

City of Springfield
Springfield City Hall Commission Room
408 School Ave.
Springfield, FL 32401

Commission Meeting
May 5, 2025 @ 5:30 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hammond called this Commission Meeting to order on this the 5th day of May 2025 at Springfield City Hall. Notice was provided to the News Media via email and on the City's website.

A. Invocation: Commissioner Griffis gave the invocation.

B. Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Griffis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call as follows:

- Commissioner Jack Kennington – Physically Present
- Commissioner Cindy Hamre – Physically Present
- Commissioner Jack Griffis – Physically Present
- Commissioner Richard Chval - Physically Present
- Mayor Ralph Hammond – Physically Present
- Staff physically present as follows: City Clerk Teresa Cox, Public Works Director Miles Grice, Fire Chief Brian Eddins, Assistant Fire Chief Jerry Swearingen, Police Chief Barry Roberts, Assistant Police Chief Russell Voyles, and City Attorney Kevin Obos.
- Visitors physically present: Diana Kennington, Jeanie Hammond, Harold Ruth, Ron Mathis, John Gipson, and Ray Rollins of Three Notch Group.

II. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Mayor Hammond asked the City Commission if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Mayor Hammond then deleted Item No. 5.

City Attorney Obos explained the Lakeside Villas Plat is still under review and the surveyor is still making corrections.

Mayor Hammond noted this would be considered at another meeting.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

There were no items under Public Hearing.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Limited to items on this agenda; remarks limited to 5 minutes.)

Mayor Hammond asked if anyone from the public had any comments limited to the items on the agenda. There were no comments.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Minutes for April 7, 2025, Commission Meeting, and April 22, 2025 Commission Workshop**
- 2. Variance Request for 3729 E. 3rd St.**
- 3. Development Order for Panhandle Credit Union (3424 E. 15th St.)**

Mayor Hammond read the agenda items listed above. He then asked the City Commission if they had any comments. There were none.

Motion by Commissioner Griffis to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kennington. Roll Call: All ayes; motion carried (5-0).

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Proclamation – National Public Works Week

Mayor Hammond read the agenda item listed above. He then read a proclamation for National Public Works Week designating May 18th to May 25th, of 2025 as National Public Works Week. Mayor Hammond then presented the proclamation to Public Works Director Miles Grice and thanked him for his hard work as well as the hard work of his department.

2. STOA Task Order #4 Improvements to the Springfield Gardens Walking Park

Mayor Hammond read the agenda item above. He explained the City has an existing contract with STOA Architects to update existing parks and Task Order #4 is to authorize them to engineer improvements to Springfield Gardens Walking Park. He then asked for comments from the City Commission. There were none.

Motion by Commissioner Kennington to approve Task Order #4 with STOA Architects for Improvements to Springfield Gardens Walking Park. Motion seconded by Commissioner Chval. Roll Call: All ayes; motion carried (5-0).

3. RFQ 25-01 2nd Street Sidewalk Project – Bid Award

Mayor Hammond read the agenda item listed above.

City Clerk Teresa Cox reported the City had received 5 bids with Preslie Construction out of Altha, FL as the lowest bidder in the amount of \$49,500.00. She discussed the bids with the City Commission and reported the bids were reviewed and checked for accuracy. She concluded the recommendation is to accept the lowest bidder for the 2nd Street Sidewalk Project.

Motion by Commissioner Kennington to award RFP 25-01, 2nd Street Sidewalk Project, to Preslie Construction. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griffis. Roll Call: All ayes; motion carried (5-0).

4. RFQ 25-02 CDBG HRP Streetscape Project – Award

Mayor Hammond read the agenda item listed above.

City Clerk Teresa Cox reported the City had received 3 bids for the CDBG-HRP Streetscape Project for engineering and design. She reported the highest ranking was given to Gortemoller

Engineering and the recommendation of the committee was to award the project to Gortemoller Engineering.

