

City of Springdale Council

January 4, 2023

President of Council Vanover called Council to order on January 4, 2023.

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

Mrs. McNear provided the Invocation.

Mrs. McNear took roll call. Council members Anderson, Ghantous, Hawkins, Jacobs, Ramirez, Sullivan-Wisecup, and Vanover were present.

The minutes of the December 7, 2022 meeting were considered. Mrs. Ghantous made a motion to accept the minutes; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded. The minutes were approved with seven affirmative votes.

Communications - None

Introduction of New Employees - Tax and Finance Departments

Mr. Williams: Hello. How's everybody doing tonight? I'm going to call up Rachel Stothfang. This is Rachel Stothfang. She is a graduate of Winton Woods High School. Currently working on a degree in Business Management and Strategic Leadership at Wilmington College. Rachel started with the City in April of 2021 as a seasonal employee in the Tax Department. We had a project that we needed done with business returns, and she jumped in and picked it up like it was second nature. When that project was complete, she went to work for the Health Department part-time and then in July of 2022, she started with the City full-time as an Account Clerk in the Finance Department, and caught on quick, and has done a great job. Rachel Stothfang (applause). Next is Jennifer "Katy" Taylor. Katy is a graduate of Fairfield High School. A graduate of Miami University of Oxford with a degree in Mathematics and History. Prior to starting with the City, Katy worked at the Lane Public Library where she trained new employees in her area. She also worked at Pacific Manufacturing as an Accounting Assistant. Katy started full time with the Tax Department as an Account Clerk over Resident Accounts in November, and she's done a great job. Katy is also a big Elvis fan. Jennifer Katy Taylor (applause). Next up is David Menker. David is a graduate of, and I'm going to botch this, David is a graduate of Chaminade Julianne High School in Dayton, graduate of the University of Phoenix with an MBA in Accounting. Prior to working at the City, David worked for H & R Block as a Tax Specialist and also worked for Abel Building Systems as an Operations Manager. David is active in the SAY Soccer Organization as a Coach, Referee, Referee Trainer, and Administrator. David started full-time with the Tax Department as an Account Clerk over delinquent accounts and Mayor's Court. Started in November. He's done a great job also. David Menker (applause).

Mayor Webster: I'd just like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new additions to the Tax and the Finance Department. I just have one question. Do you guys have a fight song or anything?

Mr. Williams: We're working on it.

Mayor Webster: You're working on it. Okay, alright. Welcome to the City of Springdale, all of you.

Communications from the Audience - None

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Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 01-2023

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION/ESTIMATED RECEIPTS
ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

Mr. Williams: Sorry to interrupt. I just wanted to let you guys know if you have any questions, I'm here to answer those. Also, I wanted to make you aware from the budget book, there is a change that is reflected in this ordinance, and, it's in the budget book, page 191. It's the Fire Insurance Proceeds Fund where \$12,000 for 2023 was originally appropriated. We changed that to what the fund balance was because the nature of this fund is that the money does belong to an outside agency, and they could come back and request the whole amount, so, we wanted to include the full fund balance at year end 2022 to reflect that. Thank you.

Mrs. Ghantous made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 01-2023; Mr. Hawkins seconded.

Ordinance No. 01-2023 passes with seven affirmative votes.

President Vanover: Next up is Ordinance No. 02-2023. It does include the emergency clause, but, as we had discussed prior, we will do two readings. There will be a public hearing at the next meeting which is the 18th of January before this is finally enacted.

Ordinance No. 02-2023

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING CHAPTER 139 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF
THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE, OHIO AND REGULATING THE ABATEMENT OF
CHRONIC PROPERTY NUISANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Hawkins: I know there's a lot of time and energy and discussion that went into this, and, obviously, I was not a part of that. But, the thing that I, and I think it encompasses a lot. The thing that I had a concern about was the language "near", and in the ordinance itself, and then as well in Exhibit A when we're talking about "*whereas this Council believes that Springdale Police Department should be authorized to include criminal activities occurring near a person's residence and considered against the owner of the residence under the Chronic Property Nuisance Ordinance, which would cover the right of way, street and homes located near the property where the person committing the criminal activity ..*" And then, in Exhibit A, "*The following activities occurring on, or near, residential or commercial property*". I've got a concern in terms of what we're drawing in, and if "near" is vague. It sounds like it's sort of getting defined a little bit in that "Whereas" that I just read, but, that's the only concern that I've got at this point regarding the document. I don't know if those that were involved in it have any comment or consideration. I understand the idea is probably trying to cast a wide enough net to deal with those issues, but, in theory, if, you know, somebody's having a party or doing something next to my house, I'm, in theory, based on this whereas, could be deemed to be in trouble for that in terms of talking about near would cover the right-of-way, street and homes located near the property. So, I don't know if that's casting too wide of a net, or if there's some other thoughts that folks had with regard to it. But, if it was my way, I'd probably try to strike the "near" language.

