

City of Springfield * PO Box 1 * 130 South Laurel St * Springfield, GA 31329

Minutes of Council Meeting

Council Chambers - 12/13/2011 – Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Council was held on December 13, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at approximately 6:13 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Ambrose.

MAYOR PRO TEM JEFF AMBROSE AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Charles Hinely
Butch Kieffer
Gary Weitman

Council Member Troy Allen arrived later in the meeting. Council Member Kenny Usher was unable to attend this meeting. A quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT:

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk
Rick Rafter, City Attorney
Amber Nettles, Accounting Clerk
Paul Wynn, Police Chief
Travis Zittrouer, Fire Chief

GUEST PRESENT:

Steve Shealy
Pearl Thomas

INVOCATION – Given by Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to amend the Agenda by adding item “E” under New Business – “Consideration for approval of a Project Agreement with SCAD” and approve the Agenda as amended.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 11/22/11 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve the minutes of the 11/22/11 regular meeting.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 12/06/11 10:00 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING – in reference to the Recycling Program and also the City Charter.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the minutes of the 12/06/11 10:00 a.m. Public Hearing.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 12/06/11 6:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING – in reference to the Recycling Program and also the City Charter.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the minutes of the 12/06/11 6:00 p.m. Public Hearing.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 12/06/11 FY2012 BUDGET WORKSHOP, which followed the 6:00 p.m. Public Hearings

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve the minutes of the 12/06/11 FY2012 Budget Workshop.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Daniel Walker request consideration to open a home occupation at 110 Magnolia Drive, with business name being “Walker Automotive Services LLC”, to provide automotive administrative services

Mr. Walker was not present at this time, but did appear later in the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pearl Thomas asked about the Christmas lights on Railroad Avenue, which is not lit up. City Manager Bennett advised that the City will have to pay for someone to come in to service the poles so that they will be set up for Christmas lighting. This will be done for the lights next year.

Bennett also advised Ms. Thomas and Council that later this week or next week the design for the Railroad Sewer Project will be moving along.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of an Ordinance to amend Ordinance # 01-03 for inclusion to the code of Ordinances reference Motorized Carts (Golf Carts)

City Manager Brett Bennett provided to Council information for their review which contained several requirements by the State. A brief discussion followed. Bennett and the Police Chief will meet to finalize the draft to be brought back before Council at the next meeting. Bennett asked that Council Members provide their input prior to the finalization of the Ordinance.

Pear Thomas addressed the Council Members advising that someone has been riding around at night on a golf cart driving without lights and that it is hard to see them and is very dangerous.

Bennett further stated that we may have to not allow night driving of golf carts.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration for approval of Ordinance # 2011-07 providing for adoption of the Fiscal Year 2012 General Fund, Sanitation, and SPLOST Budgets

Bennett had provided a list for Council and advised that a few minor changes had been made.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Ordinance # 2011-07 providing for adoption of the Fiscal Year 2012 General Fund, Sanitation, and SPLOST Budgets.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to approve billing for fire protection on city tax bills, (currently billed on monthly utility bills)

A brief discussion followed. Bennett explained that this change would provide for billing of fire protection also to those who do not have water or sewer utility billing.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve billing for fire protection on tax bills.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval of the Year 2012 Holiday Schedule

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the Year 2012 Holiday Schedule as presented.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to negotiate a contract with Waste Management for a city wide curb side recycling program

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to authorize the City Manager to negotiate a contract with Waste Management for a city wide curb side recycling program.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval of a Project Agreement with SCAD

A brief discussion followed. Bennett explained that SCAD worked on a project this last quarter and referred to the posters around the room which were pictures of Historical Homes, which SCAD had did a preliminary study. Bennett further advised that the students will follow through with general research and analysis.

All the surveys would be done and could be used to form a Historical District. The cost would be \$5,000 total with \$2,500 being paid in 2011 and \$2,500 being paid in 2012.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the Project Agreement with SCAD with payment as discussed.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of City Street Sweeper

Bennett advised that the street sweeper is in need of several thousand dollars in repairs and suggest that Council consider looking at other options.

Council Members discussed possible repairs and selling it repaired, or sells as it is now. Bennett advised that the street sweeper is inoperable at this time. Bennett was asked to research options to see which way the City could come out better and bring back to the Council.

Discussion of City Charter

Bennett advised that Council Members would receive a copy of the updated draft of the City Charter following this meeting and asked that Council Members forward comments to Bennett of any other requested changes. Bennett would like to have the draft finalized so that it may be advertised for public review and the Council could vote on it in January.

Council Members agreed that Wednesday 12/21/11 be the deadline to submit requested changes to the City Manager.

APPEARANCE

Daniel Walker request consideration to open a home occupation at 110 Magnolia Drive, with business name being "Walker Automotive Services LLC", to provide automotive administrative services

Mr. Walker addressed Council Members in reference to a home occupation. A brief discussion followed with Mr. Walker advising that basically he wishes to set up an office in his home and will not be working on vehicles at his home, as he actually has a site in the Savannah area to service vehicles and also has a mobile service.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Daniel Walker's request to open a home occupation at 110 Magnolia Drive to provide automotive administrative services.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

REPORTS

Administration

Historic Project - should be wrapping up in the next few weeks.
Streetscape - The next demo project should begin this week.

GDBG Project - Is moving forward.

DOT Intersections – The contractor has advised that it may begin in mid-January 2012.

Practicum – Bennett went to Atlanta today in reference to a practicum whereby the development of a business plan for the Theatre was presented. The information will be sent out to Council Members for their review.

Reuse Grant – Bennett will be meeting with the engineers next week.

Police Department

Police Chief Wynn provided the Police Department report to Council Members for their review and advised that all is going smooth at the Police Department.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Zittrouer provided the Fire Department report to Council Members for their review and advised that the Fire Department Christmas Banquet will be held on Thursday 12/15/11 at 7:00 p.m. and invited Council Members to attend.

Department Liaisons

No reports were given.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION –
reference Real Estate Acquisition, Pending Litigation, and Personnel

MOTION: Weitman made a motion at approximately 6:55 p.m. to move from the Regular Meeting into an Executive Session – reference Real Estate Acquisition, Pending Litigation, and Personnel.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

During the Executive Session Butch Kieffer was not feeling well and had to be excused from the rest of the meeting and Council Member Troy Allen arrived thereby still maintaining a quorum.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Hinely made a motion at approximately 8:01 p.m. to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED REFERENCE THE ITEM(S) DISCUSSED DURING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Actions were taken.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to adjourn this meeting at approximately 8:04 p.m.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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12/16/11 Posted on City Website - Minutes of 12/06/11 6:00 p.m. Public Hearing were approved on 12/13/11

Two Public Hearings were held on December 6, 2011 at 6:00 p.m., one in reference to the recycling program the other in reference to the City Charter. Both Public Hearings were held in the City of Springfield Council Chambers, located at 130 S. Laurel Street, Springfield, Georgia, with Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Ambrose presiding.

Also in attendance:

- Charles Hinely, Council Member
- Kenny Usher, Council Member

Gary Weitman, Council Member
Brett Bennett, City Manager
Amber Nettles, Accounting Clerk

Guest present:

Russell Hightower Murray Kight
Paul Lindsay Steve Shealy

Recycling

Russell Hightower, with Waste Management, spoke on the pilot program's high participation at approximately 60-70%. Murray Kight, Paul Lindsay, and Steve Shealy spoke in support of the recycling program. The recycling program should come back before Council Members at the next meeting. If the recycling program is approved in December then the program may be ready to start in March or April of 2012.

Charter

No public comments were made.

The Public Hearing ended at 6:25 p.m.

12/16/11 Posted on City Website - Minutes of 12/06/11 10:00 a.m. Public Hearing were approved on 12/13/11

Two Public Hearings were held on December 6, 2011 at 10:00 a.m., one in reference to the recycling program the other in reference to the City Charter. Both Public Hearings were held in the City of Springfield Council Chambers, located at 130 S. Laurel Street, Springfield, Georgia, with Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Ambrose presiding.

Also in attendance:

Gary Weitman, Council Member
Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk

Guest present:

Murray Kight

Recycling

Murray Kight spoke in support of the recycling pilot program. He felt that he had experienced a reduction of 70-75% in actual garbage while participating in the recycling pilot program. Mr. Kight also feels that if a recycling program goes into action that residential garbage pick-up could be dropped back to once a week with recycling pick up every two weeks.

Charter

Drafts of the City Charter were given to reporters from the Effingham Herald and the Savannah Now. The City Manager explained that the Charter will incorporate the City Manager position. No public comments were made.

The Public Hearing ended at approximately 10:15 a.m.

12/14/11 Posted on City Website - Minutes of the 11/22/11 Meeting were approved on 12/13/11

Minutes of the Council Meeting - November 22, 2011 - Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Council was held on November 22, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Ambrose.

MAYOR PRO TEM JEFF AMBROSE AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen Charles Hinely
Butch Kieffer Kenny Usher
Gary Weitman

A quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk
Rick Rafter, City Attorney

GUEST PRESENT

Steve Shealy Craig Bonnell

INVOCATION – Given by Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the Agenda.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 11/08/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the minutes of the 11/08/2011 regular meeting.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED by a vote of 5 yes (Allen, Hinely, Kieffer, Usher, and Weitman), and 1 abstain (Ambrose – due to the fact that he was unable to attend the 11/08/11 Meeting).

APPEARANCES

Lon Harden was scheduled to appear in order to request consideration to hold the Martin Luther King parade on Monday January 16, 2012.

Mr. Harden was unable to appear at this meeting. City Manager Bennett explained that Lon Harden has come before Council Members for several years to request the approval for the annual Martin Luther King parade.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Lon Harden's request to hold the Martin Luther King parade on Monday January 16, 2012.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council Member Usher expressed his appreciation on the recent Veteran's Day article by Pat Donahue of the Effingham Herald.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration for approval of a Resolution (# R2011-6) in Support of Grant Funds for the Springfield-Ebenezer Greenway.

A brief discussion followed. Hiking trails will be built. The property will be preserved from being developed.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve a Resolution in support of grant funds for the Springfield-Ebenezer Greenway.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval of an Ordinance to amend Ordinance # 01-03 for inclusion to the code of Ordinances reference Motorized Carts (Golf Carts).

A brief discussion followed. Questions came up regarding blinkers, flashing lights, etc. when golf carts are in use after dark.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to table this item until the next Council Meeting in order that answers to a few questions that came up during this discussion may be provided.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION TO TABLE PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval to Surplus approximately 18 bicycles, reference Effingham County Superior Court Civil Action No. SU11CV553T.

City Manager Bennett advised Council Members that several bikes are obtained during the year through various incidents and requested they be surplus and also advised Council Members that the surplus bikes are usually given to a group each year to be provided to needed families at Christmas.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to surplus approximately 18 bicycles.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of the implementation of a city wide curbside Recycling Program.

Brett Bennett explained that the Pilot Recycling Program ended on Thursday, 11/17/11. Bennett asked how Council wishes to proceed and advised that the contract with Waste Management could have room for negotiating.

Council Members discussed the pilot program and agreed that this should go before the public so they may be able to express their views or concerns. Tuesday 12/06/11 was agreed for two public hearings, one at 10:00 a.m., the other at 6:00 p.m.

Discussion of the 2012 Budget Workshop

Council Members agreed that the Budget Workshop could be held on 12/06/2011 following the 6:00 p.m. Public Hearing.

Discussion of the City Charter adoption process

Council Members were given copies of the draft of the Charter before they left the Council Room tonight. Two Public Hearings will be scheduled be held on 12/06/2011 reference the City Charter, with one being at 10:00 a.m. and the other being at 6:00 p.m.

Reminder – Old Fashioned Christmas

The Old Fashioned Christmas event will be held on Saturday 12/03/2011 at the Effingham Museum and Living History Site located on N. Pine Street in Springfield. Ornament construction begins at the Hut at 5:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m. the program begins with the Effingham Orchestra, followed by the Springfield Methodist Church Hand bells, the Lighting of the Christmas tree and Santa's Arrival.

Discussion of various projects

Bennett commented briefly on the Coastal Incentive Grant, TE Grant, GEFA Grant (Reuse system), and the Theatre Grant of \$10,000. Bennett also asked Council Members to let the City Clerk know who wishes to attend the Mayor's Day Conference.

Weitman commented on the SCAD project presentation. Bennett advised that SCAD had completed approximately 107 properties photographed, (historical).

Ambrose remarked on the thank you note that had been received from the Fair Association.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – reference Real Estate Acquisition, Pending Litigation, and Personnel

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move from the Regular Meeting into an Executive Session at 6:43 p.m.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) DISCUSSED DURING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No actions were taken.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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11/23/11 Posted on City Website - The Minutes of the 11/08/11 Meeting were approved on 11/22/11

Minutes of Council Meeting - November 8, 2011 - Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Council was held on November 8, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Council Member Kieffer.

APPOINTMENT OF AN ACTING CHAIR/MAYOR TO LEAD THIS MEETING

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to appoint Council Member Kenny Usher as Acting Chair/Mayor, in the absence of the Mayor Pro-Tem to lead this meeting.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

ACTING CHAIR/MAYOR KENNY USHER AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen Charles Hinely
Butch Kieffer Gary Weitman

Mayor Pro-Tem Jeff Ambrose was unable to attend this meeting. A quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rinear, City Clerk
Rick Rafter, City Attorney
Paul Wynn, Police Chief
Travis Zittrouer, Fire Chief

GUEST PRESENT

Dana Jones Travis Blankenship
Vilma Gladin Al Hinson & spouse
Douglas Exley Mary Exley
Max Neidlinger Melinda Neidlinger
Joyce Maennche Jerry Maennche
G. G. Rigsby Anne Moore
Jerrie Redding Margaret Griffin
Ed Pace Jamey Stancell
Wilma Pace Kyler Exley
Joy Weitman Jon Weitman

INVOCATION – Given by Council Member Kieffer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Acting Chair/Mayor Kenny Usher

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED AGENDA

Acting Chair/Mayor Usher advised the Council Members that the Agenda would need to be amended to add, under New Business, item F, “Consideration to approve a change order in the amount of \$34,890.78 to Y-Delta for encountered deficiencies in the lift station rehab”.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to amend the Agenda to add this item under New Business and approve the Agenda as amended.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 10/11/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to amend the 10/11/11 minutes thereby correcting the motions that had been made to add to the 10/11/11 Executive Session discussion of Personnel and Real Estate Acquisition, advising that Kieffer had made the motion and Weitman had seconded the motion, and also to approve the minutes as amended.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Teresa Sheppard requested consideration of Council Members to open a home occupation with the name being “Teresa’s Gifts Galore & More” located at 132 Rose Drive.

Ms. Sheppard was not present at this time, but would be available later in the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Council Members for the approval of Ordinance # 2011-06 reference the millage rate for the 2011 Tax Levy being

set at 4.30 mills (The same rate since the year 2006).

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Ordinance # 2011-06 setting the millage rate for the 2011 Tax Levy at 4.30 mills.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council Members for the approval of positions for 2 firefighters as set forth in the Service Delivery Agreement with Effingham County.

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve 2 firefighter positions as set forth in the Service Delivery Agreement with Effingham County.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Council Member Butch Kieffer asked to be excused prior to the discussion of the following Variance. Kieffer exited the Council Room at approximately 6:11 p.m.

Consideration of Council for a Variance request made by Volunteers of America for a Group Home to be located at 405 Chestnut Street.

Attorney Ann Moore and Jerri Redding, the Program Manager, appeared before the Council Members speaking for Volunteers of America in reference to the variance request for a group home to be located at 405 Chestnut Street. Attorney Moore and Program Manager Redding expressed reasons in support of this variance request.

Douglas Exley, Michelle Zipperer, Melinda Neidlinger, Max Neidlinger, Kyler Exley, Wilma Pace, and Al Hinson appeared before the Council Members and spoke in opposition of this variance.

A discussion followed.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to deny the variance.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Council Member Butch Kieffer returned to the Council Room at 6:45 p.m., after the discussion and actions were taken in the matter regarding the Variance. Butch Kieffer took his seat with the other Council Members.

Consideration of Council Members for the approval of the "List of Items for Surplus" Requested by City Hall.

Bennett advised that the City Hall had been doing a little house cleaning and had gathered some items that we do not need and suggested that perhaps these items could be placed in the upcoming Auction across the road.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve the "List of Items for Surplus" Requested by City Hall.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council Members for approval of the "List of Items for Surplus" Requested by the Police Department.

Bennett advised that these items were also gathered during a cleanup process.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the "List of Items for Surplus" Requested by the Police Department.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to approve a change order in the amount of \$34,890.78 to Y-Delta for encountered deficiencies in the lift station rehab

Pat Burk, with the Port City Design Group, consulting engineer appeared before the Council Members. Mr. Burk explained that the Contractor encountered some deficiencies that he recommends be corrected. Both plug valves in the valve vault are inoperable. The wet well riser pipes are deteriorated to the extent that they will probably not withstand the sandblasting scheduled for the interior rehabilitation, and one of the pump motor leads has a hole.