Mayor Hammond asked if there were any comments from the City Commission. There were none.

Motion by Commissioner Kennington to award RFQ 25-02 CDBG-HRP Streetscape Project to Gortemoller Engineering. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hamre. Roll Call: All ayes; motion carried (5-0).

5. Lakeside Villas Plat Approval – REMOVED

6. Flock Cameras (Police Department)

Mayor Hammond read the agenda item listed above. He then requested Police Chief Roberts report on this item.

Police Chief Roberts reported Flock Cameras or License Plate Reader Cameras (LPR Cameras) are used throughout the state noting you drive by them every day and never notice them. He explained the LPR cameras are used to help find suspects right after a crime occurs. He reported the City does not currently have these cameras in place, but with the help of the Bay County Sheriff's Office, the Springfield Police Department was able to catch robbery suspects in our area recently. Police Chief Roberts expressed the importance of having the LPR cameras and requested approval to contract for the services.

The City Commission asked how many cameras would be included.

Police Chief Roberts explained the first year of service in the amount of \$16,650.00 would include 5 cameras, 3 stand alone and 2 dual cameras meaning they can read traffic coming and going.

Motion by Commissioner Griffis to approve the contract purchase in the amount of \$16,650.00 for 5 Flock Cameras. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kennington. Mayor Hammond asked if there were any further comments. There were none. He then called for discussion. He explained this City is a small City with limited funds and cannot afford all the bells and whistles that may be available to other cities. He noted he does see the importance of Flock Cameras but wanted to express this will be an ongoing expense every year. Mayor Hammond stated this means to get something new in the budget the City will have to give something up or save somewhere else to make up the difference. He expressed the FY25-26 budget is going to look a lot different with moving into new buildings and lots of new expenses. He concluded that city staff is going to have to get moved in before we know where we stand in future budgets. Commissioner Griffis agreed and stated he felt this is a program the City needs to have and would need to make it work in the budget. Police Chief Roberts reported the Police Department will pay for the FY25-26 costs from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund with the City to pay for continuing services beginning with FY26-27 budget. This concluded the discussion. Roll Call: All ayes; motion carried (5-0).

VII. MAYOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Mayor Hammond reviewed the May calendar with the City Commission. He noted City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 26, 2025 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. He then noted the May workshop will be held on May 19, 2025.

City Attorney Obos requested the workshop be advertised as a meeting explaining the interlocal agreement with Bay County to be adopted by Ordinance 602 would be ready for a vote. He discussed this agreement would identify the Springfield service area which includes portions of unincorporated parcels including the adjacent roads and right-of-ways. City Attorney Obos noted he did confirm with the Bay County Attorney this interlocal agreement would not include stormwater drainage easements that were not along the roads or right-of-ways. He concluded he would have the public hearing for the ordinance advertised.

Mayor Hammond asked if there were any comments from the City Commission.

Commissioner Griffis told Mayor Hammond he was glad to have him back. There were no further comments.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Hammond asked if there were any comments from the public.

John Gipson of Laramie Circle addressed the City Commission. He reported residents were calling him with their concerns. He noted he had received a complaint of a semi-tractor being parked on the right-of-way of Cherry Street blocking the view of residents when they pull out onto Cherry Street. Mr. Gipson noted the semi-tractor will stay there for a couple of days at a time and is currently gone at the moment.

Police Chief Roberts will follow up to notify the driver/owner of the violation of parking on the right-of-way and Code Enforcement will also watch for large vehicles parked along the right-of-way.

Mr. Gipson also reported a large pile of trash has built up on the southwest corner of Kilbourn and 2nd Street.

Public Works Director Miles Grice will notify the City's garbage contractor to have the pile removed.

There were no further comments.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Griffis to adjourn. This meeting was adjourned by Mayor Hammond at 6:00 p.m.

Attest:


Teresa Cox, City Clerk


Ralph Hammond, Mayor