Mr. Braun: Like any good attorney, Mr. Hawkins honed right in on a word that we probably spent 35 to 40 minutes talking about in one meeting that we held. So, I appreciate the comment and I know the other three members of Council looked at me when you asked your question because we spent a significant amount of time analyzing it. The original language, I could go back, I brought all the different drafts that we had. I believe it was 300 foot within the original nuisance property, and we changed it to "near" purposely. Our reason for doing so was there was some examples given that began, and, I should also point out that these meetings were attended by the very people who will be enforcing it. And, I think that's significant. One of the members of the committee said, "How are you able to determine what's 300 foot from a building without pulling out a tape and measuring it?" That was one question that was raised. And then, it was decided that our Police Department is probably pretty good at determining distance because they have to do it for accident reconstruction,

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Mr. Braun (continued): however, there were other departments that may not have been as talented when it came to determining distance, and, the discussion then kind of turned to the thought that, "Maybe we don't need to put a distance on there, but we do need to leave some discretion and leave that to the enforcers, if you will to determine what 'near' is, and/or potentially the fact finder who is analyzing the alleged violation." The example that was given, and I think that really triggered the change from a specific number of feet to the word "near" because originally we were saying if you have someone that's engaging in drug activity outside of a commercial business, you could certainly capture them in that 300 foot net. However, the example that was given is if somebody, and I'll use the actual example we analyzed. If you have a hotel, for instance, where it is allowing people who are frequently using drugs to essentially use that as a location to engage in that activity, the instance it occurred was a convenience store that was further than 300 foot, found that individual in their car passed out. And, the answer was that is an extension of that nuisance activity that now is affecting a business that's beyond that 300 foot window, and, when the individual was confronted, they said, "Oh, I'm staying at this hotel." And, "Oh, everything is fine. I can get back." Maybe not be able to get back. And, so, then you have someone who is now stuck in a location with a car that needs to be towed, creating a new situation that is all kind of tied through that tentacle back to that nuisance property. So, the discussion was that we felt, and, again, if it's the pleasure of Council to change it and not give that discretion, that the enforcement would kind of drive what "near" was. And, that, and please, the three members of Council that were on the Committee feel free to chime in after I'm finished, but, I think that is kind of the evolution of how we went from 300 foot to the word "near". And, I appreciate the fact that you honed right in on that as I would have expected you to do because it is a lesser specific term, but I think there was some thought behind it. I would also remind this Council that this isn't an ordinance that's meant to be the first round of penalizing a business. By the time you are cited under this ordinance, you've already had multiple, and, in fact, if you look in the section that defines that in 139.02, sometimes as many as 30 prior violations. This meant to kind of cull those 30 violations in, and if you have something near that is a related activity, the Committee really felt that should count towards those 30 violations, and, in the instance of the individual who was using drugs, and those drugs, and/or their use of it was emanating from that nuisance property, they felt that should be something that is considered when calculating those numbers. So, that's kind of the evolution of "near".

Mr. Hawkins: And, I appreciate that. So, my concern is exactly what you guys had discussed in terms of who's going to be the one who's culpable for the situation. So, in the hotel versus the convenience store situation where someone is staying at the hotel, but they went to the convenience store, or the gas station, overdosed, or used drugs. Question becomes why isn't the convenience store or the gas station, where they actually went and did that, the one who is being held to the nuisance versus the hotel? The hotel, if it's happening on their property and they have to go and address it; that's one thing. Now, there's an onus for me, if I'm a business owner, to know what my invitee is doing someplace else, which becomes, I think, a little bit trickier. So, I mean, I agree the behavior is bad, and somebody needs to be culpable to manage that, but the question becomes where that goes. The only other suggestion I have is maybe its language like "*adjacent to the property*" if you want to come up with something else too, just so that it's not completely out there, but, that's just my two cents.

