

CITY OF SPRINGVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 23, 2023

WORKSHOP:

The City Council of the City of Springville met in a workshop session on Monday, January 23, 2023 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 follows:

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

Others present in official capacity: Acting Attorney Jim Hill

Mr. Doug Morrison, Nature Preserve Manager, was recognized and stated we have an issue at the Springville Sports Complex with silt from the chert pit getting into a branch of the Little Canoe Creek. There is also a pipe under the road to the chert pit that is starting to collapse. We need to install a sediment trap and replace the existing culvert with a bottomless culvert, which is basically a bridge. Because the endangered Trispot Darter has been found in this stream, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Agency will assist us with grant funds for this project. A second issue is the fact the vegetation was cleared when the new fields were put in, and now the bank is eroded. This project is stream bank restoration that we will handle with the assistance of a Nature Conservancy grant. We will re-slope and stabilize the stream bank and revegetate it with natural vegetation. The deadline for this grant application is January 31. A cultural resources assessment is required for both grants, and one assessment can be used for both projects. The cost for the study is \$3,174.19, and the City will be required to absorb this cost. Our match for the grant is \$30,653.60 and we can provide this through in-kind participation with manpower and equipment.

Councilmember Vinson asked can the in-kind work be done by our departments, and Mr. Morrison stated yes, by parks and public works. He asked how we arrived at this figure and was told this is our allotted portion of the grant and employee wages and equipment time are computed to make up this amount.

Mr. Morrison stated Attorney Hill is working on a landowner agreement.

Councilmember Vinson asked Public Works director Earl Peoples if his crew can do this, and Mr. Peoples replied the only problem is the fact he will be tied up for the foreseeable future on the four-way project utility relocation.

Mr. Morrison stated this project will not start until August and should take about eighteen months. If public works can re-slope the banks, parks can install the vegetation. Mr. Morrison stated what he is asking for tonight is approval of funding for the study and a letter of support for the project assuring our in-kind participation.

Mayor Thomas stated because the Trispot Darter is on the threatened species list, this assures us a need-based approval on these grant requests.

Councilmember Walker asked what is the impact on the completion of our ballpark? Mr. Morrison replied a part of this land is in the flood plain. Restoring the vegetation will help slow the water.

Park and Recreation Director Rick Hopkins stated this does not affect any of our current playing fields. We will work within our future plan for further development.

Mr. Morrison stated another facet of the grant is an educational component. We will erect signage giving information about the Trispot Darter and he will conduct stream protection and biodiversity classes for our schools.

Councilmember Parker asked is there any adverse effect on the stream from Archer's Cove, and Mr. Morrison replied the creek looks healthy. He stated he has not seen anything as bad as in previous years when the development was first getting started.

Building Official Asa Sargent asked that he and Building Inspector Lonnie Dunn be allowed to attend an ICC Building Code conference in Las Vegas. The cost is budgeted in the current budget.

Mayor Thomas asked Acting City Attorney Hill about conducting an election to fill the council vacancy should the Council decide to move forward tonight. Attorney Hill stated a nomination, second and vote could be held on each candidate until a candidate receives a majority vote, at which time that candidate is elected. Attorney Hill pointed out if the Council fails to fill the vacancy within sixty days of the vacancy, the Governor will then make the selection. He suggested this be added to the agenda, and the Council can carry it over if they are not ready to vote.

Councilmember Toles stated considering recent events with athletes collapsing on the field, he would recommend that all of our coaches have CPR training.

Rick Hopkins stated we provide mandatory coaches training. Fire Chief Richard Harvey conducts the CPR training. Coaches safety training is required by state law, and includes injury prevention and assessment, CPR, and recognizing heat related symptoms.

Chief Harvey stated we have Public Access Defibrillators (PAD) at all of our city facilities, schools, and the stadium, and also in our open parks.

No further business coming before the body the workshop meeting was concluded.

MEETING

The City Council of the City of Springville met in a regular session on Monday, January 23, 2023 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 follows:

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

Others present in official capacity: Acting Attorney Jim 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 January 9, 2023 meeting were presented for approval. Councilmember Reaves moved they be approved, seconded by Councilmember Vinson, and the motion carried with Councilmember Walker abstaining.

The agenda was presented for approval. The cost of the cultural resource assessment and the commitment to the in-kind match for the grant for streambed restoration were added, as was approval of training for the inspection department and a Resolution to fill the Council vacancy. Councilmember Vinson moved the agenda be approved as amended, seconded by Councilmember Toles, and the vote was unanimous.

Mayor Thomas stated we have four applications for consideration to fill the vacant Council seat in District 3. We will interview the candidates alphabetically.

Mr. Alec Bosworth, 284 Mill Road, stated he grew up here and wants to be a leader here. He stated as a Deputy Sheriff for eight years, he serves the people of Springville every day. He is involved in Leadership St. Clair County, and is interested in economic development, and encouraging positive growth.

Councilmember Vinson asked if he has served on any city boards, and was told no. He stated he formerly worked at the Splash Pad and was a volunteer Police Officer.

Councilmember Walker asked if he attends Council meetings and he stated yes.

Councilmember Toles asked, if elected, would he have time to serve, and Mr. Bosworth responded absolutely.

