

## City of Springdale Council

April 3, 2024

President of Council Anderson called Council to order on April 3, 2024.

The governmental body and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Browder took roll call. Council members Anderson, Gleaves, Jacobs, McFarland, Sullivan-Wisecup, Vanover, Webster were present.

The minutes of the March 6, 2024 meeting were considered. Mr. Jacobs made a motion to accept the minutes; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: On the March 6<sup>th</sup>, towards the end, it's like the second to last page, where Mrs. Messer came to talk. It says, "Carol Messer", and her name is Kara. That's the only correction that I saw.

President Anderson: I think we'd count that as a scrivener's error. I don't think we need to vote on that. I do know that it's Kara. Any other questions or discussion for the March 6<sup>th</sup> minutes? Alright, seeing none, all those in favor of approving the minutes with the one typo, signify by saying, "Aye". Opposed? (None) Abstentions (None).

The March 6<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved with seven affirmative votes.

The minutes of the March 20, 2024 meeting were considered. Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to accept the minutes; Mrs. Webster seconded.

The March 20, 2024 minutes were approved with seven affirmative votes.

### Proclamation – National Public Health Week

President Anderson: Next on the agenda, we have a proclamation from Mayor Hawkins for National Public Health Week.

Mayor Hawkins read the proclamation for National Public Health Week which occurred from April 1<sup>st</sup> through April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in the City of Springdale. Mayor Hawkins presented the proclamation to City of Springdale Health Commissioner Mr. Matthew Clayton. (Applause)

Mr. Clayton: Thank you Mayor Hawkins. I'd like to thank members of Council for the opportunity to be here tonight, and also for your support. Thanks to City Administration also for continued support of the Health Department. I'm proud to receive the proclamation on behalf of the outstanding Public Health professionals in our Department. And, since I'm here, I'd like to also share some good news. Anyone who has talked to me for a few minutes knows that I love to get grants for the City, and, today I was advised that the City of Springdale will also receive a grant from the Ohio EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) for 2024; the Mosquito Control Grant. We asked for \$22,500, but I anticipate that we'll receive somewhere in the range of \$20,000 to \$25,000 dollars in additional grant funds. While, I'm here, I just wanted to share that good news. Again, thank you so much. We really appreciate the continued support of our City, and of our Elected Officials.

Mayor Hawkins: Thank you.

President Anderson: Now, is that the first Mayoral proclamation from your Administration? I didn't know if you realized how significant this was.

Mayor Hawkins: I appreciate it. We've done a couple, but this first one I got to do in front of Council, so, I appreciate that. It's a red-letter day.

President Anderson: Thanks Matt.

Communications

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None

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### Communications from the Audience

