nays: None Absent: Romine. Abstain: None

**Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

Sponsor: Simpson, Lear, McGull & Hardinger. Council Bill 2021-203.

A special ordinance amending the budget of the Springfield-Greene County Health Department for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$8,000,000 to appropriate funds from the City's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARPA"), to provide critical services, staffing, supplies, and support for operations for the COVID-19 response of the City not covered by other federal sources. (The Council ARPA Review Committee voted to recommend this appropriation to City Council.)

Council Bill 2021-203. Special Ordinance 27550 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, and McClure. Nays: Romine. Absent: None Abstain: None

**Commercial Street Tax Increment Financing Special Allocation Fund**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-204.

A special ordinance amending the budget of the City of Springfield for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$290,000 for the purpose of approving expenditures from the Commercial Street Tax Increment Financing Special Allocation Fund for certain public improvement projects within the Commercial Street Tax Increment Financing District; authorizing the expenditure of \$365,000 from previously-budgeted Public Works funds as cost-sharing for these improvements; and amending the Capital Improvements Program to add the funded projects.

Council Bill 2021-204. Special Ordinance 27551 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**Enhanced  
Enterprise Zone**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2021-205.

A general ordinance amending the Fee Schedule for certain City services as provided in the Springfield City Code by adding fees for the Enhanced Enterprise Zone economic development incentive and amending the fees for the Industrial Development Bond economic development incentive.

Council Bill 2021-205. General Ordinance 6680 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: Hosmer. Absent: None Abstain: None

**Department of  
Economic Vitality**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-206.

A special ordinance amending the budget for the Department of Economic Vitality for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$75,000 to appropriate a portion of the General Fund carryover funds to finance a blight study and redevelopment plan for the area within and surrounding the Grant Avenue Parkway zoning district.

Councilman Hosmer inquired if part of the Grant Avenue area would be preserved for single family homes. Brendan Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development noted there are areas of Grant Avenue that would be preserved for single families. Councilman Hosmer asked if the blight study would allow for developers to tear down the existing homes and replace them with new single-family homes. Mr. Griesemer noted they are in the process of studying the preservation aspects and would utilize the data in attempts to preserve the area. Councilman Hosmer noted his support for preserving single family homes instead of promoting more apartment complexes. He further noted Springfield has a higher rate of renters than homeowners and how he would like to see this change in the future. Councilman Hosmer inquired if this request was submitted to the Growth and Development Committee and asked for clarification of the request process for the proposed. Mr. Gage noted the proposed blight study is for this corridor and members of the Council can request items such as the proposed on the agenda for further discussion.

Councilman Ollis asked if the City has funded blight studies for other corridors around the City. Sarah Kerner, Director of Economic Development noted the Kearney Street Corridor re-development plan and College Street west of downtown Springfield were both funded by the City. Councilman Ollis asked if it was within reason to request certain corridors to have blight studies completed to help promote and enhance an area that may not otherwise be developed. Ms. Kerner noted the process to determine the need for the proposed was the same process utilized when completing other city sponsored blight studies. Councilman Ollis inquired if there was anything in the statute that noted what the use of this area would be once this study was complete. Ms. Kerner noted the use of the land is unknown at this time. She further noted the proposed is intended to finance the blight study. Councilman Ollis expressed the importance of the Grant Avenue Parkway. He noted this blight study would allow the private sector to make investments along the corridor that are financially feasible. This would allow the City to complete a study of the entire area rather than individual investors. He noted his support of the proposed.

Councilman Hosmer asked if majority of the blight studies in the past have been paid for by the developer. Ms. Kerner noted the blight studies were funded by the developer and were utilized to tear down older homes. She further noted these studies have also been used in historic rehab projects. Councilman Hosmer noted the Grant Avenue project is a good economic development because it encourages people in those communities to fix up their homes. He expressed in the past these studies have been used to demolish single family homes to build real-estate and how he would like to see a change in the future.

Councilwoman Hardinger asked if a blight study could assist in the development of single-family homes. Ms. Kerner noted the proposed would utilize the same model as the Kearney Street Corridor, which would involve public input of those in the neighborhood. Councilwoman Hardinger asked if there was a model for redeveloping single family homes in Springfield. Ms. Kerner noted Springfield does not have a model at this time.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked if there are any incentives that can encourage a certain percentage for lower income housing to be developed within these guidelines. Ms. Kerner noted the incentive could be added into a redevelopment plan.