Councilmember Vinson asked if he would support continued development in the parks, and he replied yes.

Mr. Joe Cox, 258 Rena Drive, stated he has lived in Springville sixty-seven years. He was on the City Council from 1980 to 1984. He has worked for the federal government serving thirty-seven years at the Anniston Army Depot. He currently serves as Chairman of the BZA. He has been on this board for ten years. He has been involved with the parks since 1980. He stated he can make decisions and would like to make decisions for the betterment of Springville.

Councilmember Hennings asked, if appointed, does he plan to run in the next election, and was told yes.

Councilmember Walker asked how often he attended City Council meetings and was told as often as he can.

Councilmember Reaves stated that Mr. Cox once said he would like us to find a way out of the city. She asked how he would accomplish this?

Mr. Cox replied that we would need to acquire right-of-way. We need a plan for new roads, and to work toward that end.

Councilmember Toles asked what was the first thing he would want to do. Mr Cox replied that he could not do anything without the rest of the Council. He stated he would be a phone call away from the citizens of his district.

Councilmember Vinson asked would he support park development. Mr. Cox replied that we have good park facilities and we need to expand them.

Mr. Austin Phillips stated he is a life-long resident. He stated he has children in our schools and parks and his wife is a teacher here. He stated he feels this is a pivotal time in the city. Growth will happen, but we need to see the impact on our roads and facilities. He stated he is interested in the future. He stated he wants to bring people in who want to be involved. He stated he would like to fire up our younger citizens.

Councilmember Toles asked what plans he had for roads and drainage. Mr. Phillips stated we have extensive flooding and bad roads. He stated he did not know the answers, but he will work for a solution.

Councilmember Reaves asked if he served on the park board, and he replied yes, for the past several months. He stated he thinks the goals of the board are continuity in development. Forever Wild is fun to work on.

Councilmember Vinson asked would he be in favor of a bond issue for park development, and Mr. Phillips responded yes. He pointed out that it is dangerous on Camp Road with the ballfields, parents, and children on a through street. He stated he is aware that the City is working on this.

Councilmember Toles stated we are working with a developer to redirect traffic in this area.

Mr. Phillips stated we must constantly strive for improvement.

Mr. Ted Swartz was not in attendance.

Mayor Thomas thanked these candidates for their willingness to serve.

Chief Walton stated he has taken quotations to build a storage loft in the police department garage. He asked for permission to accept the low quotation.

Councilmember Parker asked about the plans and was told that there were no plans. Chief Walton stated he told each bidder what he wanted and they gave him a bid.

Councilmember Parker stated, as a contractor, that often what the customer is thinking and what the contractor is thinking are two different things. He suggested that we table this until we can get a drawing and let the contractors determine if their bids are still okay.

Chief Walton stated he would get them to do him a drawing to go with their bid.

Councilmember Walker asked if there is any fire protection in the building, and was told no.

Councilmember Reaves asked was this in the police budget, and was told no, that is why the matter was brought to the Council.

Councilmember Parker moved the matter be tabled, seconded by Councilmember Toles, and the motion carried.

Councilmember Reaves moved the Cultural Resource Assessment for the park stream restoration project at a cost of \$3,174.19 be approved, seconded by Councilmember Vinson. Councilmember Walker asked was this a budgeted expense, and Mr. Rick Hopkins replied no. The motion carried.

Councilmember Vinson moved we approve in-kind participation in the amount of \$30,653.60 on the streambed restoration project, if the grant is approved. This was seconded by Councilmember Hennings, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Toles moved training for the Building Department in Las Vegas be approved, seconded by Councilmember Walker, and the vote was unanimous.

Mayor Thomas nominated Mr. Alec Bosworth to fill the District 3 vacancy on the City Council. There was no second to this nomination, thus the matter died from lack of a second.

Mayor Thomas nominated Mr. Joe Cox to fill the Council vacancy. Councilmember Toles seconded this nomination and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Toles, Walker, and Parker

Nays: Councilmembers Vinson, Hennings, and Reaves

Abstain: Mayor Thomas

Mayor Thomas announced the vote was a tie, so there is no winner.

Mayor Thomas nominated Mr. Austin Phillips. Councilmember Reaves seconded this motion, and upon a roll call vote, the results were as follows:

Yeas: Councilmembers Vinson, Hennings, Walker and Reaves

Nays: Councilmembers Toles and Parker

Abstain: Mayor Thomas

Councilmember Reaves moved Resolution 2023-03 be approved, appointing Austin Phillips to fill the District 3 vacancy on the City Council, seconded by Councilmember Parker, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Parker stated he knew all of these applicants. He stated he went with Joe because of his experience on the City Council. He stated he was glad these young men came forward. They are all impressive.

Councilmember Toles stated he appreciated them coming forward.

Mayor Thomas stated he abstained from the vote because of the tie, and the fact he would like to see the Council's wishes carried out. He stated the oath of office will be administered at our first meeting in February.

Mayor Thomas he will be meeting with the Chairman of the County Commission on February 2. He wants to see what we want and need from the commission.

Councilmember Toles thanked the Water Department who came within thirty minutes and fixed a leak in his area.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Porter
City Clerk