Mr. Miller: Thank you. My name is Jim Miller. I live at 535 Ray Norrish with my beautiful wife, Cindy. I spoke at the last meeting about chickens, and I want to take a little bit different angle on that today, and it ties in to Mayor Hawkins and the Proclamation of Health for Springdale. I'm going to start with talking about methane. Methane is like CO<sub>2</sub>, it's a greenhouse gas. It's actually 80% more toxic than CO<sub>2</sub>, or, it retains heat within the atmosphere 80 times as much as CO<sub>2</sub>. And, I'm not against really CO<sub>2</sub>, per se, it's carbon, two oxygen. Plants take it in, produce fruit, and they return the oxygen. Now, too much is bad, but, CO<sub>2</sub>, we all breathe, we all exhale. It's a perfectly natural process. With methane, it's different. It's a petroleum type gas. And, when it gets into the atmosphere, it does cause considerable harm. It's odorless, it's colorless, and, you can be affected in your health by it; either if you're exposed to it too long, or in too great a concentration. Interestingly enough, landfills are the third largest contributor to methane gas emissions. And, ten miles down the road is the number one largest landfill emitter of methane, which is "Mt. Rumpke". So, it's right in our backyard. You can't smell it, but, you can get lightheaded, nauseous, and have acute respiratory issues by inhaling too much methane. I put up on the website, I'm going to go through quite a few facts here as fast as I can. I added a link to Springcoop.com to detail these studies. Composting food scraps. So, the reason that there's so much methane that's emitted from these landfills is that people take food scraps and they put it into plastic trash bags, and Rumpke picks it up, and puts it inside of the landfill. From that point, you have this anaerobic breakdown which is what creates a methane gas. It's a lack of oxygen for all these food scraps; it creates this problem. Now, I'm going to connect it to chickens. If you feed your food scraps to chicken, it's exposed to oxygen, and, in fact, it gives you very good compost, excellent soil to plant for food. You're chickens will eat most of your food scraps. They'll eat any bugs that are drawn, and they automatically, because they peck and scratch, will work the soil. You don't need to use plastic bags. It reduces the smell from your garbage cans, and Rumpke will require fewer round trips from picking up food and taking it to the dump. In fact, that would be less traffic on (Interstate) 275, and, eventually, a cost savings for the City of Springdale for the cost of Rumpke to pick up all the trash. So, the City, or sorry, they did a chicken experiment in Limburg, Belgium. This is in 2009, and they gave three chickens to two thousand families who opted into the program. And, the program was simply to use the chickens, subsidized by the province in Belgium, feed those chickens your food scraps, and then, of course, enjoy the eggs, but, cut down on the waste that they send to the landfill. The link is on the website Springcoop.com. They reduced in the first month 100 tons of food scraps of organic waste put into the dump through this program. It was wildly successful, and has expanded from that point. Thank you.

President Anderson: Thank you Mr. Miller. I don't see any questions.

Ms. Messer: Kara Messer, 12182 Springdale Lake Drive. Thanks everyone for being here. I just really appreciate you all. These meetings are informative, and kind of fun. I really like my neighbors and community members. I want to say that I am seeing so many positive things zooming around Springdale as I go about my day that I really struggle to find something negative to talk about. But, I think I picked one. The weather. I'm a little overwhelmed by the weather. But, I will say today is National Walking Day, and the Community Center did an outstanding job. I was celebrating that. We had participants from the elementary school. We had old and young showing up, walking indoor and outdoor. We even had some runners, and, it was fantastic. Also, I'd like to mention that April is National Autism Awareness Month, and I think we have a school or, somebody can correct me. I'm sure somebody knows this. But, in Springdale, we have I think a school for to support families and individuals with autism, so, I think that's to be acknowledged and accolated. And, I think that's all I have for today, so I don't really have any questions. I'm just really grateful for all that is happening in our lovely City. So, thank you.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Thank you Ms. Messer for coming out. My dad actually participated today. He walked three miles. My dad walks a mile every day, but, three miles today for the National Walking Day. I think it's a great idea, and the Community Center did an awesome job. The Autism Center, it's the Cincinnati Autism Center, and, as a center, they have accredited classes, but, they're only going to be here until the summer, and then they're going to be moving out of Springdale, but, yes, they've been here for several years, but, yes, they're

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Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup (continued): expanding. It's a good thing. They're expanding and we're very excited for whatever they're going to be doing next, but yes we do have an autism center here, and I do have family members that have autism; on the autism spectrum, so, thanks for mentioning that.

Ms. Messer: Yes. Thank you so much for that updated information.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Oh yes. I just wanted to make sure that you knew. Yes.

Ms. Messer: Thank you. I appreciate it. Also, I have one other thing if it's okay. What about those Reds? There was a walk-off homer like the other day. It was so cool. So, anyhow, thanks.

President Anderson: You still have more comments. You've generated discussion.

Mayor Hawkins: Just briefly. Ms. Messer, appreciate the comments, in particular with regard to National Walking Day, and, I just wanted to say Elizabeth Johnson was the spearhead for all that, and, she did an excellent job and was giving out stickers and snacks and water to the residents and the kids that came down. I think they had a couple of different droves of kids coming down and from the elementary school they stayed busy, and I think their goal was 500 miles, and I was down there around maybe 1:00 p.m. or so, and that was well in sight if they hadn't already gotten there.