Mr. Anderson: The one thing to Mr. Braun's explanation of "*near*" was that we had those exact discussions. One of the concerns was what if the business that gets cited for it disagrees. I think it's important to realize that there is an appeal process that's built into this, and it's one of the main things that would draw on that is exactly this issue. If a business owner gets cited for something that happened off his property, and disagrees that that business is the nexus for it, which is determined by the enforcing body, they have the opportunity to appeal that, cite that violation, and have it not count against them, and the process is included in that, which has this going to BZA, which already deals with Administrative appeals, so it's a process that that body is already covering for other departments. So, if a business feels that they were incorrectly cited by that enforcement decision maker, like the Chief of Police, for example, would be the most common one that would make that determination, they have the opportunity to appeal that to the City, and then they can explain why that's not their problem; it's really somebody else's problem. I would also add that in the case that we're talking about with that drug use, it's certainly possible that both businesses might receive a citation for it because, in actuality, over time, they both might have things that they need to do to improve the situation. If a business is lax in its

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Mr. Anderson (continued): enforcement of the law, say they're enabling, or allowing that illegal activity, that's what we're trying to deal with. But, likewise, if another business is also lax, even though the drugs weren't bought there, but being used with a blind eye by that other business, that's something that we'd want to address as well. If there's a different way to phrase it, we're certainly open to that, but, we used "*near*" because we wanted to give the enforcement bodies, the Chief of Police, the Building Official, the Health Commissioner the flexibility because, at this point, they really have a good handle on where that's coming from, but they do have that ability to appeal, and I think that's important.

Mayor Webster: I just wanted to amplify the point that Joe (Braun) made about when this kicks in. I think let's not overlook the key word in the title of this ordinance, "Chronic". If you're not a chronic offender, you never come into contact with this ordinance. So, a one-time party in your neighborhood and you get unjustly knocked on your door or something, well, that's got to happen seven times before you get charged under this ordinance. So, I think we've done a great job. I'd like to congratulate the three Councilmembers that served on this committee; they did a great job. Administration was at the table, I think at every meeting. Our Fire Department, our Police Department, our Health Department, our Building Department, were all represented there, and, I think we have their interest taken into consideration in every one of these things, and, I think it's a great ordinance. I think it's long overdue, and, I think, you know, for years and years we've had chronic offenders; people, households if you will that just week after week have Police calls, you have this, you have that, and, finally, we'll have something that we can get our teeth into and have something to charge people with and bring them to justice, if you will. So, now, there's a public hearing right? In two weeks? Okay, I would certainly urge everybody's support of this ordinance.

Mr. Anderson: I was just going to add one other thing that we're doing to help people understand that this ordinance, like, will catch up with them if they are a chronic, to Mayor Webster's point, this is for chronic reoccurring unresolved issues is that the Administration is looking at updating a number of their forms and notices to call out the fact that these types of things will start counting against you. So, it shouldn't be a surprise if somebody receives a violation or a notice, that, over time, it will rise to the level of becoming chronic, and there's additional penalties. And, it's just something that I think we need. It's long overdue. If these people continue to flaunt the rules, we need to make sure that they know that it's affecting other people, and we're to help that.

President Vanover: Well, as stated before, we will see this again on the 18th, and there will be a Public Hearing attached, so, we'll move on.

President Vanover: Next up, we have Resolution No. R25-2022. This is appointing a member to the Charter Revision, so, I guess we'll take nominations.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Julie Matheny is currently serving as the Chairperson, and she is on Charter Revision, and she did say that she wanted to continue. So, I would like to nominate Julie Matheny for Charter Revision to continue.

Mrs. Ghantous: I'll second that.

President Vanover: Any other nominations? (None) Then, by acclamation, we will insert Julie Matheny's name.

Resolution No. R25-2022

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JULIE MATHENY TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE FOR THE TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2027

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R25-2022; Mrs. Ghantous seconded.

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Mr. Anderson: I just wanted to call out a fact for people that might be watching, later this year, throughout this year, there's about 25 open committee seats that will be opening of the 36 about that exist for the City. A majority of those will come in November of this year, so, we're filling one seat now, and another one after this. I'd just encourage anyone that has interest in these seats, there's certainly opportunity in other committees for people to get involved throughout the year, and I think the best way to express that interest, if you're interested in these positions as they come up, is to reach out to members of Council for Council-appointed positions because there's a lot of them that are coming up, and there's certainly a lot of opportunities for people to get involved in the City. One thing I will call out though is if you do decide to put your name forward for some of these seats, the Charter does require Committee members to and hold them to a higher standard around courtesy, and professionalism around the City if they do decide to put themselves in those positions, and be on those boards. So, just be aware that if you put yourself forward, that those expectations are there as called out in the Charter. Thank you.