Council Bill 2021-206. Special Ordinance 27552 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: Hosmer. Absent: None Abstain: None

**Fieldhouse  
Facility Project**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-207.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into an agreement with the owners of the property generally located at 2235 West Kingsley Street known herein as the Fieldhouse Facility Project, to purchase the real property and improvements at this location, said property to be purchased with the Special Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2021, which is requested of City Council in companion Council Bill 2021-208, with the appropriate budget adjustment requested in said companion council bill; and authorizing certain other documents and actions in connection therewith; and declaring an emergency.

Councilwoman Romine noted speaking with different individuals. She further noted they expressed concerns that these funds could be utilized in a more productive manner to benefit the community. She asked how long the Fieldhouse has been on the market and if anyone else was looking to purchase this property. Bob Belote, Director of Parks and Recreation explained the ownership group reached out to the City in hopes to add the establishment back into the Parks system. He noted the owners have not formally placed this property on the market. He further noted the establishment would continue to be utilized for competitive sports center with family centered activities. Councilwoman Romine asked who would manage the property. Mr. Belote noted the Parks and Recreation staff would oversee maintaining the property.

Council Bill 2021-207. Special Ordinance 27553 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays: Romine. Absent: None Abstain: None

**Special Obligation  
Improvement  
Bonds; Fieldhouse  
Facility Project**

Sponsor: Ollis. Amended Council Bill 2021-208. Amended at the August 9, 2021 City Council Meeting. Public Hearing Continued to the August 23, 2021 City Council Meeting.

A special ordinance authorizing and directing the issuance, sale and delivery by the City of Springfield, Missouri, of Special Obligation Improvement Bonds (Fieldhouse Facility Project), Series 2021, in a principal amount not to exceed \$5,200,000 for the purpose of providing funds to pay costs related to the acquisition of the Fieldhouse Sportscenter and adjacent property; appropriating \$2,000,000 of General Fund carryover funds for this project; amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget of the City in the amount of \$7,500,000; authorizing and approving certain documents in connection with the issuance of the Bonds; authorizing certain other documents and actions in connection therewith; and declaring an emergency.

Christopher Donegan spoke in opposition of the proposed amendment. He noted the purchase of the Field House would be better suited for private sector purchases. He further noted keeping this in the private sector would allow for property taxes to be paid to the City in return, would help the schools, libraries, and the park system.

Councilman Lear clarified ARPA money could be utilized for the proposed, however, he made his amendment based on his opinion it is too early in the process to allocate those monies.

Senator Lincoln Hough spoke in support of the proposed amendment. He noted statistics about the tourism in the State of Missouri. He further noted the utilization of funds would allow the community to grow financially. He thanked the Council and the staff for their hard work.

Mayor McClure expressed the concerns he had in supporting the proposed amendment two weeks ago. He noted the Director of Finance had discussed with him that ARPA money would be appropriate to utilize for this project. He further noted there is no allocation for general carryover funds.

Council Bill 2021-208. Special Ordinance 27554 was approved as amended with the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, and McClure. Nays: Romine Absent: None Abstain: None



**Agreement  
between the City  
of Springfield and  
Springfield R-12;  
Crossing Guard  
Program**

Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-209.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Springfield and the School District of Springfield R-12 to share the costs of a third-party vendor to operate a school crossing guard program inside the city limits of Springfield.

Council Bill 2021-209. Special Ordinance 27555 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, and McClure. Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**Springfield City  
Code Chapter 74,  
'Nuisance and  
Housing Code,'  
Article II,  
'Enforcement,'  
Section 74-38**

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2021-210

A general ordinance amending Springfield City Code Chapter 74, 'Nuisance and Housing Code,' Article II, 'Enforcement,' Section 74-38, 'Costs, assessments, and nuisance-abatement lien,' to enhance the effect of special tax bills issued under said chapter.

Council Bill 2021-210. General Ordinance 6681 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, and McClure. Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

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

**Amendments to  
the Springfield  
Land  
Development  
Code  
Acupuncturists**

Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-214.

A resolution initiating amendments to the Springfield Land Development Code, Article III, 'Zoning Regulations,' for the purpose of allowing acupuncturists as home occupations.

