

CITY OF SPRINGVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 1, 2022

WORKSHOP:

The City Council of the City of Springville met in a workshop session on Monday, August 1, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at Springville City Hall. Mayor Dave Thomas presided and City Clerk Lynn Porter served as recording secretary.

Those members answering present to roll call were as follow:

District 1	Councilmember Herbert Toles
District 2	Councilmember David Vinson
District 3	Councilmember Wayne Tucker
District 4	Councilmember Katrina Hennings
District 5	Councilmember Tim Walker
District 6	Councilmember Marshall Parker
District 7	Councilmember Sherry Reaves
Mayor	Dave Thomas

Absent: None

Others present in official capacity: Attorney James Hill

Public Works Director Earl Peoples asked the City Council for permission to purchase a Bobcat backhoe from the State Bid List to be paid from the American Recovery Plan funds. He stated this addition will allow them to work in two areas at once rather than having to pull the backhoe from one job and take it to another.

Councilmember Parker stated he has been working with Alabama Power to get streetlights installed on Deer Run. He asked for a light on each corner, which will be eight lights. Discussion followed on the need for specific locations and the adoption of a resolution.

Councilmember Hennings arrived.

Councilmember Vinson asked Mr. Peoples how many of his men can operate the backhoe, and was told all of them.

Parks Director Rick Hopkins stated his department's greatest need is the multi-purpose field project. He stated they planned to sod the fields, but funding was short to do all of it. They found that sprigging was not feasible. The ground has been prepared and if sod is not applied soon, they will lose the prepared base, and incur additional costs to regrade at a later date. He asked that

funding be approved for up to \$55,000 to complete this portion of the project. They are overseeing each phase and doing some of the work themselves.

Councilmember Toles pointed out that the cost of doing these fields ourselves has saved us a lot over what we saw in the plan before.

Councilmember Tucker stated it is a waste of time and money to sprig this time of year. Sod is quicker also.

Mr. Hopkins gave an update on the preserve manager position. Several years ago, we purchased a UTV. It is used in the park for many things, including collecting garbage in the parks. We need another one dedicated to the preserve that can be used to ride donors through the preserve. Doug will also need a truck and trailer to transport equipment. There is now a 4X4, ¾ ton truck on state bid. He stated he got a quote to pave the parking lot from Trey Massey of \$190,000. He stated he is asking in his next budget for \$10,000 for a master plan for the back 30 acres. The siding was replaced in Woody Park recently.

Nature preserve manager Doug Morrison stated 1.6 miles of trails have been flagged. We had asked for and received estimates of \$30,000 per mile to build trails. We have funds for 1.5 miles for \$45,000. We have received a generous donation from Ebsco. We are talking to Blue Cross about a possible donation. We need the UTC. A four-seater will be \$26,000. We need the truck and trailer. The county is moving dirt at the preserve.

Library Director Jamie Twente thanked Earl Peoples and Rodney Carden for removing the animal that was hit and laying on the sidewalk in front of the library.

Mr. Dean Goforth stated the City's most valuable asset is their employees. He asked consideration for an increase in health insurance costs. He stated the city is in good financial position.

The workshop was concluded.

MEETING

The City Council of the City of Springville met in a regular session on Monday, August 1, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at Springville City Hall. Mayor Dave Thomas presided and City Clerk Lynn Porter served as recording secretary.

Those members answering present to roll call were as follow:

District 1	Councilmember Herbert Toles
District 2	Councilmember David Vinson
District 3	Councilmember Wayne Tucker
District 4	Councilmember Katrina Hennings
District 5	Councilmember Tim Walker

District 6 Councilmember Marshall Parker
District 7 Councilmember Sherry Reaves
Mayor Dave Thomas

Absent: None

Others present in official capacity: Attorney James Hill

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order. Reverend Mike Ennis was called upon to give the invocation, followed by the pledge to the flag.

The minutes of the July 18, 2022 meeting were presented for approval. Councilmember Toles moved they be approved, seconded by Councilmember Hennings, and the motion carried.

The agenda was presented for approval. Several items from the workshop were added

Mayor Thomas asked if we could add the UTV and trailer purchase, or does this have to be bid, and was told that both items will need to be bid under the general bid law.

Councilmember Parker stated he has had a request for Flock cameras in Woodland Hills. Councilmember Reaves stated when these are installed in subdivisions, the HOA pays for them rather than the city.

Councilmember Vinson moved the agenda be approved, seconded by Councilmember Tucker, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Toles asked do we have to bid the work on Purple Heart Boulevard, and was told that these bids will be opened on August 16.

Mr. Joe Cox addressed the Council on debris and garbage. He stated that last Wednesday's garbage was picked up today, and no brush was picked up. Recent storms have made this a problem. They need a truck to pick up brush or the city needs to pick it up. He stated on another topic, that Park Avenue needs to be reopened to help with school traffic.