Resolution No. R25-2022 passes with four affirmative votes and three opposing votes (Anderson, Hawkins, Jacobs).

President Vanover: Next up is Resolution No. R26-2022, and, we're looking for nominations for that position.

Mr. Anderson: Yes, I'd like to nominate Megan Chapman to serve on the Board. She's a newer resident, but has a lot of energy and a different focus that hasn't been on the Committee in a while, and I think it would be a good addition.

President Vanover: Do we have a second?

Mr. Hawkins: Second.

President Vanover: Any other nominations? (None) Then, by acclamation, read Resolution R26-2022 with Megan Chapman's name.

Resolution No. R26-2022

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEGAN CHAPMAN TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE TAX REVIEW BOARD FOR THE TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024

Mr. Anderson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R26-2022; Mr. Hawkins seconded.

Resolution No. R26-2022 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Resolution No. R01-2023

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF MUNICIPAL FUNDS

Mrs. Ghantous made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R01-2023; Mr. Hawkins seconded.

Resolution No. R01-2023 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Resolution No. R02-2023

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING ADVANCE PAYMENT FROM THE HAMILTON COUNTY AUDITOR

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R02-2023; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Resolution No. R02-2023 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Resolution No. R03-2023

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A RESOLUTION COMMENDING DON DARBY FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adopt Resolution No. R03-2023; Mr. Anderson seconded.

Mayor Webster: I'm sure you've got all kinds of lights on there. I'd just like to say a few words about Mr. Darby. As the Resolution indicates, he has served under four different Mayors, and, when I became Mayor in 1995, he was not serving then; I'm not sure why, but, he had taken a year off or something, so, anyway, one of the first things I did when I was elected Mayor was beading up the street, around the corner, and knocked on his door, and said, "Don, I need you." Don Darby said, "What do you need?". I said, "I need you to come back to serve on Planning Commission." He says, "No problem." And, so, fortunately, he said, "Yes" not only that time, but, six other times that I knocked on his door and asked for him to continue to serve. And so, he's certainly served that board with distinction. I think that our Planning Commission has gotten a lot of accolades over the years the way they were professionally conducted. I've never had an applicant come to me or publicly make a statement that they were not treated fairly and with respect before the board. I think that goes to your professionalism, and you've served this City well; not only this City, but also the Princeton School District. And, I'm proud to call you a neighbor, and a friend, and a great public servant. Enjoy your retirement. (applause)

Mr. Hawkins: I was going to say you've known me since you I was little and you let your daughter babysit me way, way, way back in the day. Your contributions to Princeton School District and the City are basically unparalleled in terms of someone being able to do both of those things. The biggest thing, I'd say, with regard to how you conducted yourself in meetings, in Planning Commission, and serving on boards here, but also how you conducted yourself through your time in education with Princeton is class and dignity. And, you always, always even when folks may not always be respectful to the Planning Commission, applicants, what have you. You always conducted yourself with respect and showing respect to others, and, that has been the biggest thing that has been impactful in terms of what I watched growing up, and even now. But, I really appreciate everything that you've done, obviously, through the course of this, as well as personally. Thank you. (applause)

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Mr. Darby, you know I'm in your fan club. You're one of my very favorite people I've ever met in my life, and I mean that; wholeheartedly. You have been the kindest person. When I came into Planning (Commission), you were there to help as much as you could, and I appreciate that more than you know. You ran a meeting like none other, and, I appreciate that more than you know. And, my son comes to a lot of the meetings. He's been very involved in a lot of things for a long time, and, because of the educator in you, you became very involved in his life, and wanting to know about him. And, whenever he comes to town, he's like, "Do you have a Planning Commission?" And, it's because he wants to see you. It's not because he wants to come and hang out with mom. He wants to come and see you because you are a light. You are a light in this community, and, you shine bright. I can't thank you enough for everything that you are. And, although we're going to miss you on Planning Commission, I know where you live, and I appreciate you more than you'll ever know. Thank you. (applause)

Mr. Ramirez: My wife and I both have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Darby. My wife worked under his administration at Princeton for 23 years. She had nothing but good things to say. Myself, I had the pleasure of working eight years with you and under your leadership for eight years on the Planning Commission. Your leadership, your knowledge, and just the way that you would run a meeting. When you were up here, everybody knew that you were in charge. You didn't have to tell everybody you were the Chairman. We knew by the way you spoke, and the way you carry yourself, that you were the leader. And, I appreciate all those years you worked with Springdale, and, making it a better place to live. Thank you. (applause)