Ms. Messer: I did get an email from Elizabeth and she said the goal was well exceeded, and I think that email was before she left, so, I think it goes until 9:00 p.m., so, if anybody is feeling "froggy", it would be a great idea to go for a walk.

Mayor Hawkins: Thank you.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you Ms. Messer for coming down. But, to piggyback on what Mayor Hawkins said. My wife and I participated. We walked and ran three miles today, and Ms. Johnson does a fantastic job, so kudos to her. She had a couple of billboards up where you can put in your miles sticker, and I think the goal was 500 miles that they were trying to do, and, I'm sure with the kids coming down, we left before they got there, but, I'm sure that they got more than they needed. And, the kids I understand were really fired up to get there. Thanks for bringing that up. Thanks a lot. It was a good event.

### Public Hearing – Community Development Block Grant Projects

Mr. Uhl: Just by way of background, the Community Development Block Grant applications that Council will be considering will be for the 2024, 2025, and 2026 program years. Two public hearings will be conducted; one this evening, and the second one on April 17<sup>th</sup> at our next Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. as well. The Community Development Block Grant Program is administered by the Community Development Department of Hamilton County, Ohio. It will make funds available to eligible local governments for housing, economic development, public facilities, public infrastructure, and planning activities with the principal purpose of benefitting low to moderate income persons. Comments on the CDBG program or proposed projects will be received at this time during both hearings. As mentioned, the second hearing will be on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 during our Council meeting. The hearings are conducted pursuant to 24CRF 570.486, and in compliance with the requirements of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended. Written comments may be submitted at the Springdale Municipal Building at 11700 Springfield Pike, or via email at [admin@springdale.org](mailto:admin@springdale.org), and we will accept those until April 22<sup>nd</sup>. If special accommodations are needed for persons with disabilities, those with hearing impairments, or those in need of translation from English, those individuals should contact the Administrative offices at (513) 346-5700, or email us at [admin@springdale.org](mailto:admin@springdale.org) at least one week in advance of the hearing so that we can make any other arrangements. Just by way of background from our prior years for the cycle of 2021, 2022, and 2023, we were successful in obtaining \$45,000 worth of monies dedicated to the Home Improvement Repair Program, so \$15,000 per year. We were able to replace two bus shelters at a cost of \$26,000 combined, and, we also made some LED lighting improvements at our Veterans' Memorial for \$22,000. So, those are what we applied for and received last cycle. We do have several different projects that our Department Directors are currently working on obtaining some additional information. One of those is a Heritage Hill

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Mr. Uhl (continued): Sidewalk Improvement to repair any sidewalk issues. ADD curb ramps on Kemper Road, new bus shelter installation along Kemper Road, tree planting along State Route Four, parking lot maintenance, and a bus stop garbage can replacement in several areas, and our Community Center also has a project in mind to do some renovations to the current senior area. So, those are some of the items being kicked around currently, but, we'll have a more itemized list to present to Council before your next meeting for review.

President Anderson: And, as I understand it, we need to have two public hearings. So, at this point, I will open the floor for a public hearing related to Community Development Block Grants Projects so, if anyone in the audience would like to speak on that matter, this is your opportunity. It would be the same as in Communications from the Audience, except without the timer, and the topic should be limited in this case to information related to Community Development Block Grants; potential projects or questions about that. The floor is open for anyone who would like to discuss that. Second call. Third and final call. At this point, I'm closing the Public Hearing related to Community Development Block Grants projects, and, as Mr. Uhl mentioned, we will have another public hearing at our next meeting on the same topic. And, at that point, Council will have an opportunity to see some of the projects that are being proposed and it's like we discussed earlier, so, you'll have some more information, but, in the meanwhile, if you have ideas, this is a chance for you to do that.

### Ordinances and Resolutions

#### Ordinance No. 13-2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT STATE ENERGY PROGRAM ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM FOR OHIO COMMUNITIES

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 13-2024; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Ordinance 13-2024 passes with seven affirmative votes.