Brenden Griesemer, Acting Director of Planning and Development gave an overview of the proposed. He noted this bill would modify the home occupation section of the Springfield Land Development Code to add acupuncturist. He noted the proposed would initiate the amendment and start the process of adding this item to the zoning ordinance.

Mayor McClure asked if this profession is regulated by the State through the Professional Registration Division. Mr. Griesemer noted there is a board which oversees the acupuncture profession in the State. Mayor McClure asked if there are any other municipalities that allow practice of this profession in their home. Mr. Griesemer noted he is not aware at this time but the proposed would allow for additional research to be completed on this subject. Mayor McClure noted he would like to see additional information on where this occupation is commonly practiced.

Mayor McClure moved Council Bill 2021-214 be tabled until the September 7, 2021 City Council Meeting.

Council Bill 2021-214 was tabled with the following vote: Ayes: Simpson, Ollis, Hardinger, McGull, Schilling, and McClure. Nays: Romine, Hosmer, and Lear. Absent: None Abstain: None

**Brownfields Job Training Grant**

Sponsor: Hosmer. Council Bill 2021-215.

A resolution authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to apply for a United States Environmental Protection Agency 'FY 2022 Brownfields Job Training Grant' in the amount of \$200,000.

Sally Payne, Director of Workforce Development gave an overview of the proposed. She noted this bill is seeking approval to apply for a \$200,000 grant. She further noted this would be a three-year grant. She explained this would be the fourth round applying for this grant. Ms. Payne noted these jobs would have high starting rates and would provide training and certifications with employer support to those in the program.

Council Bill 2021-215. Resolution 10594 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, and McClure. Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**EMERGENCY BILLS**

**PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS**

**The following bills appeared on the agenda under Grants.**

**Airport Rescue Grant; American Rescue Plan Act; Springfield-Branson National Airport Board**

Sponsor: Hardinger. Council Bill 2021-216.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to apply for and accept an Airport Rescue Grant from the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, as part of the American Rescue Plan Act, to the City, by and through the Springfield-Branson National Airport Board in the amount of \$6,548,006, for the purpose of providing funds for the Springfield-Branson National Airport Board to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic; amending the budget of the Airport Board for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$6,548,006; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval in one reading.

Brian Weiler, Director of Aviation gave an overview of the proposed. He noted this bill would allow for the airport to use federal funding to deal with past and ongoing pandemic impacts to the aviation industry. He further noted these funds would be utilized to pay debt service on the terminals, employee salary and benefits costs, and to help offset a decline in revenue for the car rental, parking, and concessions areas. Mr. Weiler noted the airport is currently operating at 85% of pre- COVID-19 travel rates. He further noted the funds received would be utilized over the course of a few years.

Councilman Ollis complimented Mr. Weiler and his staff on the cleanliness of the airport facility.

Councilwoman Romine thanked Mr. Weiler for having a proposed plan with details for the utilization of these funds.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked how the process of the Envoy Aircraft Maintenance facility was proceeding. Mr. Weiler noted the project was progressing well and they have intentions of getting this completed by the end of the year.

Council Bill 2021-216. Special Ordinance 27556 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Ollis, Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, and McClure. Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**BUILD  
Transportation  
Grants Program**

Sponsor: Simpson. Council Bill 2021-217.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Grant Agreement Under the Fiscal Year 2019 BUILD Transportation Grants Program with the United States Department of Transportation and the Missouri Department of Transportation for the purpose of funding the Grant Avenue Parkway project; and declaring that this bill qualifies for approval in one reading.

Dan Smith, Director of Public Works gave an overview of the proposed. He noted this agreement would allow MoDOT to receive the BUILD Transportation Grant. He noted these funds would go towards the design, construction and other cost associated with this project. He further noted this authorization would allow the funds to be designated before the deadline in September per the grant application.

Council Bill 2021-217. Special Ordinance 27557 was approved with the following vote: Ayes: Lear, Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, and McClure. Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**AMENDED BILLS**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

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

**Amend the Sewer  
Billing  
Memorandum**

Sponsor: Lear. Council Bill 2021-218.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to amend the Sewer Billing Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Springfield and City Utilities which sets forth the sewer billing services and rates provided by City Utilities to the Department of Environmental Services.