In order to replace the plug valves an additional valve will need to be added in the forcemain, downstream from the valve pit. It is further recommended that the check valves be replaced.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the change order up to a maximum of \$34,890.78.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Teresa Sheppard requested consideration of Council Members to open a home occupation with the name being “Teresa’s Gifts Galore & More” located at 132 Rose Drive.

Teresa Sheppard arrived at the meeting and appeared before the Council Members seeking consideration to open a home occupation with the name being “Teresa’s Gifts Galore & More” to be located at 132 Rose Drive.

Ms. Sheppard advised that she plans to go to the Mart and use the Web for sales from her home. Ms. Sheppard also advised that if she decides to obtain a business location that she is aware that she will need to come back before Council.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Teresa Sheppard request for a home occupation to be located at 132 Rose Drive.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of the Golf Cart Ordinance

City Manager Bennett advised that a copy of the previous and draft of a new Ordinance addressing golf carts was placed in Council Packets, along with one comment received from a Council Member.

State Law places several requirements, such as equipment for driving at night. Madison and Second Street would be the only approved crossings.

A brief question and answer period followed.

Bennett asked Council Members to review the Draft Ordinance and forward any suggestions or concerns to him. This Ordinance should be finalized and brought back before Council for approval at the next meeting.

Discussion of the City Charter

Bennett advised that the City Charter was discussed at the retreat. City Council Members were given a copy of the draft to review. A few items were highlighted for Attorney Rafter’s review. Bennett would like this to be finalized so that it may be sent to the legislature by the end of the year, if possible.

Council Member Hinely suggested that the draft be reviewed and that this be brought back before Council in December. Bennett advised that Public Hearings will need to take place. Council Members were asked to review the draft and advise Bennett of any suggested changes.

Reports of Administration

City Manager Bennett gave updates on the Coastal Incentive Program, Surveying for the CDBG Project, and the Mars Grant. SCAD will be here on Monday at 1:00 p.m. with some very interesting ideas.

On Thursday Bennett will meet with SCAD on a Historical Homes Project that will take place over approximately one and a half years. This will set the groundwork for the committee. SCAD will be using the forms that the state provides.

Reports of Police Department

Police Chief Paul Wynn advised that his officers have been very busy. Council Members reviewed the Police Department Report, provided by Wynn. Council Member Kieffer commented that several incidents had occurred in his neighborhood a few weeks ago and thanked the Police Officers for the great job they did on this.

Reports of Fire Department

Fire Chief Travis Zittrouer also advised that the Fire fighters have been busy. Council Members reviewed the Fire Department Report, provided by Zittrouer. Council Members Allen and Usher congratulated Zittrouer on being selected as the Fire Chief.

Reports of City Department Liaisons

Hinely asked about a particular item in the Council Packet. Bennett explained that it was in reference to several citizens concerned about the visibility of oncoming traffic on the corner of Laurel Street and East Third Street whereby they would like to have the yellow line moved back to allow drivers to have a clear view. Bennett has already put in a work order about the yellow stripe and also advised that the Streetscape bump outs will also offer improvements.

Reminder – The Veteran’s Day event starts at 10:00 a.m.

CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – reference Real Estate Acquisition and Pending Litigation.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move from the Regular Meeting into an Executive Session, reference Real Estate Acquisition and Pending Litigation at 7:22 p.m.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR A MOTION TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) DISCUSSED DURING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken.

CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

11/09/2011 Posted on Website - 10/11/11 Minutes were approved as amended 11/08/11 Minutes of the Council Meeting - October 11, 2011 - Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Council was held on October 11, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

MAYOR PRO-TEM JEFF AMBROSE AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen	Charles Hinely
Butch Kieffer	Kenny Usher
Gary Weitman	

A quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rinear, City Clerk
Rick Rafter, City Attorney
Travis Zittrouer, Fire Chief

GUEST PRESENT

Kathy Johnson	Jennifer Jimenez
Jamey Stancell	Pearl Thomas
Lynwood Griffin	Paul Lindsey

INVOCATION – Given by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to add to the Executive Session Personnel and Real Estate Acquisition.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 09/27/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 09/27/2011.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Jennifer Jimenez requested consideration for a home occupation, in order to provide cleaning services, in the name of "ReyJen Cleaning Service", located at 103 Oakwood Drive.

Jennifer Jimenez appeared before the Council in reference to opening a home occupation. Ms. Jimenez explained that the house would be a base point and that she would be providing services for cleaning such as to apartment complexes, after someone moves out or to businesses, etc.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve Jennifer Jimenez's request for a home occupation located at 103 Oakwood Drive, name of "ReyJen Cleaning Service".

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Kathy S. Johnson requested consideration for a home occupation, in order to sell handmade soaps and spa products, with the business name being "Southern Bella's Bath & Body Bar", located at 806 North Ash Street.

Kathy Johnson appeared before the Council in reference to opening a home occupation. Ms. Johnson explained that the soaps and spa products will be handmade. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve Kathy S. Johnson's request for a home occupation located at 806 North Ash Street, in the name of "Southern Bella's Bath & Body Bar", for the sale of handmade soaps and spa products.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jamey Stancell advised that the Springfield Merchants Association will hold an anniversary dinner at Kelly's Tavern on the 25th at 7:00 p.m. and invited the Council Members to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to award a contract to Harco Construction reference a retaining wall for the Effingham Museum and Living History Site.

Information had been provided in the Council Packets for review. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to award a contract to Harco Construction in reference to a retaining wall for the Effingham Museum and Living History Site in the amount of \$81,151.00.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to approve a special event for the Springfield Auction at 109 Laurel Street (Snooks) for the nights of November 15th and December 20th.

Jamey Stancell appeared before the Council advising that discussions have been going on for several weeks, in reference to this matter. He would like to see how this goes and possibly purchase a business license for continued Auctions in 2012. Consignments will be accepted. The auction could be held the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

A brief discussion followed. Snooks already have an active business license at 109 Laurel Street. The consensus of the Council was that no action would be needed that this could be handled like a special sale at Snooks.

Consideration of Council for approval to open a new checking account for the CDBG funds.

City Manager Brett Bennett explained that this is a requirement to set aside a separate checking account for these funds and that the account not be interest bearing.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve that a new checking account be opened for the CDBG.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Streetscape

Council Member Weitman remarked on the letter received from Traci Sumner whereby she made several uplifting comments in reference to the commencement of the Streetscape Project. Council Members have also received several other positive remarks from the public and thank them for their comments.

REPORTS

Administration

Retaining Wall

This project should be completed by the end of the year, or relatively close to then.

Streetscape

Most of the sidewalks, across the street from City Hall, should be finished by the end of the week.

Retreat

The time set for the retreat is tentatively 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Police Department

Council Members were provided a copy of the Police Department Report and advised that Police Chief Paul Wynn was unable to attend this meeting.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Travis Zittrouer explained that this was a busy month. Zittrouer also advised of another survey grant with a deadline of October 31st. Council Member Allen congratulated Travis Zittrouer on being selected as the Fire Chief.

City Department Liaisons

No reports were given

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION –
reference Personnel, Real Estate Acquisition, and Pending Litigation.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion at 6:22 p.m. to move from the regular meeting into an Executive Session in order to discuss Personnel, Real Estate Acquisition, and Pending Litigation.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) DISCUSSED DURING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

10/12/11 Posted on City Website - Minutes of 09/27/11 Meeting were approved 10/11/11

Minutes of September 27, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Council was held on September 27, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

MAYOR PRO-TEM JEFF AMBROSE AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Troy Allen | Charles Hinely |
| Butch Kieffer | Kenny Usher |
| Gary Weitman | |

A quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager

Linda Rinear, City Clerk
Rick Rafter, City Attorney

GUEST PRESENT

Michael Carpenter	Richard Collins
Jamey Stancell	Paul Lindsay
G. G. Rigsby	Steve Shealy

INVOCATION – Given by Council Member Charles Hinely

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Pro-Tem Jeff Ambrose

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Allen made a motion amend the Agenda to add item B under New Business – Consideration to authorize the City Manager to approve a change order with E & D Contracting for additional brick pavers on the Streetscape Project and to approve the Agenda as amended.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 09/13/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to amend the minutes by correcting the date from 08/13/11 to 09/13/11 and to approve the minutes of the 09/13/11 meeting as amended.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Christy Carpenter requested consideration to open a home occupation located at 134 Rose Drive, with the name of the business being “Christy’s Captures”, for photography.

Michael Carpenter appeared before the Council to request a home occupation be approved for his spouse, Christy Carpenter. Mr. Carpenter explained that the photography would be performed on location with no customers visiting the home.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Christy Carpenter’s request for a home occupation at 134 Rose Drive, “Christy’s Captures”, photography.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Richard L. Collins requested consideration to open a home occupation located at 213 Doe Circle, with the name of the business being “Collins Plumbing”, for plumbing services.

Richard L. Collins appeared before the Council requesting consideration for a home occupation at 213 Doe Circle. Mr. Collins advised that he will be using a service truck, is a state licensed plumber, and will not be storing a stock pile of materials at his residence.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve Richard Collins’ request for a home occupation located at 213 Doe Circle, “Collins Plumbing”, plumbing services.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jamey Stancell gave a brief update on the Merchants Association which has grown to 20 members and stated that a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at “Simple Things” located at 107 N. Laurel Street at 4:00 p.m. on October 4, 2011.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to apply for a Re-Use Grant from GEFA in the amount of \$100,000.

City Manager Bennett referred to the Preliminary Engineering Report included in Council Packets, along with the supplemental information also presented to Council. Lafarge, Hanson and Efacec are interested in receiving reuse water from our plant. All of the businesses in the industrial park use either City-supplied potable water or well water from the Upper Floridan Aquifer. The grant could potentially provide \$100,000 in funds, along with \$292,800 from SPLOST for a total funding in the amount of \$392,800.

The project could be scaled back some. The return on the investment could take some time, but mandates could be met. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to authorize the City Manager to apply for a Re-Use Grant from GEFA in the amount of \$100,000.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to approve a change order with E & D Contracting for additional brick pavers on the Streetscape Project

Brett Bennett discussed the cost of pavers at an additional cost of \$312.50 per band, (estimates 40-50 pavers needed). The pavers could be set in cement now, or could be put in at a later date. He received the estimate this morning. Bennett also suggests that we look into the linear price before making a final decision and does advise that there is a timing issue involved.

A discussion followed.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to authorize the City Manager to proceed with the pavers starting at a cost of \$150 up to a maximum of \$200 per band.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED by vote of 5 Yes (Allen, Ambrose, Hinely, Kieffer, and Weitman), and 1 No (Usher)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Presentation to the City of Springfield Council of the Community Development Block Grant check in the amount of \$359,605 for sewer improvements on South Railroad Avenue.

Brett Bennett publically presented the CDBG check in the amount of \$359,605 to the Council and noted that progress should begin within a few months.

Discussion of planning retreat at Ebenezer Retreat Center on October 15th and 16th.

This retreat will offer the opportunity to begin a plan to move forward with projects. A room has been reserved at the Ebenezer Retreat Center for October 15th and also for October 16th if needed. Meals will be provided at a minimal cost of \$7.75 each.

Streetscape Project

Brick Pavers will be going in tomorrow.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – reference Real Estate Acquisition, Pending Litigation, and Personnel

Council Member Usher asked that Steve Shealy, new 2012 Council Member, remain with the Council Members during the Executive Session.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to move from the Regular Meeting into an Executive Session, reference Real Estate Acquisition, Pending Litigation and Personnel at 6:41 p.m.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) DISCUSSED DURING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Actions were taken.

Additional Patrol Surveillance Conducted in the Deer Run Subdivision

Springfield Police Officers have upgraded Patrol presence in the Deer Run Subdivision in reference to complaints of speeding vehicles and also disregard of stop signs, and have not observed these violations currently taking place.

Recycling Pilot Program

The Recycling Program has an approximate participation of 70%. Due to a few miscommunications the pilot program will continue through mid-November. Bennett has not heard any negative comments on this program. A Public Hearing can be held at the conclusion of the Recycling Pilot Program in order to receive public response.

Temporary Signs

Council Member Hinely commented on several signs that need to be removed and also noted that we have an Ordinance in place in reference to this concern.

W & W Housing

The City Manager will send out another letter to W & W Housing.

Noel Webb - Building at 121 South Laurel Street

The building inspector, Wendell Arnsdorff, will need to file a complaint charting numerous violations. The Judge will then study this matter and issue his decision.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

09/28/2011 Posted on City Website - Minutes of 09/13/2011 Meeting were approved on 09/27/2011

Minutes of the Council Meeting
Council Chambers September 13, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Council was held on September 13, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

MAYOR PRO-TEM JEFF AMBROSE AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Charles Hinely	Butch Kieffer
Kenny Usher	Gary Weitman

Council Member Troy Allen was unable to attend this meeting. A quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rinear, City Clerk
Rick Rafter, City Attorney
Paul Wynn, Police Chief

GUEST PRESENT

O. Johnson Small	Greg Reeves
Gussie A. Nease	Lakisha Jackson
Wayne Kight	Jordan Parker
Courtney Sheffield	Steven Shealy
Williadean Williams	Lee Carter
Jamey Stancell	

INVOCATION – Given by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to amend the Agenda under the Executive Session to add Real Estate Acquisition and Pending Litigation and to approve the Agenda as amended.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 08/30/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 08/30/2011.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Williadean Williams appeared before Council to request consideration to hold an event on October 8, 2011, 1st Annual "New Life" K-9 Fun Day, at New Life COGOP Church located at 106 New Stillwell Road

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Williadean Williams request to hold an event on 10/08/2011, 1st Annual "New Life" K-9 Fun Day, at New Life COGOP Church located at 106 New Stillwell Road.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Lakisha Jackson appeared before Council to request consideration to open a Home Occupation by the name of "As 1 Enterprise", located at 1012 Ash Street Ext., for lawn care and pressure washing services

Ms. Jackson explained that this would be for lawn care and also pressure washing services. The equipment will be stored at a location on Highway 21 North, in the county, and not at her residence.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Lakisha Jackson's request to open a Home Occupation by the name of "As 1 Enterprise", located at 1012 Ash St. Ext., for lawn care and pressure washing services.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

OLD BUSINESS

Consideration for approval of Ordinance # 2011-04 reference Insurer's License Fees

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve Ordinance # 2011-04 reference Insurer's License Fees.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to authorize the Chief of Police to sign a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between the Effingham County Board of Health and the City of Springfield Police Department, in order to renew an existing agreement

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to authorize the Chief of Police to sign a MOU between the Effingham County Board of Health and the City of Springfield Police Department, in order to renew an existing agreement.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for acceptance of main road at Harvey's Shopping Center

Gregory Reeves appeared before Council and explained that he had forwarded information to the City Manager, in reference to this request. Mr. Reeves also assured Council that he will provide any other required documentation needed, and explained that a quit claim process will also be completed in reference to this matter. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to accept the main road at the Harvey's Shopping Center conditional upon the final items needed be forwarded to the City Manager.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the SRC to hold a bingo game

Gussie Nease appeared before Council requesting consideration of Council to authorize the SRC to hold a bingo game. Ms. Nease explained that this will generate income for future use in reference to the Mars Theatre. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to authorize the SRC to hold a bingo game.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Heritage Grant

City Manager Brett Bennett gave an update on the Grant and explained that this could get us through phase one which is the exterior of the Mars Theatre and the excavation around the building.

Business Plan for the Mars Theatre

Bennett explained that a few years ago a student from UGA had conducted a study on the downtown area. A new student has selected the Mars Theatre as a project. She would like to develop a business plan with cost associated in reference to the Theatre. The City Manager will be working with her for the next few months in order to provide additional information and/or assistance to her.

REPORTS

Administration

The City Manager advised Council that the Streetscape Project is moving along. Most of the curbing is going in. A preconstruction project meeting will be held soon.

Bids were received Friday for the retaining wall.

There is still no word from DOT on the intersections.

Police Department

The Police Chief, Paul Wynn, advised that a correction was needed on the monthly Police Report, that calls should have been 782. Officers have begun additional surveillance in reference to the increase of theft from vehicles. The Police Chief reminded the public to lock their vehicles.

Council Member Butch Kieffer explained that Don Nelson was assisted by Springfield Police Officers reference an issue that occurred two weeks ago in the early morning hours. Mr. Nelson had expressed to Kieffer his appreciation to those officers and Butch Kieffer just wished to pass Mr. Nelson's appreciation to the Police Department.

Fire Department

Travis Zittrouer was unable to attend this meeting, but had provided the monthly fire report for review.

Bennett added that Fire Chief Interviews should begin this week.

City Department Liaisons

Council Member Hinely asked about the grading process. Bennett advised that we will need a few inches of rain for a test to see how well the grading is helping out on the drainage issues.

Council Member Butch Kieffer congratulated Steve Shealy on his quest to become a Council Member.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – reference Real Estate Acquisition, Pending Litigation, and Personnel

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to move from the Regular Meeting into an Executive Session, reference Real Estate Acquisition, Pending Litigation and Personnel at 6:36 p.m.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

The City Clerk was excused during the executive session, after discussion of Real Estate Acquisition, and left the Council Room at 6:43 p.m. The City Clerk returned to the Council Room at 7:34 p.m.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Usher made a motion to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) DISCUSSED DURING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken.