#### Ordinance No. 14-2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT STATE ENERGY PROGRAM ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM FOR OHIO COMMUNITIES

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 14-2024; Mr. Vanover seconded.

Ordinance No. 14-2024 passes with seven affirmative votes.

#### Ordinance No. 15-2024

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN CITY PROPERTY AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE, DISPOSAL, OR TRANSFER OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 15-2024; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Mr. Jones: I'd just like to thank Nicole Browder for her work in working with our Department Heads in getting this list compiled and being able to move these things along, whether it be recycled, donated, or sold. We appreciate her work on that. Thank you.

President Anderson: Is she available for other spring cleaning? I know my house is quite busy as well.

Ordinance No. 15-2024 passes with seven affirmative votes.

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### Ordinance No. 17-2024

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY ASSOCIATED WITH THE NORTHLAND BOULEVARD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 17-2024; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Mr. Braun: I just wanted to point out this is the last parcel of property that's needed to complete the puzzle that ultimately will be the Northland Boulevard Improvement Project, and, we had a lot of cooperation with a lot of businesses to reach this agreement. And, I would particularly like to thank Mr. (Jeff) Agricola and his office for all the work that they did on getting it to me so that we could get the legal documents drafted, and, now get it to you. Thank you.

President Anderson: Thank you for that. You guys made it look easy, but I know a lot of work went on to make this happen, especially with all the right-of-ways that had to be adjusted. This was a dozen right-of-way parcels. So, we appreciate that.

Ordinance No. 17-2024 passes with seven affirmative votes.

### Executive Session – Economic Development

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I would like to make a motion to go into Executive Session according to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G) under article 2(D)(1) of the Springdale Charter to discuss Economic Development issues.

Mr. Vanover: Second.

President Anderson: Discussion? (None) Administration, are we expecting any action out of this? No? Okay.

Motion to go into Executive Session according to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G) under article 2(D)(1) of the Springdale Charter to discuss Economic Development issues passes with seven affirmative votes. Council departed chambers at 7:31 p.m. Council returned to chambers at 8:17 p.m.

### Old Business – Litter Discussion

President Anderson: Alright, Council has returned from Executive Session. Next, we'll move on to old business. We have one item of old business on our agenda. There was a litter discussion that was brought up at our last meeting. There was some discussion of if Council wanted to think about or start the process to maybe update the litter laws. I know Administration has taken some action in the meanwhile. I don't know if you wanted to start with that, and, then see where discussion leads us.

Mayor Hawkins: And Mr. (John) Jones and Mr. (Brian) Uhl can add to this, from the first time this came up, a couple of meetings ago, Administration immediately talked to Public Works and had them going out checking out the specific areas that people had referenced, residents had referenced, members of Council had referenced, and, also since our last meeting, there was the adjustment on our portable electronic sign where folks have been by there I'm sure you've seen the "Don't Litter" on there as well. There's been some discussion that we had last time that if Council finds it to be appropriate, obviously, it could increase the penalty with regard to what the law is now. But, that's something for folks to consider if they think that's necessary. If they want to sit and sort of see how things go. But, I did want to make sure that folks were aware that administratively these things had been talked about and addressed, and, I believe law enforcement has been talked about this as well that as these things come up, make sure that those get cited, and that we're not giving warnings, but, we're actually giving folks tickets.

President Anderson: I know at our last meeting, Administration mentioned that they felt that they had the tools to address this right now. Do you still feel that's the case? You're not asking for more help?

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Mr. Jones: We do feel that we have those tools, and, adding on to what the Mayor was saying, I spoke with Carl Lamping today, our Building Official, one of our Property Maintenance folks. He personally spoke with management, for example, at Hooters, and, he then he has visited twice in the last week. And, he was very pleased with the progress and he said on his second visit, he did not see a single piece of trash there. And, he's also keeping a close eye on the apartment complexes as well. Just really trying to increase some of that observation that he can pick up on himself and he feels very comfortable that he can keep a good eye on it.

