

CITY OF SPRINGVILLE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 6, 2023

WORKSHOP:

The City Council of the City of Springville met in a workshop session on Monday, March 6, 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	Councilmember Austin Phillips
District 4	Councilmember Katrina Hennings
District 6	Councilmember Marshall Parker
District 7	Councilmember Sherry Reaves
Mayor	Dave Thomas

Absent: District 5 Councilmember Tim Walker

Others present in official capacity: Attorney Jim Hill

Mr. Freddie Turntine from the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department addressed the Council on the CAD system offered by Southern Software. Dispatch will be able to send calls to the "in car" computer, and this software will give prior call information at an address. The city already uses other Southern Software modules in the police department.

Attorney Hill stated we already have three of the five components needed for the CAD system.

Chief Walton told the Council that he lost three officers in one week. They are leaving due to insurance, educational incentives and sign on bonuses. He stated he is meeting with his supervisors on March 9 to discuss what can be done to retain officers.

Councilmember Toles stated he told Chief Walton the Council would do what they can with the budget.

Chief Walton stated when he became Chief, Springville was ranked ninth in the County in salary and benefits. We are now ranked fifth in the County, thanks to the City Council giving cost of living raises and paying more of the family insurance. We have trouble competing with larger municipalities in the area.

Park and Recreation Director Rick Hopkins stated they need a truck in their maintenance department. Based on state bid prices last year, he budgeted \$45,000 for a ¾ ton, four-wheel drive truck. This year there are no trucks available on the state bid that were not pre-ordered. In talking to vendors who would be asked to submit bids, this same truck will be closer to \$49,690. To stay within what is allocated in the budget, we would probably need to look at a 2021 or 2022 model with 50,000 miles on it. A new truck would have a manufacturer's warranty. He stated he can bid a new truck or a used truck.

Councilmember Toles asked how long this would take and was told approximately a month.

Councilmember Vinson stated he would recommend a new truck.

Mayor Thomas asked how long he would need to give prospective bidders and was told two weeks.

Councilmember Reaves suggested this be placed on the agenda.

Mr. Hopkins stated we have completed the boxes around the play areas in the park and the sidewalks are in. We need drainage now. The money is in the budget.

Public Works Director Earl Peoples stated we need to add to our sewage treatment process to be able to better treat the effluent. The cost will be around \$600,000, but this piece of equipment can be incorporated into a new plant if funding is approved. He stated he has the funds available, but wanted the Council to be aware of his plans, and to expect a bid for the equipment. He stated he went to Montgomery on Thursday to find out about possible grant funding for sewer upgrades. He stated this equipment is what we need to stay in compliance.

Chief Harvey presented a revised lease agreement with RPS for an ambulance, along with documents with run data and response times. The cost is now \$600 per year, but includes all maintenance costs to be performed by RPS. In the event of catastrophic failure, we can return the unit and get out of the contract. Paragraph seven says this contract will not void or supersede the county contract. He said he has the maintenance records on the vehicle.

Councilmember Parker stated a lady on Comanche Street spoke to him about a pothole, and a ditch with weeds. He asked Mr. Peoples to look at this.

Councilmember Toles stated debris is still not being picked up. Councilmembers Hennings and Parker said it has been picked up in their areas. Councilman Parker stated after the recent storm he is sure there will be more out there.

Public Works Director Peoples stated there has been no change in the number of phone calls.

Attorney Hill read excerpts from a letter from a citizen addressed to Chief Walton commending Officers Cain, Milazzo, and Keith on how they dealt with the family in a situation involving the death of a family member.

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, March 6, 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 follow:

District 1	Councilmember Herbert Toles
District 2	Councilmember David Vinson
District 3	Councilmember Austin Phillips
District 4	Councilmember Katrina Hennings
District 6	Councilmember Marshall Parker
District 7	Councilmember Sherry Reaves
Mayor	Dave Thomas

Absent: District 5 Councilmember Tim Walker

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 February 6, 2023 meeting were presented for approval. Councilmember Hennings moved they be approved, seconded by Councilmember Toles, and the motion carried.