CITY CHARTER

Bennett discussed the procedures for updating the City Charter. Bennett suggested the possibility of a Retreat be held so that Council Members could get together and work on this. Bennett was asked to select some dates and get back with Council Members on this. Bennett advised that a template is provided by GMA and perhaps he could obtain copies of other cities Charter's to use as models and also to provide additional information.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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09/13/2011 Posted on City Website - The Minutes of the 08/30/2011 Meeting were approved on 09/13/2011

Minutes of the City of Springfield Council Meeting
Council Chambers August 30, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Council was held on August 30, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Jeff Ambrose.

MAYOR PRO-TEM JEFF AMBROSE AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen	Charles Hinely
Butch Kieffer	Kenny Usher
Gary Weitman	

A quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk
Warren Ratchford, Attorney
Amber Nettles, Accounting Clerk

GUEST PRESENT

Chuck Mobley	Robert Laning
Wanda Laning	Pearl Thomas
Lynwood Griffin	Steve Shealy
Jamey Stancell	Tabitha Kirkland
Amanda Moore	Wilson Burns
Chad Zittrouer	Barty Alderman
Athena Northway	

INVOCATION – Given by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the Agenda.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 08/09/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 08/09/2011.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Lakisha Jackson request consideration for a home occupation license located at 1012 Ash St. Ext. for a business in the name of “As 1 Enterprise” for lawn care and pressure washing.

Lakisha Jackson was not present at the time of this request and did not appear. No action was taken.

Tabitha Kirkland – requests consideration for speed bumps in subdivision

Tabitha Kirkland appeared before the Council to request speed bumps be placed in the Deer Run Subdivision. Ms. Kirkland advised that she had come to the City Manager Brett Bennett a while back. He had suggested that she obtain signatures on a petition and bring it back to him. She did get a petition signed. Bennett advised her that she would need signatures from the actual home owners and has not heard from her since that time. Ms. Kirkland stated that most of the traffic appears to be residents in the subdivision. Ms. Kirkland advised that there are speed limit and child playing signs posted.

A discussion followed. Bennett suggested that there are several options that could be looked into and that perhaps a letter could be sent to both the property owners and the residents in order to obtain their feedback.

Thomas Larry Hill – request consideration for speed bumps in subdivision

Thomas Larry Hill was not present for his appearance before the Council Members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robert Laning – Asked that speed bumps be considered for the Deer Run Subdivision.

Amanda Moore – Expressed her concerns for not only her children, but for other children, in the Deer Run Subdivision. Ms. Moore advised that she feels that speeding traffic is a problem for everybody in the neighborhood, and went further to state that people are not stopping at the stop sign. Ms. Moore had her young son with her and advised that he had recently been involved in a collision with a vehicle. Ms. Moore went on to express her concerns in reference to the accident report.

A brief discussion followed.

Council Member Butch Kieffer asked, and was granted permission by the Mayor Pro-Tem, to be excused during this portion of the meeting. Kieffer left the Council Chambers at 6:15 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration for acceptance of Ramsey Landing Water/Sewer System

Brett Bennett advised the Council Members that they are already connected to city water and that this is a procedural matter.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to accept the Ramsey Landing Water/Sewer System.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Council Member Butch Kieffer returned to the Council Chambers at 6:17 p.m., after the vote on the Ramsey Landing Water/Sewer System, and took his seat with the other Council Members.

Consideration for approval of opening a checking account – Downtown Redevelopment Fund (Proceeds from LED sign advertisements)

Brett Bennett explained that Council approval would be needed in order to open a separate bank account for the purpose of proceeds from LED sign advertisements.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the opening of a checking account for the Downtown Redevelopment Fund – proceeds from LED sign advertisements.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Springfield and the Springfield Revitalization Corporation

Brett Bennett explained that a grant in the amount of \$20,000 is available and that this is a requirement for the Springfield Revitalization Corporation to apply for the grant.

Attorney Ratchford stated that the City is ultimately responsible for the overseeing of the account and that the Memorandum of Understanding addresses the main ideas. Bennett confirmed that the SRC has the funds required.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Springfield and the Springfield Revitalization Corporation.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to approve the Effingham County Farmer's Market at the Methodist Campground

Melisa Reagan was not available at this time, at 6:22 p.m., but did arrive at 6:30 p.m. and appeared before the Council Members at that time. Ms. Reagan has been in contact with the Methodist Campground. She would like a kick-off event, perhaps during the week of the fall festival. This particular kick-off event would be on a Saturday and hopefully would then occur on a permanent basis.

The fee of \$50 would basically be for use of the restrooms. Ms. Reagan requests approval before she moves forward with media notifications. Ms. Reagan also advised that the application does include a liability clause holding the City harmless.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve Ms. Reagan's request for the Effingham County Farmer's Market at the Methodist Campground at a rental fee of \$50, pending the City Attorney's approval.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to approve the site plan for relocation of a gas tank at Sheppard Brothers Gas

Bennett advised that it is located on railroad property. The short distance relocation meets zoning requirements. The owner is going through the State Fire Marshall's Office who will place strict requirements on them.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the site plan for relocation of a gas tank at Sheppard Brothers Gas.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to approve a water agreement for Cornerstone Subdivision

Wilson Burns, representing the new owner of the subdivision, appeared before the Council Members. A brief discussion followed. The subdivision was originally designed to be served by a private system, a satellite well. The new owner would like to obtain a water agreement. This is a standard agreement.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the water agreement for Cornerstone Subdivision.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of the T-SPLOST Projects List

Brett Bennett explained the Regional Transportation Sales Tax (TSPLOST), if it is passed, that 75% will go into a fund; the other 25% goes to each individual entity. The idea is for Council to suggest possible projects and Bennett remarked that this could be significant for Springfield. The County of Effingham is expected to get significantly more than we are actually contributing to as a county.

Bennett asks that Council to be thinking about this and what projects they would like the money to be spent on.

CDBG GRANT – Sewer infrastructure to serve 20 homes along Railroad Avenue

Bennett advised that we have received confirmation on the approval of the CDBG Grant and personally thanked Pearl Thomas for her assistance. Pearl Thomas, a Railroad Avenue resident, then thanked Brett Bennett and the Council Members for everything that has been done on this Grant and advised that she will continue working together with them.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – reference Real Estate Acquisition, Pending Litigation, and Personnel

MOTION: Allen made a motion at 6:44 p.m. to move from the regular meeting into an executive session in order to discuss Real Estate Acquisition, Pending Litigation, and Personnel.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

The City Clerk was in the Executive Session during the discussion of the Real Estate Acquisition and excused herself at approximately 7:25 p.m. before the discussion of Pending Litigation and Personnel.

The City Clerk returned to the Council Chambers at 8:07 p.m.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to move from the Executive Session back into the regular meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEMS DISCUSSED DURING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

City Clerk Note Recording equipment malfunctions were experienced at this meeting; therefore this meeting was not recorded.

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08/31/2011 Posted on City Website - The Minutes of the 08/09/2011 Meeting were approved on 08/30/2011

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting

Council Chambers August 9, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on August 9, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen	Jeff Ambrose
Charles Hinely	Butch Kieffer
Kenny Usher	Gary Weitman

A quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rinear, City Clerk
Warren Ratchford, Attorney
Paul Wynn, Police Chief
Travis Zittrouer, Fire Department
Amber Nettles, Accounting Clerk

GUEST PRESENT

Jamey Stancell	Robert Scroggs
Melisa Bragg	David Bragg
Barty Alderman	Staci Ambrose

INVOCATION – Given by Council Member Weitman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Northway

CITY MANAGER BRETT BENNETT READ TO ALL THOSE PRESENT AT THIS MEETING AN EMAIL, PER ATTORNEY CHARLES HERMAN'S REQUEST, JEFF NORTHWAY'S PERSONAL ATTORNEY.

Brett Bennett read the following email, per Attorney Charles Herman's request:

Mr. Bennett,

This notice is addressed to you as the City Manager for the City of Springfield. We have notified both the City Attorney and Mr. Kicklighter that the Order which was filed in Court on August 1, 2011 is unenforceable at this time. Therefore, please take this as formal notice to the City of Springfield that it is our position that Mr. Northway is still effectively in office and intends to act as such until the law provides otherwise. Further we request that you read this objection and protest into the record of the meeting tonight.

After reading the email City Manager Bennett gave the email to the City Clerk for record.

ATTORNEY WARREN RATCHFORD ADDRESSED THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Attorney Warren Ratchford addressed the Mayor and Council advising that he had received an email today that was sent at 5:21 p.m. pertaining to the Action that was taken from the Judge, per a period of ten days after its entry.

In Attorney Ratchford's opinion the nature of this case was seeking some type of injunction to remove Mayor Northway from the position of Mayor. In that instance it requires that a bond be placed and further that the court then modifies or restore a grant of injunction as the court deems best. In Attorney Ratchford's opinion that was not done in the filing order of the Court. Ratchford stated that however Northway is here, he is seated. We have complied with the request of his attorney. If Northway decides to proceed he will proceed under the understanding that the law, on this particular matter, requires that certain things be done.

Ratchford stated that he had contacted the Clerk of Superior Court pertaining to the payment fees, her estimate of fees at this point \$935.00 has not been paid. There is also a temporary hearing scheduled on this matter August 17th, 2011 at 9:30 which would not be helpful for us tonight. So in light of that and the fact that Mr. Northway is presently seated Attorney Ratchford suggested that a continuation as we were doing right now as if nothing else is happening and that Northway would be seated as Mayor, continue to be seated as Mayor; they could ask that the Mayor Pro-Tem be appointed tonight as Mayor with his position to proceed, Mr. Northway would still be seated at the table; or they could ask that Mr. Northway leave; with the final matter that they could adjourn this meeting until such time as the court has heard all matter which will not happen before August 17th. (A portion of this paragraph was asked by Council Member Usher to be repeated due to the fact that Mayor Northway, while sitting in the seat of Mayor, was on a cell phone in conversation with someone during a portion of the items discussed in this paragraph.)

Ratchford also included that in light of what was proceeding before this Council tonight the Council would need to make that determination their selves. In as far as the law goes that is the best that Ratchford could find in thirty minutes research.

Attorney Ratchford advised Mayor Northway directly "Mr. Northway we had no means about seeking to deny you of any of your rights, or to deny you to seek you the right to represent the citizens of Springfield." Ratchford continued saying that "There is a judge order out there and if you (Northway) decide that you (Northway) are going to take this action you (Northway) will be subject to whatever the court determines. I (Ratchford) did not make that decision." Northway responded "Yes sir."

Attorney Ratchford's final suggestion was for Council to go forward, that they are here to service the City of Springfield, these issues with this, any personal issues, or anything else should not make any difference to benefit to the City of Springfield. Attorney Ratchford's determination would be to go forward.

Attorney Ratchford then addressed Northway directly, "Mr. Northway you understand you will be subject to whatever subjections, if any, that the Superior Court determines." Jeff Northway responded "That's right." Attorney Ratchford continues, "But, in my opinion right now you are violating the terms of the Court. That is my opinion, not the opinion of the Judge."

Attorney Ratchford stated he would have to leave it with Council to make the determination.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to continue with the meeting.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Mayor Northway began to proceed with the meeting.

ATTORNEY RATCHFORD ADDRESSED MAYOR NORTHWAY

Attorney Ratchford asked directly to Mayor Jeff Northway, "Mr. Mayor you understand that they (Council Members) are taking with the advice of Counsel, sanctions could be brought against you by the Superior Court Judge of Effingham County?" Mayor Northway responded "Sir?"

Ratchford then asked, "Do you understand that you could face sanctions from the Superior Court Judge of Effingham County?" Mayor Northway responded "Yes, I am here under the direction of my Attorney."

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the Agenda.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 07/26/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 07/26/2011.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Robert J. Scroggs would like to discuss the process for opening a package store in Springfield.

City Manager Brett Bennett advised that we will have to conduct research in order to be aware of all the procedures for a referendum to be taken to the voters. A brief discussion followed, such as types of restrictions that could be placed, etc.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to direct the City Manager and the City Clerk to research and bring back to Council the procedures for a referendum which could possibly be taken to the voters.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Timothy Winemiller requested consideration for a business license at 503 North Laurel Street, in the name of "Effingham Service Center", for automotive repair.

Mr. Winemiller was not present at this time, but was present later in the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jamey Stancell – Jamey Stancell, President of the Springfield Merchants Association, addressed the Mayor and Council. Mr. Stancell expressed his disappointment, that we have some issues here and that he thought these issues were resolved by a Judge. Stancell went onto advise that if Northway really cared about the people who voted him in that he would have listened to what the Judge said.

Stancell then expressed his concerns with area water drainage problems.

Pete Lancaster spoke before the Mayor and Council in reference to the water drainage issues. Lancaster explained that he has had discussions with the City Manager in which they discussed different things that could be done to relieve the problem. Pete Lancaster asked for some help to get rid of that water.

The discussion continued resulting in the following discussion. Bennett would recommend, based on what he has seen and talked to Engineers and Contractors is to work on the area behind those buildings and get those areas graded and potentially section by section add on additional line on the other side of First Street, which will eliminate some of the drains that are running perpendicular to First Street, down Pine, and down Oak and down the lane behind the buildings there, which all dump into the same pipe. The line in front of Pete Lancaster's shop is severely over loaded.

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to authorize the City Manager to go ahead and grade behind the store and to also authorize the City Manager to get cost and estimates for water lines to go from First Street to Cleveland.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

OLD BUSINESS

Melisa Scott Bragg request consideration to use the City Meeting Room to conduct CPR/First aid Classes on some Saturday mornings and occasionally in the evening during the week, (This request was tabled at the 07/26/2011 Meeting).

Brett Bennett discussed the possibility of costs, with this request, and suggested that he felt that a fee of \$25 would be fair.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to lease the Meeting Room to Ms. Bragg in coordination with Ms. Rineair for the scheduling of such and set the fee at \$25.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration for approval of the City of Springfield Election Notice, which notified the public that a Municipal General Election will be held on November 8, 2011 and provides information on the Candidate Qualification period beginning August 29th and ending on September 2nd.

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the Election Notice to be advertised.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to award a contract to Y-Delta, Inc. in the amount of \$66,487.40, in reference to the 07/26/2011 bids received on the Ebenezer Road Pump Station Rehabilitation project.

Brett Bennett addressed the summary bid tabulation, in reference to the bids received on the Ebenezer Road Pump Station Rehabilitation Project, which could be paid out of SPLOST funds. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to authorize the City Manager to award a contract to Y-Delta, Inc. in the amount of \$66,487.40 in reference to the Ebenezer Road pump Station Rehabilitation Project.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to establish the position of Fire Chief and authorize the City Manager to advertise for the position.

City Manager Brett Bennett advised Council that the Service Delivery Strategy Agreement, reference the Fire Department, provides a budget for the City and outlining area and is split up 65% County, 35% City and is based on three City positions. The Council had been provided a few options to consider, with option "B" being identical to the County. Bennett suggested that this can be scaled down and does not have to take place overnight. An Ordinance or Resolution would have to be brought back for adoption. A brief discussion followed.

Bennett reminded Council that the actual request, at this time, was in reference to the position of Fire Chief and the advertisement.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to authorize the City Manager to establish the position of Fire Chief and authorize the City Manager to advertise for the position.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of the City of Springfield Fire Fees

This item was discussed during the "Consideration to establish the position of Fire Chief".

MAYOR NORTHWAY REQUESTED A TWO MINUTE BREAK

Mayor Northway did not request, nor receive, a motion for a brief recess. Northway left the Council room at 6:51 p.m. and returned to his seat at 6:54 p.m.

Mayor Northway did not request, nor receive, a motion to reconvene the meeting. Mayor Northway reconvened the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Timothy Winemiller requested consideration for a business license at 503 North Laurel Street, in the name of "Effingham Service Center", for automotive repair.

Timothy Winemiller appeared before the Council and apologized for being late, he thought the meeting started at 7:00 p.m. Winemiller then explained the location of the business. Mr. Winemiller advised that he will try to move the rest of the vehicles located at 503 North laurel Street by the end of the week. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve the business application of Timothy Winemiller for the "Effingham Service Center" located at 503 North Laurel Street pending the City Manager checking to be sure that the vehicles have been removed from the site.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

REPORTS

Administration

The City Manager explained that on Thursday, 08/11/11, a pre-construction conference will be held at 1:00 p.m. in reference to the sidewalk improvement project which is a non TE portion.

In reference to the Historic Society the Coastal incentive Bid project is in the works.

We should hear something on the CDBG for the railroad project, any day now.

Police Department

The Police Chief, Paul Wynn, advised that he felt that the "National Night Out" event went good and also briefly discussed recent thief's by entering autos.

Fire Department

Travis Zittrouer had provided the Fire Department Report for review. He was unavailable during this portion of the meeting, as he had been called out due to bad weather.

City Department Liaisons

No reports were given.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – reference Personnel and Pending Litigation.

The City Manager advised the Mayor and Council that the City Attorney Rick Rafter was unable to attend the meeting tonight and was out of town. Bennett went on to say that they could hold the executive session or perhaps wait until the City Attorney could be present. An Executive Session was not held.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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08/10/2011 Posted on City Website - The Minutes of the 07/26/2011 Meeting were approved on 08/09/2011

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting

Council Chambers July 26, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on July 26, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Jeff Ambrose.