Mr. Jones: I really like Mr. Darby's wife. (laughter) I thought I'd remind you of that. In my 38 years of public service, I've never had a committee member indicate that they were going to step down from their service and retire from providing that service to our Community,

Mr. Jones (continued): and then have people frustrated and angry and say, "Well, say something to him. You, or the Mayor. Somebody's got to talk to him. Have Anne McBride, have somebody talk to him. Don't let him step down." It amazed me how many people came to me

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and said, "That's not the guy we want to step down." I don't think I can give you a better compliment than what our staff said and, just, we literally hate to see you go. And, it's been a pleasure and you deserve to segue into retirement, but, I just want you to know, that on behalf of our Administrative staff, we have just loved working with you. And, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. (applause)

President Vanover: Well, I get the last crack.

Mr. Darby: Soccer field.

President Vanover: Yep. Our soccer field. Oh, we go way back. He served as Superintendent when my kids were there. As a matter of fact, I saw him, just the character of gentleman he is, at probably one of the darkest moments of the district was when we had two young ladies killed up here on (Interstate) 275. And, saw him, at not one, but both of the visitations that same night. And, he, no applause or anything, just stood there and was taking the concern for the kids in, and, I'll never forget that. I served almost 20 years up here with him and enjoyed every minute of it. I can't add anything else that he ran a top shelf meeting; both the applicant and the Board were treated with the upmost respect and professionalism. So, and I, too, count him not only as a co-board member, but as a friend. And, I appreciate you greatly sir. (applause)

Resolution No. R03-2023 passes with seven affirmative votes.

Mr. Jones: I think we'd be remiss if we didn't give Mr. Darby an opportunity if he'd like to say a few words. I realize we may regret this (laughter), but I have a feeling.

Mr. Darby: Thank you all so very much. First thing I need to say is my wife would be very angry if I didn't explain why she is not here. We just returned from (Las) Vegas, and she's ill. And, I think she's suffering from "I lost my money syndrome". (laughter) But, I want to start out by saying Mr. Jones is very, very on top of things, so he sent me a text message today. He knows I'm a little older and he said, "Good afternoon, sir. Just a reminder that you are to be at Council this evening for the resolution from Council." Great reminder. So, I responded to him, "Thanks for reminding old folks. What time can I expect my pickup limo" (laughter) "with champagne bar for arrival at City Hall?" And his response, "Oh my. We missed that step." So, Mayor (Webster), he's okay. A couple of things I want to share with you folks. Community service is the utmost that a person can give. And, I have appreciated my service to Springdale, to Princeton, and, before I retired, I made sure my wife was going to remain on the Civil Service (Commission), because, you know, we can't accept too much of a drop in that income. I want to leave you with a couple of things. And, this goes back to my days in the classroom. It was the Vietnam time. Mayor, you remember it very well. You young folks, I don't know. But, I used to talk to my kids about the situation in our country. So, I'm talking about you, talking to you about the situation that may exist in our City; big, small. We had a group of folks in this country who were saying, "Love it or leave it." And, then, we had another group of people who were saying, "Fix it, or forget it." And, then one day I was looking at one of my philosophy books. And, I read a statement from Henry David Thoreau. And, he said, "My country (could be 'my city'), if right, to be kept right. If wrong, to be set right." You folks represent the element that can make sure that occurs finally. And, if there are any former English teachers in here, you're going to be upset with the way I say what I'm about to say, but these were some words that were written on a boxcar at the City of New York subway, I heard a speaker say this. "When you come here, you bring whatever you have. You were elected because of whatever you have and you're going to bring forward. So, I would say to you, 'Be who you is, and not who you isn't, because if you is who you isn't, you isn't who you is.'" Thank you very much. (applause) And now I have to go home and take care of my gambling wife. (laughter)

Old Business

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None

New Business

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Mrs. McNear: Elected officials, it's that time of year when I start to remind you that your calendar year 2022 financial disclosure statements can be sent in to the Ohio Ethics Commission. You can do it online, or you can do it via paper. You can import them from previous years. I did mine the other day. It took about three and a half minutes. So, please get those in on time. You have several months to get that done, and May 15, 2023 is the deadline, and I'll remind you once a month to get those documents submitted. Thank you.

