

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

Commission Meeting  
April 02, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hammond called this Commission Meeting to order on this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2024 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 Phillip Dykes – Absent, Excused
  - Mayor Ralph Hammond – Physically Present
  - Staff physically present as follows: City Clerk Teresa Cox, Public Works Director Miles Grice, Fire Chief Brian Eddins, Police Chief Barry Roberts, Assistant Police Chief Russell Voyles, Police Lieutenant Randolph Grob, and City Attorney Kevin Obos present via teleconference.
  - Visitors physically present: Jeanie Hammond, Diana Kennington, Rhonda Crider, Ron Mathis, Jeanie Baldwin, Richard Chvall, Amanda Delacruz, Zak Howard, Chuck Sowers with Central Panhandle Association of Realtors, Jennifer Cantu & family, and Police Officer Bryon Dawson-Cordova & family.

Before continuation of the agenda, Mayor Hammond told the City Commission Shirley Haddock, wife of former Commissioner Dennis Haddock, passed away today. He asked everyone to keep the family in their prayers.

## II. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Mayor Hammond asked the City Commission if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. He then removed item #3 under the regular agenda for further discussion at the next workshop and added item #4 as Reserve Budget. There were no further additions or deletions.

## III. PUBLIC HEARING

There were no items under Public Hearing.

## IV. PRESENTATION AWARD

Mayor Hammond read the agenda item listed above. He reported Jennifer Cantu has worked for the City for 10 years as a Telecommunicator in dispatch for the Springfield Police Department. He noted Ms. Cantu has worked hard and handled many difficult calls for the City during Hurricane

Michael. Mayor Hammond stated he was proud Ms. Cantu had stayed with the City through it all and presented Ms. Cantu with a certificate of appreciation for 10 years of service. He then thanked her for her dedication and service to the City of Springfield.

Mayor Hammond then reported Police Chief Barry Roberts had a new employee to introduce to the City Commission. Police Chief Barry Roberts introduced Bryon Dawson-Cordova as a new Police Officer for the City of Springfield. Officer Dawson-Cordova completed his standard certification and his mother, Mrs. Dawson-Cordova, pinned his new badge to his uniform in honor of his accomplishment. Police Chief Roberts concluded Officer Dawson-Cordova will be an asset to the Springfield Police Department.

**V. 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 none.

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Approval of Minutes for March 4, 2024, Commission Meeting, and March 18, 2024, Special Called Meeting/Workshop**
2. **Lot Split – 235 & 237 Central Ave.**
3. **Lot Split – Parcel #12522-010-000 (Hyde Ave.)**
4. **Sign Permit – 1709 Transmitter Rd.**
5. **Sign Permit – 3128 E. 5<sup>th</sup> St.**

Mayor Hammond read the items listed above on the Consent Agenda. He then asked for comments or questions from the City Commission. There were none.

Motion by Commissioner Kennington to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hamre. Roll Call: All ayes; motion carried (4-0).

**VII. REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Resolution 24-04 – Amending Annual Budget for FY23-24**

Mayor Hammond read the agenda item listed above. He reported periodically throughout the year, the budget is reviewed for needed amendments.

City Clerk Teresa Cox read Resolution 24-04 amending the Annual Budget for FY23-24 by title only.

Mayor Hammond asked the City Commission if they had any questions. There were none.

Motion by Commissioner Kennington to approve Resolution 24-04, Amending the Annual Budget for FY23-24. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hamre. Roll Call: All ayes; motion carried (4-0).

2. **Resolution 24-05 – Nuisance Abatement Lien for 3616 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Court**

Mayor Hammond read the agenda item listed above. He explained this resolution places a lien on the property for the City's costs incurred to clean it.

City Clerk Teresa Cox read Resolution 24-05 Nuisance Abatement Lien for 3616 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Court by title only.

Mayor Hammond asked if anyone had any questions. There were none.

Motion by Commissioner Griffis to approve Resolution 24-05, Nuisance Abatement Lien for 3616 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Court. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hamre. Roll Call: All ayes; motion carried (4-0).

Before continuation of the agenda, Mayor Hammond announced the City had prepared a Proclamation honoring Fair Housing and designating the month of April in 2024 as Fair Housing Month.

City Clerk Teresa Cox read the proclamation for Fair Housing out loud in its entirety proclaiming the month of April as Fair Housing Month.

Mayor Hammond presented the proclamation to Chuck Sowers of the Central Panhandle Association of Realtors.

### **3. Flock Safety Cameras**

This item was removed for further discussion at the next workshop.

### **4. Reserve Budget**

Mayor Hammond read the agenda item listed. He told the City Commission he would like to dedicate \$500,000.00 annually to a Reserve Fund for emergencies. He noted it is a requirement of the state to have approximately 3 months of reserve funds to cover all expenses incurred during an emergency, including payroll. He explained this is something the City has to do. He discussed the importance of preparing for upcoming hurricane seasons in the event of an emergency. He further discussed problems with the federal budget that could cause delays in receiving operating revenues from the state. Mayor Hammond concluded the City needed to be better prepared for the next emergency.

The City Commission discussed the need to have a Reserve Budget with Mayor Hammond.

Motion by Commissioner Kennington to allocate \$500,000.00 annually to emergency reserve funds. Motion seconded by Commissioner Griffis. Roll Call: All ayes; motion carried (4-0).

Mayor Hammond announced this concluded the Regular Agenda.

## **VII. MAYOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Mayor Hammond reviewed the April Calendar and announced the City election scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, will not be held because both candidates for Ward 1 and Ward 2 are unopposed. He then noted the regular workshop will be held on April 22, 2024, at 5:30pm and this meeting will include a Swearing In Ceremony for both candidates. Mayor Hammond reminded the City

Commission the retirement party for Commissioner Dykes will be held on April 23, 2024, from 11:00am to 1pm at the Springfield Community Church.

Mayor Hammond reported the City had received approval of the draft FEMA Environmental Assessment. He explained it had made it through FEMA's legal department review. He stated the City had to post a notice for public comment for the next thirty days. Mayor Hammond concluded after the thirty days, if there are no comments to address, the City will be able to move forward with its projects.

Mayor Hammond reported the City had received a call regarding a proposed hotel development in the City, the new Circle K on Tyndall Parkway is moving forward, and the WAWA on 15<sup>th</sup> St at Transmitter is making progress. He concluded development within the City is beginning to move forward in anticipation of the growth of Tyndall Air Force Base.

Mayor Hammond requested everyone keep Commissioner Dykes in their prayers. He noted he is at home but under hospice care.

Mayor Hammond asked the City Commission if they had any comments.

Commissioner Hamre inquired about the fitness court dedication sign for former Commissioner Haddock.

Mayor Hammond showed the draft of the dedication sign to the City Commission and explained there was a typo error. He noted once the error has been corrected and the frame for the sign has been built, the sign would be ready to post. Mayor Hammond told the City Commission the City will hold a dedication ceremony in the near future.

There were no further comments.

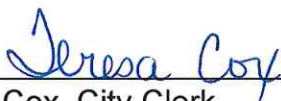
#### VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

#### IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Griffis to adjourn. This meeting was adjourned by Mayor Hammond at 5:51 p.m.

Attest:

  
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Teresa Cox, City Clerk

  
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Ralph Hammond, Mayor