President Anderson: I appreciate that.

Mayor Hawkins: Just one last thing; you know, you can't control other people, and, a lot of times as I have referenced, the things I see on Sharon Road in the morning, on Saturday and Sunday morning, or on Kenn Road on Saturday and Sunday morning, you wake up and someone has driven down through there and just thrown trash out there in the darkness of the night. You rarely see it actually happening when it goes on. I was taking my son, this is probably two weeks ago or so downtown to an FC Cincinnati game, and it's probably still 4:00 on a Saturday, and as we're getting off of Sharon in Sharonville on to (Interstate) 75 south, brazenly, broad daylight, a car going, they had no plates, I'm assuming they're out of state, but they had no plates on the back of their vehicle throws one bag out as they go up the on ramp, and as they go a little further, they throw another bag out. Just brazenly, and it's infuriating when those things are happening, but, you see how people just don't care and have complete disregard for that community and, you know, what they have to do and now someone from Sharonville has to go and clean that up, and it's infuriating. But, I just wanted to note that as well.

Mr. Gleaves: I'd like to personally thank the Administration, Mr. Jones, Mr. Uhl, and Building Department, Public Works, a lot of people have reached out to me and said that they've seen a difference. The electronic sign is fantastic. Thank you again. A question was brought to me and I think I need to bring this to Administration. Do we have "Adopt a Highway" through Springdale?

President Anderson: No, I think ODOT (Ohio Department of Transportation) manages "Adopt a Highway". I know in the past we've had cases where community service or the Sheriff's Department has brought people out to areas in Springdale. I know they've been on Route Four, and that's been through various corrections bureaus too that have done cleanups, but, I think ODOT manages that.

Mayor Hawkins: And, along those lines, we have Springdale Nazarene had reached out in terms of doing a community project, and they've been doing this with Mayor Webster over a number of years. I think it's April 20<sup>th</sup>, if I'm not mistaken. But, one thing that we had suggested is as they're asking for different things was some cleanup particularly on the off ramp area right over here. And, the red tape to go through that with ODOT is rather arduous, so, it's not just simply, "Hey, look. You guys go out there and go clean this up" or "You've got permission to go do that." You have to go through all kinds of things with ODOT. So, while that property is here, it's not controlled by us.

President Anderson: Any other discussion on the litter item? Well, it sounds like there's consensus that we'll appreciate the work that's been done, and leave it at that, unless there's anyone that thinks I'm misstating.

Mr. Vanover: Well, you can add Heritage Hill while you're checking. Because usually Sunday morning after the Saturday night get-togethers, brazen is a lightly taken term. You'll have entire 12 packs, 24 packs just conveniently sitting down on the curb. Now, the good news is trash day is Monday, so you don't have to look at that, but, I've said it before. Until people change their heart, their attitude, speeding. Come over to my backyard, especially now with the warm weather, and listen to the crotch rockets, the rice burners, the jake braking blows up the sound barrier back there, and I sit probably 100 to 150 feet down below the level of (Interstate) 275. My wife will say, "Oh, call somebody." By the time I call and they get there, they're on Colerain Avenue or better. So, yes, it's infuriating. I, well, several years ago, had taken the kids to school, there was a contractor driving through, and, he got caught by a school bus, and chucked his McDonald's bag out the window. I politely went right behind him and got it, and handed it back to him, and proceeded to follow him through the neighborhood for about another

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Mr. Vanover (continued): 45 minutes, and of course, as karma would have it, he was working at a house that was a friend of mine's. Let's just say he was formerly working at a house of a friend of mine's. But, yes, it is. Wherever I go, if I wouldn't do it in my front yard, why would I do it in somebody else's front yard. But, people have to adapt a new attitude, and well, if we can get back and get away from these god-forsaken plastic grocery bags, they're the bane of litter because they're in trees 60 to 70 feet up in the air. So, whoever thought that idea up, many years ago, I would like to have about five minutes alone with them. But, yes, the only alternative that we have is to hit them in the pocketbook. And, if this continued effort doesn't work, then I say well, let's start having them write checks. Thank you.