MAYOR PRO-TEM JEFF AMBROSE AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Troy Allen | Charles Hinely |
| Butch Kieffer | Kenny Usher |
| Gary Weitman | |

Mayor Jeff Northway was unable to attend this meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager

Linda Rineair, City Clerk

Rick Rafter, City Attorney

GUEST PRESENT

Johnnie M. Martin

Robert Scruggs

Melisa Bragg

Richard Loper

John Meador

Tammy Meador

David Bragg

Paul Scott

Jamey Stancell

INVOCATION – Given by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to amend the Agenda under New Business to add Consideration to rescind the vote to award Springfield Chrysler with the purchase of a Dodge Charger, (which had been approved at the 06/28/11 Meeting), and to also add under New Business Consideration to authorize the purchase of a 2011 Dodge Charger from Butler Chrysler.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the Agenda as Amended.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 07/12/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 07/12/11.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

PAUL SCOTT, representing First Effingham Bank, requests an extension of the deadline in water service agreement, (originally Timlan, Inc.).

Paul Scott spoke before the Council in reference to this request. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to amend the contract to change the date to October 1, 2011.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

JOHNNIE MAE FIELDS MARTIN, request consideration for a business license, with the location being 107B North Laurel Street, for a Beauty Supply Store, with the name of the business being “Da Sistas Beauty Supply Store”.

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Johnnie Mae Fields Martins request for a business license at 107B N Laurel Street for a Beauty Supply Store, with the business name being “Da Sistas Beauty Supply Store”.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

TAMMY MEADOR requests consideration for a business license, with the location being 107A North Laurel Street, for a General Merchandise Store, with the name of the business being “Simple Things”.

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve Tammy Meador’s request for a business license at 107A N Laurel Street for a General Merchandise Store, with the business name being “Simple Things”.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

MELISA SCOTT BRAGG request consideration for to use the city meeting room to conduct CPR/First Aid Classes on some Saturday mornings and occasionally in the evening during the week.

A discussion followed. City Manager Brett Bennett advised that a few non-profit organizations have used the Council Room to hold their meetings and suggested that we may wish to consider some sort of minimal fee associated with this type of request.

MOTION TO TABLE: Usher made a motion to table this request until the next meeting.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION TO TABLE PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jamey Stancell expressed his appreciation, once again, for the assistance that has been given to the Springfield Merchants Association in reference to the sign that has gone up on the hill by the Sheriff’s Department. The sign is up and running and Stancell has already received requests for advertisements.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to approve construction plans for the Effingham Historic Society’s “Living History Site” related to the Coastal Incentive Grant.

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the construction plans for the Effingham Historic Society’s “Living History Site”.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to rescind the vote to award Springfield Chrysler with the purchase of a Dodge Charger (awarded at the 06/28/2011 Meeting).

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to rescind the 06/28/11 vote to award Springfield Chrysler with the purchase of the Dodge Charger.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION TO RESCIND VOTE PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the purchase of a 2011 Dodge charger from Butler Chrysler, (in the amount of \$23,164).

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to authorize the purchase of a 2011 Dodge Charger from Butler Chrysler in the amount of \$23,164.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ambrose reminded everyone that Tuesday, August 2nd, will be "National Night Out" at Ulmer Park from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

City Manager Brett Bennett gave a brief update in reference to the anticipation of an upcoming DOT notice to proceed.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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07/27/2011 Posted on City Website - The Minutes of the 07/12/2011 Meeting were approved on 07/26/2011

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting

Council Chambers July 12, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on July 12, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Jeff Ambrose | Troy Allen |
| Charles Hinely | Butch Kieffer |
| Gary Weitman | |

Council Member Kenny Usher was unable to attend this meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

- Brett Bennett, City Manager
- Linda Rineair, City Clerk
- Rick Rafter, City Attorney
- Paul Wynn, Police Chief
- Travis Zittrouer, Assistant Fire Chief
- Amber Nettles, Accounting Clerk

GUEST PRESENT

J. C. Madison

Jenny Coker

Donald Caines

INVOCATION – Given by Mayor Northway

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Mayor Northway

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the Agenda.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 06/28/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 06/28/11.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Jennifer Coker with Liberty Mutual presents the “Bring Back the Fourth” Grant check in the amount of \$10,000 to the City of Springfield

Jennifer Coker with Liberty Mutual presented the “Bring Back the Fourth” Grant check in the amount of \$10,000 to the City of Springfield Mayor and Council Members. This is the second year in a row that the City of Springfield has received this grant to go toward the Independence Day Fireworks Celebration.

Donald Caines presents results of the annual audit – reference the year 2010.

Donald Caines, representing Caines Hodges Pace & Company PC CPA, presented the results of the annual audit reference the year 2010. Caines referred to the correspondence that was forwarded along with the Audit to the Mayor and Council for their review. Caines noted no significant unusual transactions during the audit.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

OLD BUSINESS

Consideration for approval of the City of Springfield Purchasing Policy (Tabled at the 06/28/11 Meeting)

A brief discussion followed. City Manager Brett Bennett advised that the changes that were requested at the last meeting have been made and that copies were sent out in Council Packets with a strike-through thereby noting each change for their review.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the City of Springfield Purchasing Policy.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to authorize pay-off of the 2005 E-One Typhoon Fire Truck

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to authorize the pay-off of the 2005 E-One Typhoon Fire Truck.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

REPORTS

Administration

City Manager Brett Bennett advised that a sidewalk preconstruction conference should be held next week or shortly thereafter, reference Streetscape improvements.

Bennett also advised the Mayor and Council that a pre-bid meeting was held today in reference to the Ebenezer Pump Station. Bids will be due on July 26st. The cost estimate was high, but we will not really know until the bids come in.

Police Department

Police Chief Paul Wynn had provided copy of the monthly report in the packets sent out to the Mayor and Council for their review. Wynn indicated that citations are up. Wynn reminded the Mayor and Council that August 2nd is scheduled for National Night Out.

A brief discussion followed in reference to police vehicles.

Fire Department

Travis Zittrouer had provided copy of the monthly report in the packets sent out to the Mayor and Council for their review. Zittrouer advised that \$3,200 was raised for the MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association).

Zittrouer also advised that the State had come in and conducted an inspection on training records and the Fire Department passed with 100% compliance.

City Department Liaisons

No reports were given.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

07/13/11 Posted on City Website - The Minutes of the 06/28/11 Meeting were approved on 07/12/11

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting

Council Chambers June 28, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on June 28, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Jeff Ambrose	Charles Hinely
Kenny Usher	Gary Weitman

Troy Allen was unable to attend this meeting. Butch Kieffer would arrive later in the meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager

Linda Rineair, City Clerk

Rick Rafter, City Attorney

Travis Zittrouer, Assistant Fire Chief

Amber Nettles, Accounting Clerk

GUEST PRESENT

Ruth Lee Jamey Stancell

Melissa Reagan Betty Waller

INVOCATION – Given by Mayor Northway

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Mayor Northway

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to amend the Agenda by adding under Appearances item c – Ruth Lee requests consideration for a Resolution proclaiming the beginning of the 150th Commemoration of the Civil War (2011 – 2015) as part of National Observation to bring attention to the timeline and the many sites from this epic battle.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 06/14/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 06/14/11.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Betty Waller presents the Effingham County Scenic Byway

Was not present at the time her name was called. She would speak later in the meeting.

Donald Caines was to present the results of the annual audit – reference the year 2010

City Manager Brett Bennett advised that Donald Caines had noted an error on the report and that he will get the updated report to Brett Bennett tomorrow and will get it to the Mayor for review so that it can be submitted to the State by Thursday. Donald Caines will formally present the results of the annual audit at the next regular meeting.

Ruth Lee appeared before the Mayor and Council to request consideration for a Resolution (# R2011-5) proclaiming the beginning of the 150th Commemoration of the Civil War (2011-2015) as part of National Observation to bring attention to the time line and the many sites from this epic battle.

Ruth Lee discussed the importance of tourism. The Resolution would be a show of support and offers no commitments other than support. This is a joint resolution that is expected to be signed by the County and local governments.

A discussion followed ending with Ms. Lee reading the Resolution out loud.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the Resolution.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Council Member Butch Kieffer arrived at 6:24 p.m. and took his seat with the Mayor and Council Members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MELISSA REAGAN spoke to the Mayor and Council about the possibility of a Farmers Market, but is not sure what sort of support she would need from us. Liability is a problem that she expressed concerns about. The Mayor stated that the fairgrounds require proof of insurance.

The Fairgrounds is a large site with ample parking. Different suggestions were given.

Melissa Reagan explained that this would not be a Flea Market. It will be a Farmer's Market and explained that the plans would be in Springfield the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month. Reagan has approximately 10 vendors interested in this venture.

The Mayor and Council expressed interest in this idea. Attorney Rafter will discuss this with Brett Bennett and contact the insurance representative to see if there is any downside to this.

JAMEY STANCELL provided updates in reference to the Springfield Merchants Association. He explained that the sign will be up and running by next Friday.

They are working with Brett Bennett on the planters throughout the downtown area, which will be painted black with the intentions of placing an evergreen in each one with seasonal flowers.

A raffle will be held, the local merchants in town have the tickets. The \$1,500 that will be made from the raffle will go to restore the old clock.

Stancell said it has been a good year for the Springfield Merchants Association. The common goal is to bring people to Springfield.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to purchase a 2011 Dodge Charger from Springfield Chrysler in the amount of \$22,978, to be purchased from SPLOST funds.

A brief discussion followed. Ambrose advised that the vehicle is need within the next few months, advising that 4-6 weeks delivery is not bad. Several members of Council suggested the use of a local dealer. Mayor Northway advised that he personally had recently purchased a car from Springfield Chrysler.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to authorize the City Manager to purchase a 2011 Dodge Charger from Springfield Chrysler in the amount of \$22,978, to be purchased from SPLOST funds, with the stipulation of a delivery not longer than eight weeks.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Betty Waller arrived and appeared before the Mayor and Council in order to present a Resolution that she had received from Vance Smith, head of the DOT to the City of Springfield.

Betty Waller presented to the City of Springfield a framed resolution that she had received from Vance Smith, head of the DOT. Ms. Waller spoke of Sherman's march, which will be reacted at the living history site. A supper will not be served this year, but cookies and sweets will be available.

Consideration to authorize the surplus of the Fire Department 1995 Red Chevy Blazer 4x4.

Discussion followed with Travis Zittrouer advising that the transmission is locked up in one gear. Zittrouer said this vehicle could be surplus then auctioned off, accept sealed bids, or the Fire Department could use it for training purposed. The vehicle could be used for excavation training and then go to the scrap yard afterwards. All 25 volunteers could be at the station and able to participate with the training. A local wrecker service would haul it off at no charge.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to authorize the surplus of the Fire Department 1995 Red Chevy Blazer 4x4 and also donate the vehicle to the Fire Department to use in training as they see fit.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval of the City of Springfield Purchasing Policy.

Several minor changes were discussed. The Accounting Clerk, Amber Nettles, took note of each requested change suggested by the Council and City Attorney.

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to table the City of Springfield Purchasing Policy until the next meeting, thereby providing time for the requested changes.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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06/29/2011 Posted on City Website - Minutes of the 06/14/2011 Meeting were approved on 06/28/2011

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting

Council Chambers June 14, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on June 14, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Jeff Ambrose	Charles Hinely
Kenny Usher	Gary Weitman

Butch Kieffer was unable to attend this meeting. Troy Allen would arrive later in the meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk
Rick Rafter, City Attorney
Paul Wynn, Police Chief
Travis Zittrouer, Assistant Fire Chief

GUEST PRESENT

Russell Hightower	Jamey Stancell
Lawanda Davis	Parker Rahn
Linda Rahn	Charlie Brown
Athena Northway	

INVOCATION – Given by Council Member Charles Hinely

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Mayor Northway

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to amend the Agenda by adding under New Business item f – amendment to the budget.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to also amend the Agenda by removing the Executive Session from the Agenda and approve the Agenda as amended.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 05/31/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 05/31/11.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Lawanda Davis appeared before the Council requesting consideration for a home occupation located at 1030A Ash Street, for “Touch of Beauty Cleaning Service”, in order to conduct commercial and residential cleaning services.

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve Lawanda Davis request for a home occupation.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No public comments were made.

Council Member Troy Allen arrived at 6:10 p.m. and took his seat with the Mayor and Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Council for approval of a Sign Variance for a permanent sign requested by F. Parker Rahn for the Rahn Company, Inc. d/b/a Southside Chevron, located at 1283 Hwy 21 South. (This was brought before the Planning and Zoning Board on 06/06/11. The Planning and Zoning Board recommends approval of this sign variance).

F. Parker Rahn appeared before the Mayor and Council in reference to the requested sign variance. Mr. Rahn explained that the sign will have the capability to change from one message to another, but will not be like a strobe light. Concerns were expressed by Hinely and Usher. Mr. Rahn advised that the sign will have the same type of technology as the sign that was requested and approved to be placed on the hill near the Sheriff’s Department.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve F. Parker Rahn's request for a Sign Variance at 1283 Hwy 21 South.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council to incorporate Section 2.14 of the City of Springfield Standards of Practice (Personnel Policy), titled "Effingham County Prison Outside Detail Guidelines".

City Manager Brett Bennett advised that if any rules change that they will be updated and that personnel will be trained. In fact another training session is scheduled for Friday.

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion incorporate "Effingham County Prison Outside Detail Guidelines" into section 2.14 of the City of Springfield Standards of Practice (Personnel Policy).

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council for CRC appointment

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to reappoint Herb Jones to the CRC Board.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council to award a contract to E & D Coatings, Inc. in the amount of \$155,801.17 for the City of Springfield SR21 Streetscape Project

City Manager Bennett explained what the project entails and suggested an estimate of approximately 3 – 6 months for the project.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to award a contract to E & D Coatings, Inc. in the amount of \$155,801.17 for the City of Springfield SF21 Streetscape Project.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council to authorize a recycling pilot program for up to 100 homes on Ash Street, Laberta Circle, and a portion of Early Street.

Russell Hightower with Waste Management appeared before the Mayor and Council and discussed the potential pilot program. Mr. Hightower explained that during the pilot program that the residents will continue the normal garbage pickup schedule of two pickups a week but will add a recycling pickup every other week. Hightower suggested that once the recycling pilot

Program is underway that we will notice a considerable reduction in the actual garbage quantity. Plastic, aluminum cans, and glass containers take up a lot of space and can easily be placed in the recycling containers. Surveys will be sent to participants in the pilot program. A town meeting will be held in order to discuss the findings and also to receive input from citizens.

If the Council chooses to move forward with this program, after the recycling pilot program, it may very well reduce trash pickup to once weekly with recycling pickup every other week.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to authorize a recycling pilot program for up to 100 homes on Ash Street, Laberta Circle, and a portion of Early Street.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL OF AN ORDINANCE (# 2011-05) TO AMEND THE 2010 BUDGET ORDINANCE

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the Ordinance to amend the 2010 budget Ordinance.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

OLD BUSINESS

Consideration for approval of the Resolution and Adoption Agreement for the 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan (Tabled at the 05/31/11 Meeting)

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the Resolution (# R2011-4) and Adoption Agreement for the 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT – No discussion

REPORTS

Administration

A draft of the Purchasing Policy was given to the Mayor and Council for their review. City Manager Brett Bennett asked for their review and comments and advised that this will be brought back before Council at the next meeting for consideration for their approval.

The Coastal Incentive Program is moving along. The design is almost completed.

The WWTP Project was completed as of last week.

The Fire Department will be advertising for 2 new hires, daytime only. Effingham County will provide the City of Springfield the cost of these two firefighters.

Police Department

Police Chief Paul Wynn provided a copy of the Police Department report to the Mayor and Council. Chief Wynn noted that things are running fine at the Police Department, but that one car is currently down.

Fire Department

Travis Zittrouer provided a copy of the Fire Department report to the Mayor and Council. Zittrouer advised that last month was another busy month.

City Department Liaisons

The pledges that have been received toward the fireworks celebration were discussed.

Congratulations were offered to Travis Zittrouer for the completion of the leadership training program. Brett Bennett advised the Mayor and council that in the month of July the Council will need to decide if they wish to officially name Travis Zittrouer as the Fire Chief.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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06/15/2011 Posted on City Website - Minutes of 05/31/2011 Meeting were approved on 06/14/2011

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on May 31, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen	Jeff Ambrose
Charles Hinely	Butch Kieffer
Kenny Usher	

Gary Weitman was unable to attend this meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk
Rick Rafter, City Attorney

GUEST PRESENT

Yunsun Yang	Chelsea Bernardo	Jessica Hughes
Marissa Shadel	Taylor Lambert	Jordan Shields
Dahyanna Rosario	Carine Lam	AnneMarie Malin
Corey Fitch	Allison Bietsch	Estefania Vega
Sammy Jones	Lena Yue	Chelsea Porter
Sarah Leicht	Amanda Holmes	Jessenia Clemons
Rachel Self	Teresita Hollins	Trinity Falter
Tripp Armstrong	Tori Spriggs	Gussie Nease
Jamey Stancell	Levi Davis	Charlie Brown

INVOCATION – Given by Mayor Northway

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Mayor Northway

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED AGENDA

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to amend the Agenda by moving appearances to after Minute Approval prior to the SCAD Workshop and to also add item “d” under New Business – “Consideration to authorize the City Manager to sign a contract with Port City Design group in the amount of \$6,300 for Engineering Services related to the Rehabilitation of the Lift Station at Ebenezer Elementary School and to approve the Agenda as amended.”