Ron Petering, Assistant Director of Environmental Services gave an overview of the proposed. He noted the purpose of this council bill is to update the reimbursement agreement between the City of Springfield and City Utilities. Mr. Petering explained Environmental Services partners with City Utilities for billing and collection services due to Springfield's largely used sewer system. He further explained how these costs are determined and the process to evaluate the shared cost between the City and City

Utilities. He noted per the original agreement, the terms and conditions would be reevaluated every five years and this bill would satisfy those terms.

Councilman Lear asked if these costs would be paid by the consumer or if the City would absorb these costs. Mr. Petering noted it would be added to the sewer rates once it was reevaluated and both parties agreed.

Mayor McClure noted the cost would be added to the sewer rate established by Council. He further noted the sewer rates are set after the first three months of water usage of the year.

Councilwoman Romine asked if this rate would increase every year. Mr. Petering noted this rate, when approved, would be in place until another cost analysis is completed in five years.

**428 North  
Jefferson Ave;  
Renew Jordan  
Creek Phase II  
project**

Sponsor: Romine. Council Bill 2021-219.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a contract for the purchase of land generally located at 428 North Jefferson Avenue as part of the Renew Jordan Creek Phase II project; and to execute all necessary documents in support thereof. (Staff recommends approval.)

Chris Dunnaway, Principal Engineer gave an overview of the proposed. He noted this bill is to secure another property for the second phase of the renew Jordan Creek Project. He noted the project would be funded by the Capital Improvement Sales Tax with funds budgeted for the storm water program. He further noted this a small property that is critical to the progress of the Jordan Creek Project.

Councilman Hosmer asked where the location of the creek was in relationship to this property. Mr. Dunnaway utilized a power point presentation to illustrate the location of the creek in relation to the proposed property. He explained the area would need to be acquired from the Railroad.

**Blevins Asphalt  
Construction  
Company**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-220.

A special ordinance approving the plans and specifications for Major Street Resurfacing of Arterial Roadways in Springfield; accepting the bid of Blevins Asphalt Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$2,979,698.20, 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 gave an overview of the proposed. He noted this is a major resurfacing bill to redo Battlefield Road, Sunshine Street, and National Avenue. He explained the damage to these major roads are due to the weather conditions from this past winter. He noted this project would start this year with Sunshine Rd. He further noted once complete, Battlefield Road and National Avenue would be the next project. He noted the department has received four bids for this project and chose Blevins Asphalt which was under the estimate. He noted this would

utilize federal funds to cover 80% of the cost of paving. He further noted the additional funding would come from the Capital Improvement Sales Tax.

**Employment Agreement; Jason A. Gage**

Sponsor: McClure. Council Bill 2021-221.

A special ordinance adopting and authorizing the Mayor to execute the Second Amendment to an Employment Agreement by and between the City of Springfield, Missouri, and Jason A. Gage; and authorizing payment of salary and benefits to Jason A. Gage in accordance with the provisions set forth therein.

Darla Morrison, Director of Human Resources gave an overview of the proposed. She noted this bill is adopting the second amendment to the employment agreement between the City of Springfield and the City Manager, Jason Gage.

**Memorandum of Understanding with Ozark Technical Community College**

Sponsor: Ollis. Council Bill 2021-222.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Ozarks Technical Community College regarding the reporting and investigation of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking incidents on Ozarks Technical Community College campus or involving Ozarks Technical Community College faculty, students, staff, or visitors.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson recused himself and exited chambers.

Jason Gage, City Manager gave an overview of the proposed. He noted this bill is to ensure there is accurate reporting and investigations pertaining to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking incidents on Ozarks Technical Community College campus. He noted for security OTC employs officers on campus and they have a commissioned law enforcement officers under contract to provide uniform law enforcement presence.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson returned to the dais.

**The following items appeared on the agenda under Petitions, Remonstrances, and Communications.**

**Did Not Appear**

Cedric Smith did not appear to address City Council.

**Appeared**

Stephen Sexton address the issues of homelessness. He expressed his thoughts about the squatters in various neighborhoods. He addressed the business model utilized in homeless shelters and how they should be 24 hours facilities.

Councilman Ollis asked if the Letter of Enforcement homeowners sign working or not working to assist with issues posed by homeless trespassing. Mr. Sexton noted this procedure was presented to the neighborhood board. He noted the City is utilizing resources to clean areas that are frequented by the homeless. He further noted when the letter is presented in these situations, it may clear the area briefly, but these individuals still have no place to go once they are removed from a property.

