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Council was called to order on December 1, 1997 at 7:30 p.m. by President of Council Randy Danbury.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the governmental body and those in attendance. Mr. Knox gave the Invocation.

Mr. Knox took roll call. Present were Council members Boice, Galster, Manis, McNear, Vanover, Wilson and Danbury. Council was dismissed.

Mr. Schneider introduced Judge Melba Marsh who was invited to do the swearing in. Judge Marsh has served as assistant county prosecutor for eleven years. She served eight years on the municipal court bench and was elected last November to the Court of Common Pleas. She is doing an excellent job and we appreciate her taking her time to be with us today.

Judge Marsh swore in Bob Wilson, Randy Danbury, Tom Vanover and Marge Pollitt.

The new Council was seated. Mr. Knox took roll call. Present were Council members, Galster, Manis, McNear, Pollitt, Vanover, Wilson and Danbury.

Mr. Galster nominated Mr. Danbury for president. Mr. Danbury was elected president by acclamation.

Mr. Vanover nominated Mrs. McNear for vice-president. Ms. Manis nominated Mr. Wilson. Mrs. McNear was elected vice-president by a vote of 5-2.

RESOLUTION R26-1997 "COMMENDING MARGE BOICE FOR HER SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE"

Mr. Vanover made a motion to adopt and Mr. Galster seconded.

Mrs. McNear said I've been thinking about Marge leaving for the last several weeks and what would I say to Marge. It's very difficult to sum up in a couple of minutes, twenty plus years of service to this City. Just to give you an idea of the level of commitment, it's months and months of campaigning throughout the years, telephone calls, missed functions at schools, ballgames, plays, concerts. It's birthdays, anniversaries and for her children who are in the audience, it's having to live in that fishbowl where everybody knows who you are, and your parents are going to find out what you did. It's also dinner on the run and many, many trips to McDonald's and Wendy's because mom can't be there to make dinner. There are businesses that come in to this city with their teams of attorneys and they try to force feed their plans to the City of Springdale, but we have to live with what we decide upon. Marge was very good at taking care of this because she knew we would have to live with these situations. You never had any doubt how Marge felt on any situation. The nice thing is Marge had her convictions and not only did she speak them, she lived them. I think that's very difficult to do because, not only are you in the fishbowl but by living that way, you are criticized both personally and professionally. On the up side Marge can drive around this city and see that she was an integral part of making this city what it is today; and I think it's a city she can be very proud of. Marge, I want to thank you for all that you've done for this city, for your friendship and for the eloquent manner in which you have expressed yourself. People up here are probably not going to miss that because we will get to say something that sounds good for a change and you won't upstage us. It sounds like it was a lot of work and it was for Marge, but to be able to do this type of job, it's truly a labor of love and we'll definitely miss you, Marge.

Mr. Wilson said I was prepared to say a lot but it was already said. Thanks, Marge, It's been great and I've enjoyed sitting next to you for four years. I learned a lot. We haven't always agreed but I always knew where I stood. I will do what I can to help you with the history.

Mr. Vanover stated Marge has been a very special lady in my life. Like Kathy, I've given it a lot of thought. Words are inadequate. In this city we pride ourselves on

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the quality of people we have, and Marge, you are one of our biggest assets. I said it once many years ago and I will hold to it; I thank God for mom, apple pie and Marge Boice. I will leave you with an Irish blessing, "May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be always at your back. May the rain fall softly on your head and may the sun shine warmly on your face. And may God hold you in the palm of His hand." Mr. Vanover presented Mrs. Boice with a vase of flowers.

Ms. Manis said I guess you would think this would be one of my happiest days without Marge Boice up here to fight with, but it's just the opposite. I've known Mrs. Boice for many, many years. I grew up with Bobby and rode the bus downtown with her when I took my first job downtown. I always looked up to Mrs. Boice and respected her. I thought she was quite a wonderful woman doing all this stuff and that's still the case. I will miss you being here at the meetings. I need someone to disagree with up here. It's been fun. Thank you for all the time you spent.

Mrs. Pollitt said Mrs. Boice, I thank you for all the support you have given me since I've decided to try to fill your shoes. You were a great asset to me and I've known you for many, many years. I appreciate all the work you have done for the City but mostly I appreciate a good neighbor like you. Mrs. Pollitt presented Mrs. Boice with flowers.