### New Business – Summer Meeting Schedule

President Anderson: We have one item on the agenda to begin with which is the summer meeting schedule.

Mayor Hawkins: Council, the City Administration is recommending that we go on summer session with regard to forgoing the first meetings in July and August, which would be July 3<sup>rd</sup>, and August 7<sup>th</sup>. We would still have the meeting for July 17<sup>th</sup>, and August 21<sup>st</sup>. Obviously, it's Council's choice, but, in terms of administratively looking at things that are projected, we think it would be fine and appropriate and, obviously, if something comes up where we had an emergency and we needed to meet, we'd ask and notify if Council would convene. So, whatever Council's pleasure is.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I am in favor of the summer meeting schedule.

Mr. Gleaves: I am definitely in favor of the summer schedule.

Ms. McFarland: Sorry, does this, this only applies to Council meetings, correct? Is it up to each individual commission or committee to change their schedules as well?

President Anderson: So, it depends. And, I'll refer to Mr. Braun for part of this question, but, I believe the committees can make their own schedule, but, some are required to have meetings available depending on what it is. So, each board has its own rules. We're only talking about Council's rules tonight. And, we have, under the Charter, we're required to have one meeting a month. The second meeting is something that we've done just because we're busy. Is there anything you'd want to add to that Mr. Braun or do I have that right? Great. I don't believe we need any sort of motion or action for this, I can just cancel the meetings. So, let's assume, unless anybody objects, this would be your chance, otherwise, let's go ahead and plan on moving to our summer schedule as we have in past years, which would cancel the July 3<sup>rd</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, which is the first, so we'll have our full meeting as usual at the second meeting that is regularly scheduled. And, again, if something comes up, we can meet. We'll set those and get it done. So, this doesn't mean we won't get business done if we don't need to, but it seems like we're in good shape for that.

### Meetings and Announcements

Mr. Vanover: We are getting the Rental Committee back together right now, tentatively for April 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. I've checked with the Administration, and they're good. So, if Mr. Anderson and Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup advise me otherwise, then we'll go with it.

Mr. Uhl: Civil Service Commission will meet tomorrow, Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission April meeting has been cancelled.

Ms. McFarland: Board of Health will meet next Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., and we will have an announcement, probably coming tomorrow, for our first Urban Farming Special Committee meeting. It is currently on the website for tomorrow, but, that date was not going to work out, so, we'll have that announced in the next few days on the website.

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Mr. Gleaves: The Board of Zoning Appeals met March 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. We had a training session that was conducted by Mr. Braun, and Mr. Dale. During that period, we had the elections. Motions were made for Tom Hall to become the BZA Chairman; that motion was passed 7-0. Motion was made for Steve Galster to be BZA Vice Chairman; that motion passed 7-0. Motion was also made for Michelle Gilmore to be Secretary; that motion passed 7-0. And then, all were sworn in, and we conducted our meeting.

President Anderson: I'm sorry, Mr. Gleaves, we're in Meetings and Announcements. We'll do the full committee reports at the next meeting. You're certainly welcome to share what happened at the Board of Zoning Appeals, but, we'll do the committee reports at our next meeting.

Mr. Gleaves: Okay, well I won't be here next meeting.

President Anderson: Oh, that's fine.

Mr. Gleaves: So, it is okay?

President Anderson: You can continue. That's fine. I just wanted to make sure you knew we normally do those at the second meeting.

Mr. Gleaves: I just wanted to get this out of the way. I won't be here next meeting.

President Anderson: Okay.