Councilmember Toles stated if it is opened back up at Highway 11, the curb will have to be removed and trees from the ALDOT project removed.

Mr. Cox stated kids have been crossing streets for years and can cross there. He stated we have only one pickle ball court. We need to restripe some of the tennis courts to allow more courts for pickle ball.

Park Director Hopkins stated we need to resurface one court. We could restripe some courts, but we would have to drag the nets back and forth as the nets are not the same height for tennis and pickle ball. He stated he has a budget request for two new pickle ball courts at an estimated cost of \$15,000.

Councilmember Hennings asked did this include lighting, and was told no.

Mr. Cox stated these courts need to be in a fenced area to keep from having to chase balls.

Library Director Jamie Twente stated the library program has grown exponentially with the city, and we had more than 600 children in the Summer Reading program. People outside of the city buy cards to use our library. Home-schooled children and tutors use the library. When a new library is built, there will be no need for the pavilion space, but it is needed currently.

Councilmember Reaves stated steps were taken to close this road for the safety of the children. Are we saying this is no longer important?

Councilmember Tucker stated he thought we will need an outlet when the four-way work is done. He stated he talked to DOT and they say they will not close all lanes for the construction. Trucks cannot get through there even if it were opened.

Councilmember Hennings stated we went through the process and vacated this street, and a curb has been installed on the highway and trees planted.

Attorney James Hill stated with the vacation, this right-of-way no longer exists to be reopened. If it were decided to re-establish a new right-of-way, ALDOT would have to bless it before anything could be done.

Attorney Hill stated the current capital budget is over because of the recent property purchase.

Attorney Hill stated the Personnel Handbook has been recompiled as was discussed last month, with input from the department heads. It is anticipated that a merit plan will be initiated with annual evaluation and step raises for employees. The current pay scale is ten steps with 5% between steps. Using this plan as laid out with annual increases, should help with recruitment and retention. The cost of implementation for the coming year would be approximately \$88,000.

Sgt. Maggie Milazzo presented a salary and benefit survey indicating the city ranking in comparison to other jurisdictions.

Councilmember Parker asked the starting salary for a police officer and was told \$18.88 an hour.

Discussion followed on the merit plan and whether 10 steps or 15 steps should be used and what percentage of separation between steps should be used.

Attorney Hill stated we have two issues here. The personnel handbook and the pay scale. They do not have to be adopted at the same time.

Councilmember Reaves asked was sick and vacation pay for part-time employees included in the handbook and was told that was addressed.

Fire Chief Richard Harvey stated he is trying to find whoever he can who will meet the department minimum credentials. Fire hours are not worth as much as other hours to keep the bi-weekly pay and annual pay equal. Also, additional holiday pay is only eight hours for police and fire, while other departments get the day off. He stated he would like to see a 15-year top out. In a small municipality with few employees, there is little ability to move up to a higher paying position unless someone retires or leaves. He stated he would like to see the separation between steps remain at 5%.

Councilmember Toles moved for unanimous consent to suspend the rules of procedure to allow for the immediate consideration of an ordinance to adopt the new Personnel Handbook, seconded by Councilmember Tucker, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Toles, Vinson, Tucker, Hennings, Walker, Parker, and Reaves, and Mayor Thomas

Nays: None

Councilmember Toles moved Ordinance 2022-04 adopting the new Personnel Handbook be approved, seconded by Councilmember Vinson, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Toles, Vinson, Tucker, Hennings, Walker, Parker, and Reaves, and Mayor Thomas

Nays: None

Councilmember Hennings moved a pay scale be adopted adding steps eleven through fifteen, and keeping a five percent separation between steps, seconded by Councilmember Reaves, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Reaves moved Resolution 2022-21 authorizing an ALDOT project within the City to install sidewalk ramps on Highway 11 in downtown, seconded by Councilmember Tucker, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Vinson moved Resolution 2022-22 awarding the bid on sod for the multi-purpose fields to Sunbelt Sod in the amount of \$64,400.00 be approved. This was seconded by Councilmember Toles and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Reaves moved the purchase of a backhoe from the state bid list at a cost of \$74,080.42 to be paid from American Recovery Funds be approved, seconded by Councilmember Hennings, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Parker stated there are flock cameras in Old Mill and Crandall Crest. These were paid for by the HOAs. In Woodland Hills there is no HOA and part is in the city and part in the county.

Councilmember Hennings stated the city pays for the cameras at the four-way and at Walmart only.

Councilmember Reaves stated she felt that if we do one subdivision, we will have to do all of them.

Richard Harvey said he could get the residents a name at the power company to talk to about the cameras.

Mayor Thomas stated the Civil Air Patrol is having a car wash at the armory on Saturday.

Councilmember Reaves reminded the department heads to get in their budget requests.

Councilmember Tucker moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Councilmember Toles, and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Porter
City Clerk