Meetings and Announcements

Mr. Jones: I feel like Mrs. McNear on reminders. But, on behalf of Director Charlie Wilson, he asked that I remind folks that the AARA free basic tax filing services will commence. They're taking appointments and they'll start doing it January 2nd. And, then, the Coaches Memorial and Winter Sports Pep Rally will take place on Friday, January 6th at 6:30, and finally, or I'm sorry, actually two more things. The Springdale Community Center is taking registration for youth spring sports including soccer, volleyball, baseball, t-ball, coach-pitch, and softball. And then, finally, the Administration building will be closed on January 16th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Thank you.

Communications from the Audience

Mrs. Chapman: Good evening. My name is Megan Chapman and I live on Vista Glen. First of all, I'd like to thank Council for the appointment to the Tax Review Board. It will be a welcome opportunity to keep my accounting skills sharp. Second, I'd like to speak regarding the appointment of Julie Matheny to the Charter Revision Committee. I feel it's important at this moment to cite Article 4, Section B of the current City Charter. "Persons in the unclassified service of the Municipality other than elected officers, and persons under contract for service may be removed from employment, reduced in pay or position, suspended for incompetence, dishonesty, drunkenness, discourtesy to the public, gross neglect of duty, or conduct contrary to the best interest of the municipality, or any other reasonable, or just cause by the appointing authority, or the City Council". I am extremely uncomfortable with this appointment as it was brought to my attention by my nine year old son that Ms. Matheny was the individual who has repeatedly told me to move. I do not feel it is appropriate for Ms. Matheny to serve the Council in this capacity given her recent conduct. Thank you.

Mr. Jones: Well congratulation to Megan (Chapman) to being elected to serve, and we appreciate that as Mr. Darby indicated. But, I've got to tell you, that, my experiences that you describe with Ms. Matheny are nothing close to that. I have been here, I'm in my fifth year now, and she has been a professional in all aspects of the word that I have dealt with her on committees, and serving as far as the Chamber (of Commerce), and, other related matters. So, I'd just like to state for the record that that has not been my experience at all, so I respectfully disagree. And, obviously, I think that would be a horrible disservice to our general public for someone to take action against something where Council has already made the decision on who should serve. Thank you.

Ms. Wells: I apologize. This pen is dying. So, I'm doing my best. I'd like to piggyback, excuse me, my name is Katie Wells. I live on Bernhart Court, and, I'd like to piggyback off of Megan Chapman, that it is an appointment that I'm not comfortable with either. And, I'm so glad that some people have not had the experience that she has had, but, the fact of the matter is that it is what it is. And, it's not appropriate for someone to serve in that capacity when they're okay with talking to constituents that way that are trying to speak to Council. And, I also want to remind everyone that there was changes to employees of the City of Springdale, where, at one point, a few people had family members working for the City of Springdale, and that was changed, so, I think that that should probably apply across the board. That's my opinion on it, but, I definitely want to agree with Megan there, and, I hate that she had that experience, so, I agree with her. And, I just wanted to make you guys know that a lot of people agree with both of us.

Update on legislation still in development

Mr. Hawkins: Ad you review your Internal Memorandum, Item Number I was addressed with Ordinance No. 02-2023; An Ordinance Enacting Chapter 139 of the Codified Ordinances of the

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City of Springdale, Ohio Regulating the Abatement of Chronic Property Nuisances and Declaring an Emergency. We had a first reading of that. We also had Item Number II, which was addressed with Ordinance No. 01-2023; An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Appropriations/Estimated Receipts for Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2023, which passed with a 7-0 vote. Item Number III was addressed with Resolution No. R01-2023; A Resolution Authorizing the Investment of Municipal Funds. That passed with a 7-0 vote. Item Number IV was addressed with Resolution No. R02-2023; A Resolution Requesting Advance Payment from the County Auditor. That passed with a 7-0 vote. Item Number V was addressed with Resolution No. R25-2022, Appointing Julie Matheny to the Charter Revision Board and Resolution No. R26-2022; Appointing Megan Chapman to the Tax Review Board. We also had Item Number VI; A Resolution Commending Don Darby for his Dedication and Service to the City of Springdale, Ohio, which was addressed with Resolution No. R03-2023, which passed with seven affirmative votes.

Recap of legislative items requested for next Council meeting

Mr. Hawkins: We will have a second reading and a Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 02-2023; An Ordinance Enacting Chapter 139 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Springdale, Ohio Regulating the Abatement of Chronic Property Nuisances and Declaring an Emergency. That's it, unless there's anything else from Council or the Administration.

Adjournment

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adjourn; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:
Tom Vanover, President of Council

_____, 2023