Councilman Ollis asked for clarification about the process of removing trespassers from an area. Jason Gage, City Manager noted a citation would be the first step in addressing the situation. He noted this is an issue through other communities and the Council will have a chance to discuss this issue further with Community Partnership of the Ozarks.

Councilman McGull noted speaking with different constituents. He expressed this is an ongoing issue which needs to be addressed with a viable solution.

Councilwoman Romine expressed her concerns about areas that have parks. She noted not much can be done in those areas because they are public property. She expressed it is nice to see others noticing the hardships homelessness has caused in the community.

Councilwoman Hardinger thanked Mr. Sexton for coming to speak to the Council. She expressed her opinion about the system that is currently in place to address the homeless. She acknowledged an action-oriented plan needs to be created to combat these concerns in a meaningful way.

Councilman Hosmer asked what the process is regarding police intervention of homelessness. Jason Gage, City Manager noted policy and procedures are reviewed on a case-by-case situation.

**Appeared**

Justin Burnett thanked the Council for their hard work. He noted the mistreatment of the Council and the importance for the community to stand together. He thanked the numerous entities working to combat COVID-19.

**Appeared**

Janice Thompson Gehrke addressed the Council. She noted Councilmembers have a thankless job. She expressed the need for the community to support the Council for their work to keep citizens safe and healthy.

**Appeared**

Eric Pauly spoke in support of the Council. He noted how the Council has shown professionalism, dignity, and civility when addressing tough situations. He further noted his appreciation for everything the Council has done.

**Appeared**

Lisa Meeks spoke about masks and vaccines. She expressed her opinions about COVID-19 mirroring events from history and how she feels this needs to change.

**Appeared**

Christopher Key spoke about masking and vaccines. He explained his experience as a father and why he does not agree with mandatory vaccinations. He expressed the importance of researching the things one puts into their body.

Councilman Hosmer asked clarifying questions to Mr. Key about his history and what lead him to Springfield. Mr. Key noted he travels to express his opposition for vaccines and masks.

Mayor Pro Tem Simpson asked about Mr. Keys address. Anita Cotter, City Clerk noted Mr. Key and speaker Lisa Meeks had the same address listed on their comment

cards. Ms. Meeks expressed she assisted Mr. Key with filling out the information to speak with council utilizing her own address due to Mr. Key not having one to provide. She further expressed she is not affiliated with Mr. Key.

**Did Not Appear** Nancy Allen did not appear to address the City Council.

**Appeared** Brittany Hartzell about vaccinations. She expressed her opinion on the spread of misinformation about COVID-19 and her beliefs if the vaccine was to become mandated.

**Appeared** Meike Aton spoke about her stance of prochoice. She gave oversight into her family history. She expressed the importance of not dividing communities based on person health choices.

**Did Not Appear** Tyler Drenon did not appear to address City Council.

**Appeared** Heather Dietz expressed her displeasure of the use of taxpayer money regarding COVID-19. She spoke about the propaganda she has encountered in local and social media.

**Did Not Appear** Adrienne Baukus did not appear to address City Council.

**The following item appeared on the agenda under New Business.**

**Records Destruction** 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**

**The following bill appeared on the agenda under Consent Agenda First Reading Bills.**

**Joint Funding Agreement; Streamgages** Sponsor: McGull. Council Bill 2021-223.

A special ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to enter into a Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Department of the Interior for the purpose of operating and maintaining four streamgages.

## **CONSENT AGENDA ONE READING BILLS**

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

**Preliminary Plat of Cresthaven Park** Sponsor: Romine. Council Bill 2021-211.

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 Cresthaven Park, generally located at 3221 West Kearney 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.)

**Preliminary Plat of Springfield Plaza Phase 4** Sponsor: Schilling. Council Bill 2021-212.

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 Springfield Plaza Phase 4, generally located at 3900 West Sunshine 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.)

**Confirmed** Confirm the following appointment to the Springfield- Greene County Public Library Board: Christopher Bozarth, with term to expire July 01, 2022.

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA.**

**Motion to Adjourn** Councilwoman Romine moved to Adjourn. Councilman Lear seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote.  
Ayes. Hardinger, Romine, McGull, Schilling, Simpson, Hosmer, Ollis, Lear, and McClure. Nays. None. Absent. None. Abstain. None. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Prepared by  
Lauren M. Fischer

  
Anita J. Cotter, EMC/MRCC  
City Clerk