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CORRECTION TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED MINUTES OF THE 04/26/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to make corrections to the 04/26/11 minutes; the 1st correction was on page 2 under “Additional Amendment to the Agenda” – Change motion made by Mayor Northway to Motion made by Ambrose. The 2nd correction was on page 4 under “Consideration to Approve Joint Resolution and Stipulation regarding Service Delivery Strategy” – Change motion made by Northway to motion made by Ambrose. Ambrose requested approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 04/26/11 as amended.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 05/10/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the minutes of the 05/10/2011 regular Meeting.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Lawanda Davis request consideration of Council to open a home occupation, located at 1030A Ash St. Ext., called “Touch of Beauty Cleaning Service”, in order to provide commercial and residential cleaning services.

Ms. Davis was not present. No action was taken on this request.

SCAD WORKSHOP – Presentations from the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) students – The project is a study of potential uses for the current City Hall building that can contribute to the revitalization efforts in Downtown Springfield. It is a collaboration between the Interior Design Department and the Graphic Design Department.

The Professor of Interior Design gave a brief description of the upcoming presentation explaining that seven ideas, seven groups, will be presenting their designs.

The first team, “**Gouverneur’s American Biergarten**” - On the first floor is a main entry, a restaurant with indoor seating, a gift shop, an outdoor Biergarten with picnic areas, a bar, and gaming pits. The second floor offered three residential lofts each one slightly different.

The second team, “**Copper Porch Brewery and Grill**” - The first floor offers a restaurant with a encased in glass interior brewery to provide a clear view of the brewing process, with kettle seating at the front and on the right side and with booth seating at the left front and 2 private rooms available with seating areas to the left of the brewery. This presentation also features an indoor and an outdoor bar and also has a porch seating area with a stage.

The third team, “**Nancy Hanks Station**”, offered the three “C’s”; cuisine, converse, culture, providing a multi-tenant space which could attract people from the other areas with the flexibility for different investors to establish buildings. To the left you could enter the café. Behind the café is the bar. To the right of the Café is the waiting room, with the restaurant area to its right. The restaurant has an upper area for additional seating. To the right of the restaurant is an outdoor patio area with a large parking area. Behind the parking area is a museum with a gift shop. Behind the museum is an outdoor train exhibit.

The forth team, “**Zuhause**”, which means “at home” in German, featured a brewery, restaurant, venue with the objective to revitalize Springfield providing space that is warm and make people feel at home. The exhibition kitchen would be in view of dinning. The floor plan provided for open space that leads to a large exterior Lounge and Beer Garden, with a greenhouse and a stage. Behind a small dining area is also an entertainment lounge.

The fifth team, “**Eurohaus**” – The first floor offers a restaurant with an entry that ties the countries together with the use of the European Union stars located on the floor. From the entry you enter the center stage with a bar at the far end which offers a flavor of Spain. To the left of the entry is a dining area representing Italy, behind this area is an open & airy dining room representing Greece, and further back is an area reminiscent of a British Pub with bench and high back seating with pool tables. To the right of the entry is a dining area with contemporary furnishings & rustic details that blend Switzerland’s past & present. To the right is a large outdoor beer garden. The second floor affords four apartments each with a galley style kitchen.

The sixth team, “**RR130**”, offered on the first floor a waiting area, gift shop, restaurant with indoor seating, a take-out area, outdoor seating with an outdoor stage area with an adjacent playground, and also a gaming area, where there is a step up lounge area. The second floor offered an arcade on both sides open to the bottom floor and also a gaming area.

A BRIEF RECESS WAS REQUESTED IN ORDER FOR THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL TO GET A CLOSER LOOK AT THE PRESENTATIONS AND ASK QUESTIONS OF THE SCAD STUDENTS

MOTION: Ambrose requested a brief recess at 6:31 p.m.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

THE MEETING BRIEFLY RECONVENED AT 7:03 P.M. IN ORDER FOR THE SEVENTH TEAM, WHICH HAD ARRIVED, COULD ALSO PROVIDE THEIR PRESENTATION

The seventh team, "**Brinson Station**" - came up with the name because this building was originally the Brinson Store. Their design offered convenience. . The Restaurant can be entered from the left and offers a variety of seating options. To the right of the restaurant entrance is the Bar. To the right of the bar is the Coffee Shop & Bakery. Behind this is the Ice Cream & Candy Shop. Behind this is the indoor Farmer's Market. To the right of the Coffee Shop is a large outdoor patio space with bench seating and also with seating around a fire pit which provides a quick stroll to a nearby pavilion.

ANOTHER BRIEF RECESS WAS PROVIDED AT 7:08 P.M. SO THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL COULD CONTINUE LOOKING OVER THE DESIGNS THAT WERE PROVIDED AND SPEAK INDIVIDUALLY WITH THE SCAD STUDENTS.

REQUEST TO RECONVENE THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to reconvene the Regular Meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

SCAD PRESENTERS TO BE RECOGNIZED

Usher asked that the City Manager come up with a way for the SCAD presenters to be recognized. Bennett will contact the professor in order to obtain some suggestions.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No public comments were made.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Council of a Resolution and Adoption Agreement in reference to the GMA 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to table this item in order for more information to be provided to Council.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION TO TABLE PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council to award a contract to E & D Enterprises for the City of Springfield Sidewalk Improvement Project (Non-TE)

The City Manager advised that he had sent out two separate emails and noted that this contract would be outside the TE Grant and would be funded locally.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to award a contract to E & D Enterprises in the amount of \$47,367.46 for the City of Springfield Sidewalk Improvement Project (Non-TE).

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council to award a contract for the lease and maintenance of the Sprayfield

Three sealed bids were received and were opened during the "Bid-Opening Process" on Friday May 27th at 3:30 p.m. City Manager Brett Bennett disclosed that Ben Boyd is his cousin. He disclosed this to the Mayor and Council even though Bennett does not have a vote in this matter, but just wanted them to be aware of this.

It was suggested that Attorney Rafter add a line in the contract specifying no hunting.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to award a contract for the lease and maintenance of the Sprayfield to Coastal Plains Farming Company with the bid amount of \$6,230.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to sign a contract with Port City Design group in the amount of \$6,300 for Engineering Services related to the Rehabilitation of the Lift Station at Ebenezer Elementary School

A brief discussion followed. When asked about the possibility of using SPLOST funds, Bennett advised that this would be a complete rehab and that he will check with the auditor to be sure SPLOST funds could be used.

The engineer will inspect the project to be sure that it is done correctly. Bennett advised that we will still look into what we can do, if anything, about the original project, but that we need to go ahead and get this fixed and advised that 60 days is conservative, but that it can probably be done in a couple of weeks.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to authorize the City Manager to sign a contract with Port City Design Group in the amount of \$6,300 for engineering services related to the rehabilitation of the Lift Station at Ebenezer Elementary School.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of the Water/Sewer agreement for Shadowbrook Subdivision and Habitat for Humanity

Jimmy Roland, with Habitat for Humanity stepped forward to address the Mayor and Council. Copies of the original water/sewer agreement had been sent out in packets for the Mayor and Council's review prior to the meeting.

Mr. Roland expressed his concerns for the impact fees, suggesting that this is steep for Habitat for Humanity. The whole purpose of Habitat for Humanity is to provide decent housing. Bennett advised that we have more flexibility with a Water/Sewer agreement outside the City. Attorney Rafter will look into this.

Mr. Roland stated that they will serve only residents in Effingham County and that the Heritage Bank may be working with them. The City of Guyton helped out Habitat for Humanity until the last house which was charged \$6,000. Roland also suggests that perhaps the City does not need to have fees higher than the County.

Jimmy Roland also advised the Mayor and Council that they are well into the process of becoming HUD certified builders and also HUD lenders.

City Manager Brett Bennett suggested that Attorney Rafter and he look at some other communities in the area and also check with the banks as well. Habitat for Humanity was recognized as a great organization for all that they do. More details will be obtained and brought back before Council.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – Reference Personnel

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move from the Regular Meeting into an Executive Session to discuss personnel, at 8:14 p.m.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

The City Clerk exited the Council Room at 8:14 p.m.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

The City Clerk returned to the Council Room at 8:36 p.m.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consideration to approve a contract with Rick Rafter to provide professional services as City Attorney

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve a contract with Rick Rafter to provide professional services as City Attorney.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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06/02/11 Posted on City Website - The Minutes of the 05/10/11 Meeting were approved on 05/31/11

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting

Council Chambers May 10, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on May 10, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Jeff Ambrose	Charles Hinely
Butch Kieffer	Kenny Usher
Gary Weitman	

Troy Allen was unable to attend this meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk
Rick Rafter, City Attorney
Paul Wynn, Police Chief
Travis Zittrouer, Assistant Fire Chief

GUEST PRESENT

Ricky Deas	Charlie Brown
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INVOCATION – Given by Butch Kieffer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Mayor Northway

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the Agenda.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 04/26/2011 REGULAR MEETING

Ambrose noted a typo that needed to be corrected as to Jeff Ambrose gave the invocation and Mayor Northway led the Pledge of Allegiance at the 04/26/2011 Meeting.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 04/26/11 with the typo correction.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Ricky Deas, of Coastal Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), appeared before the Mayor and Council, requesting consideration for the use of Ulmer Park for a boy's baseball camp and a girls' softball camp, hosted by the Springfield United Methodist Church, for various dates (As listed on the Agenda request)

A brief discussion followed with the clarification that the fence needs to go back up. City Manager Brett Bennett advised that we will get it back up.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Ricky Deas request.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No public comments were made

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Council of a Resolution (Number R2011-3) adopting an Employee Seat Belt Policy.

City Manager Brett Bennett advised the Mayor and Council that this came up during the process of researching a grant that Travis Zittrouer is working on. The Employee Seat Belt Policy will be incorporated into the Personnel Policy at a later date when it is again updated.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the Resolution adopting an Employee Seat Belt Policy.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council to rescind the vote made on 04/26/11 in which Brannen Motor Company was awarded the bid for the purchase of a truck for the Fire Department.

City Manager Brett Bennett explained that Brannen Motor Company had advised that they could not meet the requirement of the delivery date and stated that it would be a minimum of two months on the delivery.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to rescind the vote made at the 04/26/11 meeting in which Brannen Motor Company had been awarded the bid for the purchase of a truck for the Fire Department.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Motion to reject all other bids in reference to the 04/26/11 meeting for the purchase of a truck for the Fire Department.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to reject all other bids discussed at the 04/26/11 meeting for the purchase of a truck for the Fire Department.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council to approve the purchase of a truck for the Fire Department through GSA (Ford F150 4x4 Crew Cab Pickup Truck).

The City Manager Brett Bennett explained that the GSA price comparison was actually less than the other sealed bids which had received.

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to accept the GSA price of \$24,356.15 for the purchase of a Ford pick-up truck for the Fire Department.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Liberty Mutual "Bring Back the Fourth" Contest

Brett Bennett advised that he had sent out emails last week. Bennett requested that others be asked to take the quiz and be sure they enter Springfield 31329. We will receive points regardless of right or wrong answers taken in the quiz. We also have received a good response this year.

Bennett also remarked about the pledges of donations we have already received in reference to the Independence Day Fireworks Celebration. We have received pledges from the Effingham Board of Commissioners, EFACEC, and the City of Guyton, along with several others.

Mayor Northway asked questions in reference to the Storage of Materials

Attorney Rafter stated that he did not believe that a business license will be needed. The storage trailers will be on private property, reference Hospital Materials.

REPORTS

Administration

SCAD Project

Bennett had sent an email a month or so ago reference potential projects. SCAD selected this building (The City Hall Building), as a possible revitalization project. SCAD would like to provide a public presentation on the 31st at 6:00 p.m.

TE Grant

Two meetings were held today, one at 1 p.m., the other at 2 p.m. It is moving along. Both projects will go through bids. Once we have ordered a bidder it should be a two week turn-around period. Two local contractors from Effingham attended.

Coastal Incentive Grant

Council had previously approved Engineers to be obtained. The project design of Kern and Coleman should be moving along pretty soon.

Police Department

Police Chief Paul Wynn presented the Police Department report. Wynn advised that warrants were issued on one incident that occurred at Harvey's yesterday.

Police Chief Wynn expressed his thanks for all of the support he has received during the last few weeks (reference the death of his father).

Fire Department

Assistant Fire Chief Travis Zittrouer presented the Volunteer Fire Department report and remarked that two building fires were in the service area. They were able to save a single-wide trailer. The other was a three story garage that had burnt to the ground. The Fire Department also installed a smoke detector for a senior citizen.

City Department Liaisons

No reports were given.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – Reference Pending Litigation

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion at 6:30 p.m. to move from the Regular Meeting into an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion at 6:37 p.m. to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Action was taken.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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06/02/11 Posted on City Website - The Minutes of the 04/26/11 Meeting were Approved as Amended on 05/31/11

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting

Council Chambers April, 26, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on April 26, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Troy Allen | Jeff Ambrose |
| Charles Hinely | Butch Kieffer |
| Gary Weitman | |

Kenny Usher was unable to attend this meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager

Linda Rineair, City Clerk

Hillary Burns, City Attorney

Travis Zittrouer, Fire Department

GUEST PRESENT

Charlie Brown

Darrin Brown

Jamey Stancell

Athena Northway

INVOCATION – led by Jeff Ambrose

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Mayor Northway

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to amend the Agenda by adding the following items to the Agenda:

- 10 (a) Consideration to approve Joint Resolution and Stipulation regarding Service Delivery Strategy
- 10 (b) Consideration to approve Water/Sewer Map for Service Delivery Strategy
- 10 (c) Consideration to approve Fire Response and Automatic Aid Maps
- 10 (d) Consideration to approve updated Service Delivery Strategy for Recreation
- 10 (e) Consideration to approve updated Service Delivery Strategy for Road Construction and Maintenance
- 10 (f) Consideration to approve updated County Jail Agreement
- 10 (g) Consideration to approve updated Fire Services Agreement
- 11 (a) Consideration of the April 14, 2011 Resignation letter of City Attorney
- 7 (b) Consideration of the purchase of a pickup truck for the fire department

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

ADDITIONAL AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to add Item 7 (c) to the Agenda – Approval of the GMA slate of officers listed nominated as GMA’s District 12 Officers for the year 2011 - 2012

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS AMENDED

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 04/12/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 04/12/2011.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Cedar Creek Resident, Mr. Brown, commented that he is seeing activity coming along on the Cedar Creek drainage issues. City Manager Brett Bennett discussed the various ways that staff have looked for drainage problems and of the different areas looked into.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration for approval of Ordinance # 2011-04 to impose license fees on insurers (GMA provided sample Ordinance).

The City Manager and the City Clerk briefly explained that a sample Ordinance had been forwarded to us from GMA and essentially this Ordinance would increase the current fee from \$25 to \$40 on insurers, (effective 01/01/2012 as specified in the Ordinance).

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve an Ordinance to impose license fees on insurers.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to approve the purchase of a truck for the Fire Department

City Manager Brett Bennett and Assistant Fire Chief Travis Zittrouer went over the two sealed bids received and also the GSA Price Comparison which can only be used for the purchase of emergency vehicles. Zittrouer recommended the bid received from Brannen Motor Company as they noted no exceptions to the bid specifications.

