

City of Springdale Council

February 3, 2021

President of Council Vanover called Council to order on February 3, 2021.

The governmental body and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. McNear took roll call. Council members Anderson, Emerson, Ghantous, Hawkins, Ramirez, Sullivan-Wisecup, and Vanover were present.

The minutes of the January 20, 2021 meeting were considered. Mr. Hawkins made a motion to accept the minutes; Mrs. Ghantous seconded. The minutes were approved with seven affirmative votes.

Communications - None

Communications from the Audience - None

Ordinances and Resolutions

President Vanover: First off we have this evening is a public hearing. This will be the third reading.

Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 49-2020

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 153.252(F)(8) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE, OHIO

President Vanover: At this point, I'll open a Public Hearing. Is there anybody that would like to speak either for or against Ordinance No. 49-2020? (None)

Mr. Anderson made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 49-2020; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded the motion.

Mr. Hawkins: I just wanted to confirm. Is the Code defining a non-recreational trailer?

President Vanover: Mr. Braun?

Mr. Braun: I'll check that for you Councilmember Hawkins. But, I can tell you that we did not change it.

Mr. Hawkins: Okay. And we still did not define commercial vehicle from I know the last time.

Mr. Braun: One quick question, it does look like it defines a recreation trailer. What was your second question?

Mr. Hawkins: I know last time with the other ordinance, commercial vehicle was not being defined. That still is not defined?

Mr. Braun: That is correct.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you. Nothing further.

Mr. Anderson: Instead of a side to Mr. Braun, I thought I'd respond directly to Mr. Hawkins. I have the Zoning Code in front of me from the BZA meeting. There are definitions for recreational, commercial, and then a separate definition in for trailer. And, if you put them together, I think you end up with the definition that you're looking for.

Mr. Hawkins: So, I just wanted to confirm. Because, I knew we had a definition for commercial vehicles and I thought with what we were doing the last time that was being changed and removed. So, I just wanted to be clear that, with the passage of this, if there is going to be a definition within the code of a commercial vehicle or not. I thought when we had talked about that last time that the statement was that it was not going to be defined.

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Mr. Braun: If you look in subsection (F), we took the definition that we used in the previous ordinance and we've incorporated it in. It now reads, "However, one commercial vehicle shall be permitted to be parked or stored in a driveway in a residential zoning district provided it does not have more than one rear axle or more than two wheels on any one axle on the road unless used exclusively for personal use". So, what we did was we took the definition from the ordinance you already adopted and incorporated it in to this. I would also point out that you had asked me when that ordinance was passed did we define non-personal use and so here, again, we used the word "personal use" the opposite, and would allow the court to interpret that.

President Vanover: Are you good Mr. Hawkins?

Mr. Hawkins: I think I understand what was taking place. Thank you.

Ordinance No. 49-2020 passes six affirmative votes and one opposing vote (Hawkins).

Old Business

Mr. Anderson: Just about a year and a half ago, we had a topic that came up about committee stipends. We had unofficially tabled that discussion at the time because we were pending a tax vote for income and also the effects of COVID to our budget. It seems like we've got some better understanding now. I didn't know if the rest Council wanted to take up the question that was brought by one of the committees about the compensation we give our committee groups like Planning (Commission) and BZA (Board of Zoning Appeals). Originally, there was a request to raise that amount. I don't believe it's been touched in a number of years.

President Vanover: No. I think, probably, we hold it to maybe our next meeting, but yes, I think we now have at least a partial track record for what budgetary affects are in place. And, bring it forth and bring it back to the floor for discussion. This was, for those that may not remember, this was a letter that I received, a request from Mr. Coleman, Civil Service Commission, requesting a raise and we did table it due to the COVID and not knowing what our budget reactions were going to be until this got through, and this was with his blessing. So, that's probably a good point to bring it back. So, you can rehash it and then we will bring it to the floor on February 17th.

Mr. Anderson: I wasn't looking to take action tonight. I just wanted to get it back on the agenda. So, if we could talk about it or be prepared to talk about it next time, I think that would be great.

President Vanover: Sure. Okay.

Mrs. Emerson: Can Administration bring in for the next Council meeting, the amount that each committee gets?

President Vanover: Compensations.

Mrs. Emerson: Currently gets so we can start from there.

President Vanover: I'm getting an affirmative nod.

Mrs. Emerson: Thank you.

Mayor Webster: I think every time that we've looked at these things, we usually look at all the boards and commissions and even elected officials for that matter. Because, once you go singling one out, I mean if you bring in an ordinance, the week after next, then adjusting the rates of the Civil Service Commission, then I can guarantee you the next meeting you're going to have other boards and commissions raising their hands saying, "Hey, what about us?".

President Vanover: Well, I agree with you. That was my intent that we look at all the boards and commissions of the entire scope.