Mr. Gleaves: Thank you. But, I just wanted everybody to know also Application # 20230858, property address 329 Cameron Road. There was a requested variance. The property owner, Ronald and Shelly Darnell requested a variance to keep five chickens on their property until the natural death, in violation of Zoning Code Section 153.252(F)(6)(c)(i) where the "*Husbandry of fowl may be raised or kept for resident owner's use on a lot not less than three acres of area.*" And, in violation of Zoning Code Section 153.252(F)(6)(c)(ii) which requires "*not less than 100 feet from adjacent residential lot.*" In summary, this place was packed. The applicant spoke and raised very valid points about the benefits of how well they take care of their chickens, and there were seven to eight neighbors that spoke in favor of chickens. Two of the neighbors spoke about how they care for the chickens while the applicants aren't home. Now, no one stated that they wanted chickens. Everybody stated that they wanted the applicants to keep their chickens. And, it was made quite clear by Councilman Jacobs and myself, Councilman Gleaves, that this issue has come before Council, and a committee has been formed to look into the ordinance. So, after all had been said and done, the BZA decided to table this application for two months to give the Committee time to do their work. This was passed 6-1. Our next scheduled BZA meeting is April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Are there any questions?

President Anderson: Any other meetings and announcements? And, if this is a question about BZA, the one thing I will say though, just so everyone is prepared, since we weren't ready for Committee reports tonight, it's likely that we'll also have an update at our regular meeting when we do Committee reports. And, the other Councilmember that's at that meeting can give the report if you're absent. So, obviously, we can have the discussion if we need to, but, I do want to limit it as much as possible tonight since it will come up again next month, and, I think it will be on the agenda, and, probably more appropriate then. Mayor Hawkins did you want to add something to that tonight?

Mayor Hawkins: I don't want to address the pending matter before BZA at this time. I had something else separate.

President Anderson: Please.



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Mayor Hawkins: So, I did want to, we've already sung kudos of Elizabeth Johnson at the Recreation Center, but I just wanted to say being down there today, in case folks hadn't noticed this, this is the first time I'd seen this in the weight room, but, she now has up one rep max for different activities, and, so, the idea is you go down, if you top whatever the person is in their weight up there, then you can dry erase them, and you can put yours up with your weight. So, my back is going to be a little bit sore because I was trying to do some things that I probably haven't done for about 15 years, but, just in case those want to see their names up on the board up in the weight room, you can go down there and check that out and see what you can do. Men and women, variety of different activities. And, I think she's going to change them on a monthly basis to give people the opportunity to do different things. Thank you.

President Anderson: Are you challenging someone specifically on Council? You're giving me the eye.

Mayor Hawkins: You know I looked at you a lot during the course of that conversation, but no, I think anybody can go down there and see what you can do.

Mr. Gleaves: You keep looking at me. I see you.

President Anderson: Any other meetings or announcements, or, personal challenges related to the weight room? (laughter)

Communications from the Audience - None

Recap of Legislative Items

Mr. Jacobs: As you review your Internal Memorandum, Item Number I was addressed with Ordinance No. 13-2024 and Ordinance No. 14-2024; Two Separate Ordinances Authorizing the Execution of Grant Agreements with the State of Ohio Department of Development for Participation in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act State Energy Efficiency Program for Ohio Communities. Both passed with seven affirmative votes. Item Number II was addressed with Ordinance No. 15-2024; An Ordinance Declaring Certain City Property as Surplus Property and Authorizing the Sale, Disposal, or Transfer of Surplus Property. That passed with seven affirmative votes. Item Number III was addressed with Ordinance No. 17-2024; An Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of Certain Real Property Associated with the Northland Boulevard Reconstruction Project and Declaring an Emergency. That passed with seven affirmative votes.

Legislation in Development

Mr. Jacobs: Item Number IV is forthcoming. That will be A Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator to File an Application with the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) for Transit Infrastructure Funds. That will be before Council on the 17<sup>th</sup>. And, also on the 17<sup>th</sup>, we'll have a second public hearing for Community Development Block Grant Projects money unless there's anything else from Administration.

Adjournment

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adjourn and Council Adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Browder

Minutes Approved:  
Jeffrey Anderson, President of Council

\_\_\_\_\_, 2024