Mayor Webster stated I've known Marge and her late husband, Bill and their three wonderful children since 1971. I've always respected her opinion and she's always had one. We have jointly faced a lot of issues together over the years; some, which we agreed upon, and some, which we didn't. I could always expect Marge to fight to the bitter end to defend her position. But when the issue was settled it was done, over with and let's get on with the next battle at hand. There was never any wavering. You knew exactly where she stood. Never a hidden agenda. Here it is; take it over leave it. I certainly respect that in any person. Marge, as you leave here tonight how could we ever forget the Boice voice in District Three. We will be forever grateful for your years of contribution, your dedication and your sense of right and wrong, good and evil. We'll always cherish your friendship because it has endured. It has withstood the test of time, through good times and bad. I've always felt you cannot judge a person by the amount of wealth or fortune that they accumulate, but I think a better yardstick is how many friends a person has. And Marge Boice, tonight, you are truly a very wealthy lady. Your friends in this city are too numerous to count. Good luck in all your years ahead. Enjoy your life, you children, grandchildren and don't forget us. We will not forget you.

Mr. Galster said having only been up here for a couple of years I don't have quite the history everybody else does but listening and watching the people in the audience and the outflow of emotion and heartfelt warmth, it's real special. You've touched the hearts of a lot of people, especially on this board and in this city.

Mr. Knox said I had the pleasure of first working with Marge on the Board of Zoning Appeals and it was a pleasure because Marge Boice is somebody who has standards. She can put them forward so you can understand them and she doesn't waiver. They are all for the good of Springdale. They're not for her; they are for us. I learned a lot from working with her and that's one of the reasons I ran for office here because I could associate with people like her. Marge, you are a rock. We are going to miss you. Don't go too far away.

Mr. Danbury said I worked with Marge for eight years and I'm not saying they are wonderful because we have been on opposite ends many times. The one thing I think Marge and I have experienced is a mutual respect for each other's opinions. There have been some major differences of opinions but I've always respected where she stood and I think it was mutual; and that meant a lot to me. You look at the face of this whole city and I think it goes with a lot of the things you've done and some of the other people from Mr. Osborn to Mayor Webster. On an ongoing basis you have always been there and I want to thank you. Like Mrs. McNear said, there have been a lot of sacrifices. I know you have had some tough times but you always stuck with it I want to thank you for all the time and for being a friend to all of us..

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Ms. Manis presented a clock to Mrs. Boice from Council. The clock is engraved, "Marge, thank you for all the time you have freely given for the people of Springdale. Dated 12/1/97"

Mrs. Boice said I would like to say I'm almost speechless but those of you who know me well would not buy into the fact that Marge Boice was ever speechless. As I was getting ready this evening and knowing my children and grandchildren would be here, I thought so many years have gone by and they have been magnificent years. I look at the City from when I first became involved with Planning Commission in 1971 and what the City is now, and the major changes. I think also of the changes in my life. When I came to Council I was a wife and mother and then I became a Councilperson. Then I became a mother-in-law, and a proud grandmother. I worked in three municipal buildings. I worked with five mayors, 40 Councils and just worked with some wonderful people. I was elected four terms from District Three, which we all know is the heart of Springdale, and once at large. The people of Springdale have been absolutely wonderful to me. To all of you sitting up there who will continue to serve and those who come after, I would just like to say, cherish. Cherish serving this city. It's really a tremendous city. You are not always going to make everybody happy; but the people in this city have open hearts and open minds and are so caring. In the last 4 1/2 years we have seen many City employees retire. We have lost many well-known people in this community. I personally lost my husband and my aunt whom my family and I had cared for for 17 years. It will not surprise you that I have come to hate the word goodbye so I'm not going to say goodbye. I'm just going to say I'll see you around and thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Resolution R26-1997 passed with 7 affirmative votes.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Galster said on Wednesday we will be filling a couple of boards and Jerry Allen has expressed interest in BZA; Fred Borden any board; Dave Whitaker, BZA; Dave Strange, Civil Service. Dave Strange did serve on the Equalization Board.

Mr. Danbury said I spoke with Mr. Whitaker earlier this evening. I encourage everybody to contact the four people who are looking to become a member of one of the boards.

Mr. Wilson said Fred Borden expressed interest in Charter Revision.

Mr. Danbury said Mr. Darby is reluctantly not seeking reappointment at this time to the Civil Service Commission. He will continue until the end of his term December 31, 1997. I would like to consider these appointments at our next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS - none

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE - none

Council adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward F. Knox  
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:

Randy Danbury, President of Council

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