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Mayor Webster: I think in addition to providing Council with a list of what all the boards and commissions are making, we probably need to ask the Administration to do a search on the Center for Local Government and get a list of what other surrounding communities are paying for civil service, what they pay their planning and zoning and so forth so that we can look at the whole picture.

President Vanover: Okay. I completely agree. Administration are we good with that? (Nodded in agreement). Thank you.

Mr. Ramirez: I was on the same line. I thought we should review all of them at the same time. Like the Mayor said, there's no use in one and then doing another one in the next month and following, because realistically, all of them, none of their duties have increased since the last time, so, equally, they should, if they're going to receive a raise, they should all receive a raise at the same time. Thank you.

Mrs. Ghantous: Also, could we see a chart or the information when it was changed last. When the rates were changed because I've been around for a long time and I don't remember it changing for a long time. So, I was just curious.

President Vanover: The Administration says, "Affirmative".

Mr. Hawkins: Also, along those lines, I'd like to know if, my understanding was that there may have been some State legislation where they were going to change the monthly minimum for PERS and I don't know when that's going to take effect or what that number is going to be, but I'd like to know if there is a change that's actually going to take effect, when it is and what that dollar amount difference is for the minimum that one would have to gain a month to end up having annual credit. Thank you.

Mr. Anderson: All the boards and commissions was my intent. I don't believe, at least I'm not asking for City Council's to be reviewed to be clear. I think that was mentioned by at least one person. I'm only asking about boards and commissions. Thank you.

Mrs. McNear: This is on another topic. Are you finished with that one?

President Vanover: Yes.

Mrs. McNear: Well, I think we're going to have masks for the next couple of months at least, and I just wanted to bring it up again for the people who are recording, we've got our person in the back recording for our videos. Having experienced the remote meeting last week, I can tell you the view is looking straight down this way (limited view of the dais), and everyone's head is like this (down) and people are making a motion and they have masks on and women's voices are much harder to pick up, especially remotely, so, I wanted to ask if you're going to make a motion, or a second, please remove your mask, wave your hands so we can make it a little bit easier because last week, at the last meeting, I had to ask who made those motions, because I couldn't tell because there were two women that did and I think I even messed up the order when I called on people, but, it was very difficult to hear with masks, especially when there's a lot of things going on. So, if you would be so kind as to remove the mask and wave and make sure that we know that you're the person who's making those motions. I'm sure Debi and our gentleman in the back would appreciate that too. Also, for picking it up on the video feed for when people are looking at Council meetings it would really be most helpful to be able to do that. Thank you for your consideration.

Mayor Webster: I'm not sure if this is old or new, but, I talked to somebody before the meeting, and I'd just like to make sure everybody is on board. We'd like to go back to normal seating on the April 21st meeting with the partitions between all nine of the people up there and continue to wear your mask, that's fine. But, by that time, everybody should have had the opportunity, if they want, to get a vaccination. They should have had the opportunity to do that and also it would give it time for it to "kick in" with its full effectiveness. So, the 21st of April.

President Vanover: Council, any comments. I see a "nod". It's okay with me.

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Mr. Anderson: If the vaccine distribution warrants that, I think it's appropriate. I think the part that gives me pause is the Governor's order. As long as that's been rescinded or accounts for it, I believe it still calls for six feet of distance, and masks inside of all public buildings, which this would count as one. The reason I mention it is to make sure that the environment is open to all residents to feel comfortable coming and we should be modeling the behavior that matches the Governor's orders as well. So, as long as the Governor's order allows for it, and vaccine supply is where it's at, I have no problem with that. Thank you.

New Business - None

Meetings and Announcements

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission will meet in these chambers at 7:00 p.m. on February 9th.

Mrs. Emerson: The Board of Health will meet on February 11th at 7:00 in these chambers.

Communications from the Audience

Ms. Matheny: Good evening. I just wanted to announce that Charter Revision is going to be meeting on Wednesday, March 3rd at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room adjacent to here. We have a few items that Administration has brought to us to take a look at. I would like and invite all of you to please review the Charter. If there is anything that you have that you would like us to look at to please get that to me, personally, so I can put that on our agenda. Thank you.

Update on legislation still in development

Mr. Hawkins: As you review your Internal Memorandum, Item Number I was addressed with Ordinance No. 49-2020; An Ordinance Amending Section 153.252(F)(8) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Springdale, Ohio which passed with a 6-1 vote. All other matters were forthcoming.

Recap of legislative items requested for next Council meeting

Mr. Hawkins: There's a request for An Ordinance Accepting a Bid and Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk of Council/Finance Director to Enter Into a Contract with Rumpke of Ohio, Inc., for Waste Collection and Recycling Services and Declaring an Emergency. There's also a request for An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk of Council/Finance Director to Enter into a Cooperative Agreement with Hamilton County for the East Kemper Road/CSX Bridge Repair and Declaring an Emergency. That would be all items unless there's anything else from Council or the Administration.

Adjournment

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adjourn; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded the motion and Council adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:
Tom Vanover, President of Council

_____, 2021