The agenda was presented for approval. Item A was removed and replaced by an item to approve going out to bid on a truck for parks. Councilmember Vinson moved the agenda be approved as amended, seconded by Councilmember Reaves, and the vote was unanimous.

Chief Walton recognized three of his officers who have recently been promoted. Officer Kevin Stewart has been promoted to Sargent effective February 27. Justin Rigby and Steve Wilson were promoted to Corporal on February 27.

Mayor Thomas stated tomorrow Chief Walton will have been with the city for twenty-five years.

Mayor Thomas stated the Council has authorized going out to bid for a truck for the Park and Recreation department, and told Director Hopkins that he can proceed.

Attorney Hill stated Mr. Brett Isom of Regional Planning Commission has assisted the city in redrawing City Council districts based on the results of the 2020 Census to keep seven similarly sized districts, but more equally distribute the population among them based on growth in the city. Several months ago, the City Council unanimously agreed on this option. The law does not require a public hearing, but we felt that it was good to encourage public input. The current district map and the proposed district map are displayed here tonight. These are posted on the city web site for citizen review.

Mayor Thomas opened the public hearing. Mr. J. D. Russell asked what the variance between districts was, and Brett Isom replied within 5%. They range from a low of 637 to a high of 721. He asked can economic data be incorporated into districts, and was told population is the standard used. Mr. Isom stated the economic data from the 2020 Census has not been released yet.

There being no other comments, the public hearing was closed. Public comments will be received for the next two weeks and the Council will consider adopting at our March 20 meeting.

Bids were taken on mobile radios and came in at \$20,000 more than our grant amount. Mayor Thomas moved these bids be rejected, seconded by Councilmember Hennings, and the vote was unanimous.

We have several vacancies on the Park and Recreation Board. This is currently a seven member body and these appointments will get us to six. We may consider increasing the number of members to eight. The Park Board has recommended Mr. Alec Bosworth to fill the position vacated by Austin Phillips upon his selection to fill the City Council vacancy. Mr. Drexel Rayford will replace Doug Morrison. He has been active in our nature preserve development.

Mayor Thomas moved Drexel Rayford be appointed to the Park and Recreation Board, seconded by Councilmember Toles and the vote was unanimous.

Mayor Thomas moved Alex Bosworth be appointed to the Park and Recreation Board, seconded by Councilmember Parker, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Phillips asked how many more vacancies there are and was told one, but the board is considering expanding to eight members. Councilmember Phillips stated the Board discussed trying to find someone with an architectural background months back.

The Park and Recreation department wishes to do business with two Alabama vendors who are a part of approved purchasing cooperatives.

Councilmember Reaves moved Resolution 2023-09 authorizing purchases of sports uniforms from Mordecai Sporting Goods through the NCPA cooperative, seconded by Councilmember Vinson, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Toles moved Resolution 2023-10 authorizing purchases of cheerleading uniforms from Varsity Sports through the Buy Board cooperative, seconded by Councilmember Hennings, and the vote was unanimous.

Discussion followed on calling a workshop to consider options for employee retention with members of the budget committee and any other interested Councilmembers and Chief Walton and his department supervisors. When Councilmember Walker is back in town, we will set a date and publish the meeting.

Attorney Hill stated the quote on the Southern Software CAD system expires tonight. The cost is \$11,588 for the software, hardware, installation and training. There will be an annual support fee of \$723. He stated this software is already being used in Moody, Odenville, Pell City and the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department.

Councilmember Vinson moved the agenda be amended to add consideration of Southern Software Company CAD software, seconded by Councilmember Hennings, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Toles moved we approve the purchase contract for the CAD software, seconded by Councilmember Parker, and the vote was unanimous.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Porter  
City Clerk