Mayor Northway asked if Brannen Motors could be contacted to see if they would increase the warranty from a 5 to a 6 year warranty. Brett Bennett explained that this was a sealed bid process and the warranty was specified by the actual bidder.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2011 Ford F150XL Crew cab Truck from Brannen Motor Company at \$25,465 plus an additional cost of \$1,370 for a 5 year/100,000 mile Premium Care Warranty.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for Approval of the GMA slate of officers listed for nomination as GMA District 12 Officers for the year 2011 – 2012

Mayor Northway read the list of nominees on the ballot: as President – Charles Frasier, Mayor Pro Tem of Hinesville; First Vice President – Tony Thomas, Council Chairman of Savannah; Second Vice President – Luciria Lovette, Councilmember of Walthourville; Third Vice President – Keith Post, Councilmember of St. Marys.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve that the city is in favor of the proposed slate of officers for the GMA District 12 Officers for the year 2011 – 2012.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION –
Reference Personnel and Pending Litigation

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to move from the Regular Meeting into an Executive Session at 6:35 p.m.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

The City Clerk exited the Council Room and was not present during the Executive Session

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

The City Clerk returned to the Council Room at 7:25 p.m.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ALL AGREEMENTS, STIPULATIONS, AND RESOLUTIONS, AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE SERVICE DELIVERY SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE JOINT RESOLUTION AND STIPULATION REGARDING SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve Joint Resolution and Stipulation regarding Service Delivery Strategy.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE WATER/SEWER MAP FOR SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve Water/Sewer map for Service Delivery Strategy.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE FIRE RESPONSE AND AUTOMATIC AID MAPS

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve Fire Response and Automatic Aid Maps.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE UPDATED SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY FOR RECREATION

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve updated Service Delivery Strategy for Recreation.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE UPDATED SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve updated Service Delivery Strategy for Road Construction and Maintenance.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE UPDATED COUNTY JAIL AGREEMENT

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve updated County Jail Agreement.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE UPDATED FIRE SERVICES AGREEMENT

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve updated Fire Services Agreement.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON OTHER ITEM(S) FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

CONSIDERATION OF THE APRIL 14, 2011 RESIGNATION LETTER OF CITY ATTORNEY

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to accept the April 14, 2011 resignation letter of the City Attorney, Hillary Burns, while maintaining Attorney Burns representation on the Service Delivery action.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO APPOINT A CITY ATTORNEY

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to appoint Rick Rafter as the City Attorney.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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04/28/11 Posted on City Website - The Minutes of the 04/12/11 Meeting were approved on 04/26/11

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting

Council Chambers April, 12, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on April 12, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen	Jeff Ambrose
Charles Hinely	Kenny Usher

Butch Kieffer was unable to attend this meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager

Linda Rineair, City Clerk

Hillary Burns, City Attorney

Paul Wynn, Police Chief

Travis Zittrouer, Fire Department

GUEST PRESENT

Stephanie Weitman Dixie Weitman

Wade Brown Robert Dudley

Jamey Stancell Athena Northway

INVOCATION – led by Mayor Northway

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Mayor Northway

SWEARING IN CEREMONY, BY JUDGE ED REDDICK, OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED COUNCIL MEMBER, GARY WEITMAN, TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF MAX NEIDLINGER

Judge Ed Reddick performed the swearing in ceremony of the Newly Appointed Council Member, Gary Weitman, to fill the unexpired term of Max Neidlinger which will end on 12/31/2011. After the ceremony Council Member Gary Weitman was congratulated by the Mayor and Council then took his seat with Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the Agenda.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 03/22/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 03/22/2011.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Chad Jung request consideration to open “Low Country Baseball and Softball Academy” located at 606 Laurel Street (Change in Ownership)

A brief discussion followed. Mayor Northway noted that this is just a change in ownership.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve Chad Jung’s request to open “Low Country Baseball and Softball Academy”, a change in ownership, located at 606 Laurel Street.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Robert Dudley request consideration to open a home occupation “Dudley’s landscaping”, at 105 Dogwood Court

Robert Dudley appeared before Council requesting consideration to open a home occupation, with the name of the business being “Dudley’s landscaping”, with the location being 105 Dogwood Court.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve Robert Dudley's requested for a home occupation, "Dudley's landscaping", at 105 Dogwood Court.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Council Member Gary Weitman excused himself and stepped out of the Council Room.

Dixie Weitman requests consideration to open a home occupation, "Springfield Traditions," a catering service, at 202 North Railroad Avenue

Dixie Weitman appeared before Council requesting consideration to open a home occupation, with the name of the business being "Springfield Traditions", with the location being 202 North Railroad Avenue. Dixie Weitman explained that she will be cooking and delivering to each site.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve Dixie Weitman's request for a home occupation, "Springfield Traditions", at 202 North Railroad Avenue.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Council Member Gary Weitman returned to the Council Room and took his seat with the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No public comments were made

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Council to authorize the City Manager to sign the contract with Falcon Fireworks for \$15,000, reference the Independence Day Fireworks Celebration, which is scheduled to be held on 07/02/2011 at the Effingham County High School Athletic Field.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to authorize the City Manager to sign the contract with Falcon Fireworks for \$15,000 reference the Independence Day Fireworks Celebration.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council to approve an Ordinance to regulate transient merchants and peddlers within the City of Springfield

City Manager Brett Bennett explained some of the reasons for this Ordinance resulting from the recent yard sale Ordinance. Bennett explained that some property owners do not mind their vacant property being used for yard sales. Perhaps those property owners could provide documentation to the City of Springfield giving permission for others to set up on their property. Attorney Burns explained that quite a bit of language was set up in this Ordinance from another city's ordinance and advised that this may give other business owners a sense of fairness. Burns stated that festival peddler had been taken out of the Ordinance and that she would make changes that Council request be made.

Discussion followed on the possibility of property owner's obtaining a business license to allow yard sales on their vacant property; difficult to enforce Yard Sale Ordinance as it is now.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to Table this Ordinance until the next meeting.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED TO TABLE - unanimous without objection.

REPORTS

Administration

Brett Bennett advised that he has sent out emails reference the Streetscape Project – waiting on authorization to go out for bids. It is a matter of going through the steps with the DOT.

The Dike Project at the Waste Water Treatment Plant is 70% completed.

Reference DNR Funds – We are in the process of getting proposals from engineers.

Hwy 119 Bypass is being put on unconstrained projects list.

The Temporary Sign Ordinance is coming along with a few challenges.

“Ole Effingham Days” will be held in Ulmer Park and will have a child’s play area set up.

Mayor Northway reminded everyone of the Barbecue Cook-off that will be held at the Fairgrounds this weekend.

Police Department

Police Chief Paul Wynn presented the City of Springfield Police Department report and advised that the department is running fine. The fuel line item is up.

Fire Department

Assistant Fire Chief Travis Zittrouer presented the City of Springfield Volunteer Fire Department report and advised that the numbers have gone up. During the past few months a lot of training has been done. When asked about the Pension Fund Zittrouer advised that eight are eligible members for the pension program and that we have paid the second months dues.

City Department Liaisons

No reports were given.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – Reference Pending Litigation

MOTION: Allen made a motion at 6:35 p.m. to move from the Regular Meeting into an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

City Clerk, Linda Rineair, excused herself from the Council Room.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion at 7:06 p.m. to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

City Clerk, Linda Rineair, returned to the Council Room.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Action was taken.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting

Council Chambers

March 22, 2011

Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on March 22, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Jeff Ambrose	Troy Allen
Charles Hinely	Butch Kieffer
Kenny Usher	

A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk
Hillary Burns, City Attorney

GUEST PRESENT

Wade Brown	Darrin Brown
Charlie Brown	Craig S. Bonnell
Jamey Stancell	Athena Northway

INVOCATION – led by Council Member Kieffer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Mayor Northway

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to remove discussion of the City Charter from the Agenda, per request of the City Attorney.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to add item “i” under New Business – Consideration to authorize the Mayor to sign the “Match Letter” to the GA DCA reference CDBG funding.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS AMENDED

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the Agenda as Amended.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 03/08/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 03/08/2011.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Craig S. Bonnell addressed the Mayor and Council with an inquiry into the release to the newspaper of the Ante Litem Notice that Attorney Bonnell served on the City Manager on Tuesday, 03/01/11, specifically to have Council address the following issues:

1. To whom, when, and how did the City Manager distribute the Ante Litem Notice after it was served on him?
2. Do the Council and Mayor consider the disclosure of the Ante Litem Notice a breach of ethics, or an impropriety?
3. If the Council considers the disclosure unethical, will it refer the matter to the newly constituted ethics committee for investigation?

Council Member Usher asked that Attorney Bonnell explain what an Ante Litem Notice is to those in attendance at the meeting. Attorney Bonnell advised that this is a notice given to a Municipality before a claim can be given. It is just a preliminary notice and is a requirement in order to be able to make a claim against a Municipality. Attorney Bonnell stressed that this does not mean a claim will be filed.

Attorney Bonnell asked to whom, when, and how the City Manager distributed the Ante Litem Notice after it was served on him. City Manager Brett Bennett answered that it was served via email to the Mayor and Council and possibly copied to the City Attorney on March 2nd around 11:22 a.m.

Council Member Hinely advised that he opened the email around 6:30 p.m. and did not notify anyone. Council Member Usher advised that his wife was on the computer and he went over to open the email about an Ante Litem Notice. Usher stated that this was around 7:00 p.m. that night and that he notified no one. Council Member Kieffer stated that he opened it about 5:30 p.m. that afternoon and notified no one. Council Member Ambrose opened the email about 5:00 p.m. and notified no one. Council Member Allen opened the email shortly after it was sent and advised that he has not notified anyone of it.

Mayor Northway was asked if he wished to respond. Mayor Northway declined to respond.

Attorney Bonnell asked if the Council and Mayor considered the disclosure of the Ante Litem Notice a breach of ethics or an impropriety. Attorney Burns advised that items 2 & 3 is a matter to be discussed by the Mayor, Council, and the City Attorney. When asked by Bonnell if there is a plan to meet with Council on this matter, Attorney Burns responded that the Council could discuss this with her if they choose to. Attorney Bonnell brought up the question that had been raised on the unsigned Ante Litem Notice. Bonnell presented a signed copy to the City Manager at approximately 6:15 p.m. Attorney Bonnell went on to explain that an unsigned notice was still a valid notice.

Also during the discussion it was made clear that Ethical Complaints can be filed by anyone feeling that an ethical violation has taken place.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No Public Comments were made.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to open the floor for nominations to fill the vacant council seat (of former Council Member Max Neidlinger which will expire at the end of this year)

MOTION: Usher made a motion to open the floor for nominations to fill the vacant council seat.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Nominations to fill the vacant council seat

Council Member Ambrose offered the nomination of Gary Weitman.

Consideration to close the floor for nominations to fill the vacant council seat

MOTION: Usher made a motion to close the floor for nominations to fill the vacant council seat.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of an appointment to fill the vacant council seat.

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to appoint Gary Weitman to fill the vacant council seat.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to appoint Attorney Rick Rafter as Judge for a day – April 2, 2011.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to appoint Attorney Rick Rafter as Judge for a day – April 2, 2011.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to approve the Springfield Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's).

A discussion followed with Assistant Fire Chief Travis Zittrouer advising the Mayor and Council on the long process that Amber Nettles and he went through in developing the SOP's prior to forwarding them to the City Attorney for review.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve the Springfield Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's).

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the surplus trailer, (which had been surplus at the 02/08/11 Council Meeting) serial # 2330-00-898-6780 Model # M116A1 to be donated to the Effingham County Fire Department.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to authorize the surplus trailer to be donated to the Effingham County Fire Department.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to approve a donation to the Olde Effingham Days Committee for the funding of the Olde Effingham Days Festival that will be held on April 15th and 16th.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve a donation of \$1,000 to the Olde Effingham Days Committee for the funding of the Olde Effingham Days Festival.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to solicit bids for a pickup truck for the Fire Department.

The condition and numerous repairs made to the current vehicle for the Fire Department were discussed. City Manager Brett Bennett suggested the need for a crew cab truck, one similar to Nate's truck. The discussion continued. Usher would like this bid out. Bennett

advised that this could be bid out by the end of the week and run for 15 days. Bids would come back before Council for their review. Bennett also suggested the possibility of a State Contract.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to authorize the City Manager to solicit bids, including State Contracts, for a pickup truck for the Fire Department.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the Mayor to sign the "Match Letter" to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs reference CDBG funding – advising that the City of Springfield will make available \$75,000 in direct cash match toward completion of the proposed program.

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the "Match Letter" to the GA DCA reference CDBG funding – advising that the City will make available up to \$75,000 in direct cash match toward the completion of the proposed program.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of Cedar Creek drainage system

City Manager Brett Bennett explained what has already been reviewed and what other drains need to be checked. Bennett also advised that he has a meeting with the Engineer scheduled for Thursday. Bennett will have more information to report after Thursday's meeting.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION –
Reference Pending Litigation

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to move from the regular meeting into an executive session at 6:40 p.m. – reference pending litigation.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move from the executive session back into the regular meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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[03/23/2011 Posted on Website - The minutes of the 03/08/2011 meeting were approved on 03/22/2011](#)

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on March 8, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Jeff Ambrose	Charles Hinely
Butch Kieffer	Kenny Usher

Troy Allen was unable to attend this meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk
Hillary Burns, City Attorney
Paul Wynn, Police Chief
Travis Zittrouer, Fire Department

GUEST PRESENT

Wade Brown	Charlie Brown
Floyd Masters	Carolyn Masters
Adam Harden	Jamey Stancell
Karen Page	Craig Bonnell

INVOCATION – led by Council Member Kieffer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Mayor Northway

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to amend the Agenda by adding the item Nomination for the Ethics Commission.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the Agenda as Amended.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 02/22/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 02/22/2011.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Karen Page appeared before the Mayor and Council to request consideration to open a gift, home accessories, apparel, and baked goods business located at 112 North Laurel Street with the name being "Estat's"

Karen Page explained that this is the House next to Blockers and that she hopes to have seasonal items such as garden accessories and gift items for men. Cookies and baked breads will also be brought in for sale.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Karen Page's request to open a gift, home accessories, apparel, and baked goods business located at 112 North Laurel Street with the name being "Estat's".

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No public comments were made

NEW BUSINESS

2011 Community Block Grant (CDBG) program – disclosure – George Goldwire and Frederick Dillard are city employees that live in the project activity location. These city employees have no decision-making authority with the city

Mayor Northway publically noted that George Goldwire and Frederick Dillard are city employees that live in the project activity location of the 2011 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and also noted that these city employees have no decision-making authority with the city.

Request that the City Attorney, Hillary Burns, render an opinion concerning what may be a technical or apparent conflict of interest under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program regulations

City Attorney Hillary Burns offered the City Attorney Opinion concerning the FY2011 CDBG Application. Attorney Burns also provided a letter which will be sent to Director Steed Robinson, Office of Community Development, GA Department of Community Affairs, stating that public disclosure of the apparent conflict was made at the City Council Meeting held on 03/08/2011, wherein it was disclosed that the two employees live in the project activity location and that any future involvement should further reveal a disclosure of any interest by the Mayor or any other City Council member in the CDBG program, etc.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to accept Attorney Burns Opinion.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize Mayor Northway to sign two DCA letters reference the CDBG Application; one providing information on a technical conflict of interest under the CDBG program regulations; and the other requesting an exemption to HUD Regulations, "Conflict of Interest."

Discussion followed.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign two DCA letters reference the CDBG Application; one letter providing information on a technical conflict of interest under the CDBG program regulations; and the other letter requesting an exemption to HUD Regulations, "Conflict of Interest."

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to negotiate an agreement with Warren Ratchford for water services at 1575 Hwy 21 South

City Manager Brett Bennett explained that Warren Ratchford had requested water services and that Mr. Ratchford would assume costs. Hinely suggested that this be considered due to the fact that Mr. Ratchford had been told approximately three years ago that he would be able to obtain water services.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to authorize the City Manager to negotiate an agreement with Warren Ratchford for water services at 1575 Hwy 21 South. This agreement will be brought back before Council for approval.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Ethics Committee Nomination

MOTION: Usher made a motion to open the floor for nominations.

MOTION: Hinely suggested Murray Kight as a nomination to the Ethics Committee and asked to close the nominations.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion to close the nominations.

MOTION PASSED to close nominations - unanimous without objection.

Ethics Committee Appointment (Term of four years)

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve Murray Kight as an appointment to the Ethics Committee.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of inter fund balances between General Fund and the Water/Sewer Fund

City Manager Brett Bennett reminded Council that a loan from the General Fund had been processed to the Water/Sewer Fund over fifteen years ago. This needs to be settled by perhaps a permanent transfer or by a Pay Back Plan. The City Manager recommends a Pay Back Plan, whereby structured payments could be made annually, monthly, or quarterly.

The City Manager was asked to look at possible rate changes and a structured payment plan and bring these back before Council for their review.

REPORTS

Administration

Brett Bennett discussed the Cedar Creek drainage issues. The water department will check for damaged pipe, which will require digging. A sock drain runs from the storm drain all around the Cedar Creek Subdivision on the high side. The sock drain was not actually on the approved plans. Regardless, it is possible that when power lines were buried some of the drain lines could have been damaged.

Old Effingham Days was also discussed, with the Swinging Medallions coming to Ulmer Park. A portion of the outside fence would need to be removed.

Police Department

Police Chief Paul Wynn presented the Police Department report, adding that calls are up. Wynn also advised the Mayor and Council that he will be meet with Norman Ward of ABATE tomorrow to go over the details of the upcoming event.

Fire Department

Assistant Fire Chief Travis Zittrouer presented the Fire Department report, adding that the Volunteer Fire Department assisted another agency on a building fire. The Volunteer Fire Department also assisted with the search for a missing person.

A Volunteer Fire Fighter, John Wesley Hughey, has been diagnosed with brain cancer. He is a father of four and self-employed. A recent boot drive resulted in \$9,000 collected toward the John Wesley Hughey Relief Fund.

City Council Department Liaisons

Council Member Hinely asked about the DOT and Intersection Project. Brett Bennett advised that nothing new has come up and that July 1st is still the anticipated LET date.

In reference to the Streetscape – the City should get a LET date around the first of April. LET simply means that projects can be put out for bids.

Council Member Kieffer remarked on the notable progress of the marque at the theatre.

**CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION –
Reference Pending Litigation**

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to move from the regular meeting into an executive session at 6:37 p.m. – reference pending litigation.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to move from the executive session back into the regular meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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[03/10/2011 Posted on Website - The minutes of the 02/22/11 meeting were approved on 03/08/11](#)

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting

Council Chambers February 22, 2011 Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on February 22, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen	Jeff Ambrose
Charles Hinely	Butch Kieffer
Kenny Usher	

Max Neidlinger was unable to attend this meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager

Linda Rineair, City Clerk

Hillary Burns, City Attorney

GUEST PRESENT

Wade Brown	Tamara Tyre
Jonathan Thompson	Grady Rahn
Derrell Banks	Floyd Masters
Carolyn Masters	Darrin Brown
Adam Harden	Charlie Brown
Paul Lindsay	Jamey Stancell
Pearl Thomas	Connie Burns
Athena Northway	

INVOCATION – lead by Mayor Northway

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – lead by Mayor Northway

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Usher made a motion to amend the Agenda adding under New Business a. Max Neidlinger resignation, and also f. Stipulation providing Summarization regarding Government Services and to approve Agenda as amended.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 02/08/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 02/08/2011.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Tamara Tyre – Effingham Theatre – requests consideration to put on a free play in Springfield

Tamara Tyre explained that this event had originally been planned for March, but has been changed to April of 2011. Ms. Tyre explained that no admission would be charged. Generally 10-30 people will attend the event. This is a block party type of event, which requires about as much space as a 2-car garage. Discussion followed with Usher suggesting that a permit would not be needed for this event. Tyre stated that the event is usually held around 3 p.m. on a Saturday or Sunday. Refreshments would be entirely the responsibility of the group (host of the event).

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the use of the City of Springfield parking lot as a location for the event and that it could be held on both Saturday and Sunday April 9th and 10th, 2011.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Connie Burns discussed “The Great American Cleanup”

Connie Burns provided information on “The Great American Cleanup”. Ms. Burns gave several examples such as an event could be Education on Cleanup; an event could be held to shred papers; perhaps an event to clean up around a few homes; groups could conduct a litter cleanup; and several other examples were given. Volunteers could include the Boy scouts, Students, Church groups, or any interested residents. Ms. Burns further explained that the event could be signed up and managed from the county, if we so wish.

The Council suggested that this be given much thought and requested that City Manager Bennett research this and bring back suggestions to the next meeting.

Charles Brown spoke before the Mayor and Council requesting a follow up on the drainage issues in the Cedar Creek Subdivision

Charles Brown spoke of the issues of flooding in the Cedar Creek Subdivision, remarking that the street is coming up at 129 Harvest Drive. A discussion followed. Council Member’s explained that when the plans were approved that the plans included a drainage ditch. Council Member Kieffer asked Mayor Northway if he remembered a ditch being in that Subdivision when he moved in. Mayor Northway, a resident of the Cedar Creek Subdivision, remarked that he did not remember a ditch being in the Subdivision. Questions of who covered the ditches were left unanswered.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to direct the City Attorney and the City Manager to come up with legal opinions on this matter and bring back before the Council at the next meeting.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No Comments

OLD BUSINESS

Consideration for approval of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Incentive Grant Award Agreement Cycle XIII (Tabled at the 02/08/2011 Meeting)

The project has to stay under \$100,000. Discussion followed. Mayor Northway requested a copy of the construction estimate.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Incentive Grant Award Agreement.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize funds for engineering for the project funded by the Coastal Incentive Grant not to exceed 10% of project costs

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to authorize funds for engineering for the project funded by the Coastal Incentive Grant not to exceed 10% of project costs.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval of Service Delivery Strategy Intergovernmental Agreement in reference to Fire Protection Services (Tabled at the 02/08/11 Meeting)

Mayor Northway recognized Attorney Hillary Burns on the hard work that she has done on the Service Delivery process.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the Service Delivery Strategy Intergovernmental Agreement in reference to Fire Protection Services.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval of Service Delivery Strategy Intergovernmental Agreement in reference to Recreation

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve the Service Delivery Strategy Intergovernmental Agreement in reference to Recreation.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the sale of eight Glock 22 pistols, which were approved to be surplus at the 02/08/11 meeting, to Police Officers through a signed agreement with options for full payment or weekly payroll deductions (Tabled at the 02/08/11 Meeting)

Council Members discussed this matter.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to authorize the sale of the eight Glock 22 pistols to Police Officers through signed agreements with option for full payment or weekly payroll deductions.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED by a vote of **4 YES** (Allen, Ambrose, Hinely and Kieffer) and **1 NO** (Usher).

Consideration of Council Member Max Neidlinger Resignation

Mayor Northway read Max Neidlinger's resignation letter to the Council and to those present at this meeting. Northway remarked that he hates to see him leave and wishes him well, remarked on Neidlinger's 17 years of service, etc. Council Member Allen asked for clarification from the Mayor on what the Council would be voting on; asking if the Council would be voting to accept the request made by Max Neidlinger reference his resignation. Mayor Northway stated yes.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to accept Council Member Max Neidlinger resignation.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED by a vote of **4 YES** (Allen, Ambrose, Kieffer and Usher) and **1 NO** (Hinely).

Consideration to surplus a city street, (the lane behind the Springfield United Methodist Church – Family Life Center)

Attorney Burns and City Manager Bennett explained that if this surplus is approved that letters will be sent to the adjoining property owners. Hinely expressed concerns on the surplus of city streets.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to surplus a city street, (the lane behind the Springfield United Methodist Church – Family Life Center).

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED by a vote of **4 YES** (Allen, Ambrose, Kieffer and Usher) and **1 NO** (Hinely).

Consideration for appointment(s) to the Ethics Commission

City Manager Brett Bennett explained that actually 3 appointments need to be made, one being a regular appointment whereby the term has expired, and the other two appointments to replace two alternates which terms have also expired. Council Members will bring names back to the next meeting for consideration.

Consideration for approval for payment of Springfield Street Scape GPC Work Order # GP531R0021 – Amount of \$58,067

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the payment of Springfield Street Scape GPC Work Order # GP531R00211 – Amount of \$58,067

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval for payment of Springfield Street Scape GPC Work Order # GP531R00111 – Amount of \$42,144

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the payment of Springfield Street Scape GPC Work Order # GP531R00111 – Amount of \$42,144

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval of the Stipulation Regarding Governmental Services

Attorney Burns gave the Mayor and Council copies for their review and explained this briefly.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the Stipulation Regarding Governmental Services.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – Personnel and Pending Litigation

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move into an Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. in order to discuss personnel and Pending Litigation.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move from the Executive Session back into the Regular Meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON THE ITEM(S) FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION – No actions were taken.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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02/23/2011 Posted on Website - The Minutes of the 02/08/11 Meeting were approved on 02/22/11

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting - Council Chambers - February 8, 2011 - Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on February 8, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen	Jeff Ambrose
Charles Hinely	Butch Kieffer
Kenny Usher	

Max Neidlinger was unable to attend this meeting. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager

Linda Rineair, City Clerk

Paul Wynn, Police Chief

Amber Nettles, Accounting Clerk

Travis Zittrouer, Fire Department

GUEST PRESENT

Norman Ward	James Sapp
Gil Newell	Craig Bonnell
David Bragg	Rick Lott
Gussie Nease	Kolby Duke
A.J. Linton	Rhonda Edwards
Jamey Stancell	Susan Piros
Athena Northway	Dawn Babcock
Teri Larisey	

INVOCATION – lead by Mayor Northway

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – lead by Mayor Northway

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Usher made a motion to amend the Agenda by removing Item 6d as Connie Burns was unable to attend this meeting, add under General Government discussion of Fire Department Pension, and delete Executive Session due to the fact that our City Attorney, Hillary Burns, was unable to attend this meeting.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 02/01/2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 02/01/2011.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Norman Ward appeared requesting authorization for a special event to be held at the Effingham County Fairgrounds for the group A.B.A.T.E. (Motorcycle Awareness Group)

Norman Ward provided the Mayor and Council with an itinerary of the proposed event “2011 Springfield Swap Meet” to be held March 25-27, 2011. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the Norman Ward’s request for a special event to be held at the Effingham County Fairgrounds for the group A.B.A.T.E. from March 25-27, 2011.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Crystal Babcock requested consideration to open an “on-wheels” business for grooming pets called “Barking Bubbles More Pet Spa”

Crystal Babcock explained that this business would provide services to people at their home, whereby she would go to the customer and perform pet grooming services “on-wheels”. A brief discussion followed.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Crystal Babcock’s request to open a business which would provide pet grooming services “on-wheels” by the name of “Barking Bubbles More Pet Spa”.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Gussie Nease requested consideration for a river to river bike ride through Springfield on April 30, 2011

Gussie Nease advised that the correct date for the event would be April 30, 2011 and that this event would benefit the Mars Theatre. A discussion followed. Gussie Nease advised that she will coordinate this event with Police Chief Paul Wynn. Gussie Nease advised that this event will also need to be coordinated with the DOT reference the road closure, for a short time, during this event.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the river to river bike ride through Springfield on April 30, 2011.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Jamey Stancell presented an updated proposal for a sign for informational and advertising purposes to be placed at the corner of Highway 119 and Highway 21

A discussion followed with the Council going over the information provided to them, listing several different options for a Digital Led Display sign and the payback schedules. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the purchase of option 5 which is a new media 4’8” x 8’11” sign from Marion Duncan.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Gil Newell requested consideration to open a business, “Effingham Service Center”, located at 503 North Laurel Street

Mr. Newell explained that this would be a mechanic shop. At a later date he may apply for the towing/wrecker business to move to this location, but assured the Mayor and Council that he understands that in order to later have a towing/wrecker business at this location will require a variance and he would have to come back before Council, but at this time he is just applying for the service center license. Mr. Newell also stated that vehicles will not be stripped for parts and that no vehicle dismantling would be performed at this location.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve Gil Newell’s request to open a business called the “Effingham Service Center”, located at 503 North Laurel Street.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No comments

OLD BUSINESS

Consideration of an Ordinance (# 2011-03) to amend text of Chapter 5, Alcohol Beverages, Article II, License – Reference a temporary permit for charitable/civic organizations

City Manager Brett Bennett explained that the temporary permit would be limited to beer and wine and that each request for a temporary permit for charitable/civic organizations would have to come before Council for approval.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve the Ordinance which amends the text of Chapter 5, Alcohol Beverages, Article II, License allowing for a temporary permit for charitable/civic organizations.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to approve the purchase of full color LED sign to go at the corner of Hwy 21 and Hwy 119

This item was already addressed under Appearances – Jamey Stancell.

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to contract for the services related to the construction of the sign

Discussion followed.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to authorize the City Manager to contract for the services related to the construction of the sign not to exceed \$8,500.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of the Chamber of Commerce application for a Temporary Permit for a Charitable/Civic Organization

Rick Lott, with the Chamber of Commerce, discussed the application for a Temporary Permit. A brief discussion followed. The State Alcohol Temporary Permit will be obtained and a copy returned to the City Office for record purposes, prior to the event.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve the temporary permit for the Chamber of Commerce.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval of Service Delivery Strategy Intergovernmental Agreements; one in reference to Fire Protection Services and the other being a Service Delivery Strategy Agreement for Recreation

MOTION: Allen made a motion to Table consideration of the two Service Delivery Strategy Intergovernmental Agreements because the City Attorney, Hillary Burns, was unable to attend this meeting and answer questions concerning them.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION TO TABLE PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of a Resolution (# R2011-2) to partner with the Georgia Department of Revenue in an effort to ensure proper payment of sales tax

The Georgia Municipal Association urged the City of Springfield to participate in a new partnership initiative with the Georgia Department of Revenue in an effort to collect all the sales taxes that are due and share occupation tax information with the GA Department of Revenue.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the Resolution to partner with the Georgia Department of Revenue in an effort to ensure proper payment of sales tax.

Kieffer: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Incentive Grant Award Agreement Cycle III (Historic Effingham Trail)

A brief discussion followed, leaving a few unanswered questions.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to Table the GA DNR Coastal Incentive Grant Award Agreement until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION TO TABLE PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for approval of the list for surplus of equipment

The surplus list contained a small trailer – model # M762, a trailer with generators – model # M116A1, two model MEP-017A generators, a 60 KW Generator, and eight glock 22 pistols.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the surplus of equipment.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to authorize the sale of eight Glock 22 pistols to the Police Officers through a signed agreement (Options for full payment or weekly payroll deductions).

A discussion followed with a suggestion to bid weapons out like all other surplus items and also to seek advice of the City Attorney.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to table this item until we can check into this further.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED TO TABLE by a vote of 3 yes (Allen, Ambrose, and Kieffer), and 2 no (Hinely and Usher)

Consideration to approve a Final Plat for SW Burns (Property located behind Harvey's)

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve a Final Plat for SW Burns (Property located behind Harvey's).

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to engage with an Administrator for the CDBG Grant – Railroad Avenue

City Manager, Brett Bennett, advised counsel that his recommendation would be ALGA – Sara Davis.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the recommendation to engage with ALGA – Sara Davis as the Administrator for the CDBG Grant – Railroad Avenue.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration to engage with an Engineer for the CDBG Grant – Railroad Avenue

Discussion followed.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to engage with Thomas and Hutton as the Engineer for the GDBG Grant – Railroad Avenue.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of the Draft of the Purchasing Policy

Brett Bennett provided highlights on the Purchasing Policy and asked that the Council look over the information and contact him with any suggestions before he proceeds.

Firefighter Pension

Council Member Usher and Assistant Fire Chief Travis Zittrouer discussed the pension for firefighters. Usher wanted to give Council a "heads up" on this. Travis Zittrouer said that those that are eligible will begin filling out the necessary paperwork, and suggested that the cost would be approximately \$15 a month per eligible firefighters, eight (8) at this time.

REPORTS

Administration

No Report given.

Police Department

Police Chief Paul Wynn went over the monthly Police Department Report. Chief Wynn also advised Council that Eric Aycock, a seasoned officer, has been hired.

Fire Department

Assistant Chief Travis Zittrouer went over the monthly Fire Department Report, advising that 4 members of the volunteer fire department have passed the GA Health Responders Course this past week. A discussion followed on the 1995 vehicle that Travis is using. Bennett stated that he is waiting on the fire service agreement in order to see what vehicle to purchase.

City Council Department Liaisons

No Reports were given.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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[02/09/2011 Posted on Website - The Minutes of the 02/01/11 Meeting were approved on 02/08/11](#)

[Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting - Council Chambers - February 1, 2011 - Regular Meeting](#)

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on February 1, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen	Jeff Ambrose
Charles Hinely	Butch Kieffer
Kenny Usher	

Max Neidlinger was unable to attend. A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager

Hillary Burns, City Attorney

Linda Rineair, City Clerk

GUEST PRESENT

Rick Lott

Anthony Bowman

Jamey Stancell

Corey Conaway

INVOCATION – lead by Mayor-pro Tem Ambrose

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – lead by Mayor Northway

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to amend the agenda by changing the address from 309 to 311 South Laurel Street, item b under appearances, and also motioned to approve the agenda as amended.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 01-11-2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 01-11-2011.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 01-18-2011 WORKSHOP

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the minutes of the 01-18-2011 Workshop.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Anthony Bowman appeared before Council requesting approval to open a car wash at 310 South Laurel Street with the name being “Get U Right Detail Shop”

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve Anthony Bowman’s request to open a car wash at 310 South Laurel Street.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Council Member Butch Kieffer excused himself from the Council Chambers during the next item to be discussed as he is related to Corey Conaway and will not be involved in the discussion or voting process of Conaway’s request.

Corey Conaway appeared before Council requesting approval to open a Graphics Design Shop at 311 South Laurel Street with the name being “Conaway Inc.”

MOTION: Allen made a motion to approve Corey Conaway’s request to open a Graphics Design Shop at 311 South Laurel Street.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Council Member Butch Kieffer returned to the Council Chambers and took his seat with the other members of Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to Amend the Alcohol Ordinance to allow charitable and civic organizations to acquire special event permits.

A brief discussion followed. Rick Lott advised that in order to obtain the State permit the non-profit organization would need to receive the Local permit to attach to the State Permit application. A few changes were discussed such as the amendment could limit permits to beer & wine and also that each special event permits would require Council approval.

MOTION: Allen made a motion to table the amendment to the Alcohol Ordinance until the next meeting when a few changes could be made and brought back before Council for consideration.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION TO TABLE PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for Approval of a Resolution (# R2011-1) to authorize submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for funding under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to approve the Resolution to authorize submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for funding under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for Approval of a Contract Change Order reference the Springfield Reject Pond Dike, Contractor: T & D Enterprises – Project No.: 10-0099 – Additional Labor and Materials resulting in \$7,516.00 increase

City Manager Brett Bennett advised that this item was discussed at the workshop held on 01/18/2011. This increase will cover additional costs in case the sand is not suitable and also needs to be replaced.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the contract change order reference the Springfield Reject Pond Dike, reference additional labor and materials - \$7,516 increase.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for Approval of the Georgia Power Lighting Services Standard Lease Agreement – reference the Streetscape Project

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the Georgia Power Lighting Services Standard Lease Agreement – reference the Streetscape Project.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for Approval of the City of Springfield Standards of Practice (Personnel Policy)

Discussion followed. Mayor Northway read a section of the Charter that refers to the Mayor as the Chief Executive Officer and pointed out that in the Personnel Policy Section 1.05 the City Manager is referred to as the Chief Executive Officer. Discussion followed. Council discussed an Ordinance that was approved forming the City Manager position and the designation of duties whereby the City Manager is in charge of day-to-day operations, the hiring and firing of personnel, along with a long list of other duties.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to remove the reference of "Chief Executive Officer" throughout the Policy when referencing the City Manager.

No Second Further discussion continued.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the City of Springfield Standards of Practice (Personnel Policy) with the change throughout the Policy referring to the City Manager as the "Chief Operating Officer" rather than the "Chief Executive Officer".

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for Approval of the Water/Sewer Budget (Ordinance # 2011-02) for the Year 2011

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the Water/Sewer Budget for the Year 2011.

Second: Kieffer seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration for Approval for the Mayor to sign a joint proclamation declaring the Month of March, 2011 as "Special Olympics Month in Effingham County"

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve for the Mayor to sign the joint proclamation declaring the Month of March, 2011 as "Special Olympics Month in Effingham County"

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of the Draft of the Purchasing Policy

Brett Bennett explained that the draft of the Purchasing Policy should be available for Council review at the next meeting, February 8, 2011.

Discussion of the Temporary Sign Ordinance

A discussion ensued on the temporary sign ordinance. This Ordinance will apply City-wide and those who put out temporary signs will need to follow this ordinance. Council Member Kieffer advised that he will personally be taking down his temporary sign tomorrow in order to set an example.

Discussion of 2010 Legislative Sessions SB 17 Ethics Reform – Impact on City Officials

City Clerk Linda Rineair explained that due to new legislation candidates and elected officials will begin handling their own ethics commission filings. Reminders will still be forwarded to them. The changeover from having a filing officer to the candidate and elected officials responsible for their own filings should be a fairly simple transition.

Travis Zittouer received thanks from Patrice Crawley

Brett Bennett pointed out that Travis Zittouer of the Fire Department received a note of thanks reference the professionalism that was shown at an accident he had recently worked.

Collard Greens Festival

Mayor Northway advised that the Collard Greens Festival will be held in Port Wentworth on March 5, 2011 and that he will ride in the parade.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION – Reference Personnel

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move from the regular meeting at 6:55 p.m. into an executive session in order to discuss a personnel matter.

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO MOVE FROM AN EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Allen made a motion to move from an executive session back into the regular meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED FROM THE ITEM(S) DISCUSSED DURING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION – No Actions Were Taken

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

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02/02/2011 Posted on Website - Minutes of the 01/18/11 Workshop were approved on 02/01/11

Minutes of the Workshop - Council Chambers - January 18, 2011 - WORKSHOP

CALL TO ORDER

A Workshop was held on January 18, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by City Manager Brett Bennett.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Jeff Ambrose	Charles Hinely
Butch Kieffer	Max Neidlinger
Kenny Usher	

Troy Allen was unable to attend this workshop.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Hillary Burns, City Attorney
Linda Rineair, City Clerk
Amber Nettles, Accounting Clerk
Travis Zittrouer, Fire Department

GUEST PRESENT

DISCUSSION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Travis Zittrouer explained the process that occurred when James Derryberry, former Fire Chief, stepped down, thereby creating an upward shift of personnel. Jeff Labonte, former Assistant Fire Chief, moved to the Fire Chief position, and Travis Zittrouer moved to the Assistant Chief position.

DISCUSSION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO CITY HALL

For the last 2 years the city has budgeted for carpet and rework of the air conditioning system. Mr. Bennett suggests that the carpet be removed and that a hard surface material, perhaps linoleum, could be put down. The inmates could remove the old carpet and we could hire a contractor to put down the flooring. This would need to begin on a Friday and end that Sunday. Bennett will get some prices and bring back to Council.

DISCUSSION OF WWTP REJECT POND CONSTRUCTION

Bennett presented a slight revision to the dike section (proposed berm detail). This would call for a change order request, (\$5,444), to dig below the liner in order to put a clay core down in order to keep the clean water separate from the dirty water. EPD approval would have to be obtained.

DISCUSSION OF MASTER PLAN FOR THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD

Mark Crapps met with Brett Bennett on a proposal. This had originally been spearheaded a while back by the SRC. The master plan could provide a look at what could be done with Main Street. Bennett suggested that this could be a good start, a sketch of the overall town. Mr. Crapps would like to come and present this before Council. Bennett also advised those present that a master plan assists in better planning for grants. Bennett will see if they can come to the first meeting in February for the presentation.

DISCUSSION OF STATUS OF EBENEZER SCHOOL LIFT STATION

Bennett advised that there is no vent and that signs of corrosion are present. Attorney Burns sent a letter requested that this be fixed and has not heard back from them. The school system did all of the contracting. The City of Springfield went ahead and installed the bypass on the lift station. Discussion followed with the possibility of five or six ways to fix this. Different suggestions were made. Bennett suggested that perhaps contractors could give us their suggestions to fix this along with their bids.

DISCUSSION OF THE YEAR 2011 WATER/SEWER BUDGET

A discussion followed. Some questions answered were as follows: Meter Readings could take 1 ½ weeks each month, but the current meter reader has other duties so this does take longer. Electronic Meters changing from old to new meters is a very complicated procedure. We are slowly getting older meters changed out. A revenue shortage due to impact fees could be assisted by either a debt service surcharge on monthly water/sewer billing, or perhaps a slight increase in water/sewer fees. Bennett advised Council that a few options could be brought back to Council for consideration and that the Water/Sewer budget will also come back at the next meeting for passage.

DISCUSSION OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD PERSONNEL POLICY

Brett Bennett asked for questions or suggestions, in reference to the draft of the City of Springfield Personnel Policy. Bennett explained that the Vacation/Sick leave changed from leave time to Personal Time off (PTO). Bennett asked that he be contacted on any needed changed and plans to bring this before Council for their consideration for adoption at the Tuesday 01/25/2011 Regular Meeting.

OTHER VARIOUS ITEMS

- a. Julie Weddle awning – This awning hangs out almost to the curb and may interfere with the upcoming Streetscape Project. Discussion followed, with Mayor Northway remarking that technically the City has the right to have the awning removed. Bennett offered to speak with Ms. Weddle in reference to this issue.
- b. Intersection Improvements (Mast Arms) – The DOT was contacted a few months ago and the plans still show the regular arms. The consensus expressed was that both intersections need to look the same with the two 90% arms.
- c. Sign at Hwy 119 & Hwy 21 – The Power and Internet can be run straight off the jail. The County can trench and lay the conduit. Attorney Burns suggested that a bid be put out publically for used signs. Bennett has already spoken with a number of contractors on the brick work. The Springfield Merchants Association would like to have their logo somewhere on this sign, as they have done a lot of work gathering information, etc. This sign will be higher up on the hill from where the current sign is. The sign will also be insured.
- d. Planning/Zoning Board (Members & Training) – Brett Bennett sent out letters to those serving on the Planning/Zoning Board informing them of certain new requirements which will be imposed upon the Board. Mr. Bennett will personally contact the two who

have not responded. This board consists of five members and two alternates appointed by the City Council. This will come back before Council soon. Once the terms of office and board members are straight Mr. Bennett would like to move forward with a one-day training session and provided those present with information from the Carl Vinson Institute of Government reference Planning and Zoning Training that can be presented to the Appointed Board, Commission Members, Staff and Elected Officials. The charge for a one-day training session is \$1,900 for up to 20 people; \$95 for each over 20. We could hold the training in our area. Perhaps Effingham County and some surrounding cities could be involved in the training thereby sharing the cost.

e. Alcohol Sales (Election days, Christmas, Sundays, etc.) – Guyton and Chatham County allow alcohol sales on Election Day and Christmas day. State law, O.C.G.A. 3-3-20, prohibits alcohol sales on Election Day and Christmas unless a local Ordinance is in place that provides otherwise. Therefore, the current Ordinance could be amended to provide for alcohol sales on Election Day and Christmas. A referendum would have to be held in order to hold sales of Alcohol on Sundays. Effingham County has discussed a possible referendum to be held this year, reference alcohol sales on Sunday. It was suggested that the City of Springfield “piggy-back” and conduct a referendum at the same time that Effingham County may hold theirs.

f. W & W Housing – Bennett sent another letter to William Webb explaining that the year 2011 Business License will not be renewed. W & W Housing will need to meet the requirements in order to be issued a license. Discussion followed resulting in the possibility of a temporary license could be issued naming a specific time, perhaps June of this year.

g. Noel Webb’s Building – Bennett received an email from Noel Webb stating that they have started removing a portion of the roof, mainly the tin. Plans are to disassemble the lean-to and shop and Noel Webb plans to have the shop completely demolished by the end of February.

h. Lamp Posts on Laurel Street – Bennett discussed email correspondence that he has had with Robert Sapp whereby Sapp provided 2 options for paying for the lights for the Streetscape Project. One option was for purchase, with a \$32,394 up front costs and a monthly charge of \$210. The other was for lease. The lease option provides for zero up front, with a monthly charge of \$535. A contract would need to be signed for one month. This contract will be brought back for Council for consideration.

i. Historic Society Project – Bennett explained that a retaining wall could be built toward the creek that also provides steps to get down to the creek, providing a walking trail. DNR does not require a bid process. Technically the Grant is to us. Bennett advised that in the process of selecting the contractors we could let the contractors come up with a design. Attorney Burns stated that she will check the grant closely for requirements.

j. Drainage Projects – Wesley Parker assisted with the mapping. It appears that we have a few storm drains that need to be researched as we do not show where they drain to. A map was spread out on the table for suggestions as to what may be done to assist in drainage issues. Ditches, enlargement of pipes, storm drains, catch basins, etc. were some of the suggestions made. Having the area physically surveyed was also brought up. Bennett suggests that if we can cut off some of the water with a catch basin or larger pipes on the North side of town that it may produce less drainage issues on the South side of town. Brett Bennett was asked to check into this and advised that he will get a couple of prices for the Council to review. Councilman Usher asked where we are on the purchasing policy and was told that a draft of the purchasing policy will be either given out in packets or at the meeting on Tuesday.

k. Tebeau Square – Warren Ratchford’s Office really needs city water services.

l. Fireworks – Brett Bennett discussed the possibility of having the fireworks in the City Limits, possibly in the downtown area. Regulations require 500 feet from a structure. Bennett has looked at several sites. The Armory is not big enough. The Lutheran Church to the Fairgrounds may be a consideration. Discussion followed with a few different sites to consider. Bennett explained that the Public could be notified and even test fire from four or five different locations in order to receive Public input if they can or cannot see the fireworks.

ADJOURN

With no further items to discuss this workshop ended at 9:29 p.m.

02/02/2011 Posted on Website - The Minutes of the 01/01/11 Meeting were approved on 02/01/11

Minutes of the Mayor and Council Meeting - Council Chambers - January 11, 2011 - Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council was held on January 11, 2011 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, Georgia. This meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Mayor Northway.

MAYOR JEFF NORTHWAY AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Troy Allen

Jeff Ambrose

Charles Hinely

Butch Kieffer

Max Neidlinger

Kenny Usher

A Quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT

Brett Bennett, City Manager

Hillary Burns, City Attorney

Linda Rineair, City Clerk

Paul Wynn, Police Chief

Amber Nettles, Accounting Clerk

Travis Zittrouer, Fire Department

GUEST PRESENT

Susan Reinheimer Barty Alderman

Roberts Scroggs Jamey Stancell

Richie Burns Melisa Bragg

David Bragg James Carlson

Rhonda Edwards Tim Polk

Ruthie Polk Paul Lindsay

Susan Piros Pearl Thomas

INVOCATION – lead by Mayor Northway

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – lead by Mayor Northway

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Ambrose made a motion to amend the Agenda, by removing the Executive Session reference Personnel from the Agenda and approve the Agenda as Amended.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 12/14/2010 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 12/14/10.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 12/21/2010 CALLED MEETING

MOTION: Usher made a motion to approve the minutes of the Called Meeting of 12/21/10.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

APPEARANCES

Susan Reinheimer appeared before Council in order to request the consideration of Council to hold a fundraiser on 04/09/2011 in Ulmer Park

Susan Reinheimer explained that this event would promote the local animal shelter, vets in the area, and the spade & neuter clinic. It would be called the Spring Bow Wow and be held between the hours of 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Ms. Reinheimer has already talked with the Recreation Department on this. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to approve the request to hold a fundraiser on 04/09/2011 at Ulmer Park.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council Member Charles Hinely explained that he IS a City of Springfield resident

Council Member Charles Hinely explained that his residency has been in question for approximately 5 ½ to 6 years. Mr. Hinely advised that he has lived on Ash Street for over 60 years. He is a resident of Springfield. Some elected officials work out of town; he happens to be retired and does spend time in Clyo. He advised that he has spoken with the City Attorney and has been assured that he meets the residency requirements. Mr. Hinely would like to lay this matter to rest and also advised that if anyone still questions his residency they may contact him and he will show them the related code sections, etc. in order to personally assure them that he is a City of Springfield resident.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of the Year 2011 Mayor Pro-Tem

Max Neidlinger thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him to previously serve and advised them that he thinks it is time for someone else to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem.

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion nominate Jeff Ambrose as the Mayor Pro-Tem.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to close the nominations in order to vote on Jeff Ambrose as the Mayor Pro-Tem.

Second: Neidlinger seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 Yes, 0 no.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection, approving Jeff Ambrose as Mayor Pro-Tem.

Approval of Appointments of Council Members as Designated Liaisons

MOTION: Neidlinger made a motion to approve the list of appointments of Council Members as Designated Liaisons.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Approval of Other Appointments

MOTION: Neidlinger made a motion to approve the list of other appointments.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Consideration of Council for an Amendment (Ordinance # 2011-01) to the Garage Sale/Yard Sale Ordinance # 2010-06

City Manager Brett Bennett explained that in the process of removing the permit requirement before the Ordinance had been originally approved an important clause requiring written permission of the property owner was inadvertently removed and this clause does need to be in the Ordinance. A lengthy discussion followed, resulting in the consensus that future amendments could be made as needed.

MOTION: Neidlinger made a motion to approve the Amendment (Ordinance # 2011-01) to the Garage Sale/Yard Sale Ordinance (Ordinance # 2010-06).

Second: Ambrose seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

Discussion of a digital sign for informational and advertising purposes at the intersection of Highway 119 and Highway 21, proposed by the Springfield Merchants Association

Jamey Stancell, of the Springfield Merchants Association, stepped forward and discussed the possibility of a digital sign for informational and advertising purposes at the intersection of Highway 119 and Highway 21. Mr. Stancell explained that he had passed through the City of Wagner and noticed a sign that was being used to get messages out to the public and began discussing this idea with the Merchants Association. The Merchants Association is interested in a similar digital sign and would like to take on part of the ad process, with the City Manager having final approval and with transaction revenues coming directly to the City for processing. Mr. Stancell also suggested the possibility of the City purchasing the used sign and that the sign would be located on County property and that the County may also wish to be involved in this matter. A consensus of Council was given. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Hinely made a motion for the City Manager to obtain pricing on the sign & brick "turn-key".

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of workshop for Water/Sewer Budget and Personnel Policy

The Council agreed on the date of Tuesday 01/18/2011 at 6:00 p.m. for a workshop.

Discussion of the possibility of the 2nd Annual BBA Cook-off

Mayor Northway discussed an email he had received from Steve Turcotte in which Mr. Turcotte had sent out a "feeler" for the 2nd annual BBQ Cook-off in Effingham County which could be held in February or March, perhaps using the County fairgrounds for the event.

It was suggested that Mr. Turcotte be emailed and asked that he contact Jim Simmons in reference to use of the Fairgrounds.

Reminder – The City Hall Office will be closed on Monday 01/17/2011 in observance of Martin Luther King Day and the Martin Luther King Day parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Monday 01/17/2011.

Mayor Northway passed along the reminder to the Council and those present that the City Hall Office will be closed and that the Martin Luther King Day Parade will be held on 01/17/2011.

REPORTS

Administration

Brett Bennett has received comments from the DOT in reference to the Streetscape Project and advised Council that the comments should be addressed by the first of next week.

When asked about the Intersection Project Mr. Bennett stated that he is now hearing June or July and further stated that this is a DOT Project in which the DOT will handle and also bid out.

Police Department

Police Chief Paul Wynn discussed the end of the year Police Department Report and also advised that he will get with Lon Harden on the rules for the Parade.

Fire Department

Travis Zittrouer discussed the end of the year Fire Department Report adding that calls have increased.

City Council Department Liaison's

Kenny Usher, Water/Sewer Department Liaison, asked about for an update on the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Bennett advised that they are experiencing slight changes of the work order.

Charles Hinely, Streets & Lanes Department Liaison, asked about the new Spray Field. Mr. Bennett replied that the easement to the Cemetery is still in process, that the previous owner had dug a pond through the easement.

Jeff Ambrose, Sanitation Department Liaison, asked about the Recycling idea that had been discussed at a previous meeting. Mr. Bennett replied that we will have a representative come soon to address the Council with a presentation on Recycling.

CONSIDERATION FOR A MOTION TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING

MOTION: Kieffer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Second: Allen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without objection.

With no further business this meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.