

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

Office of the City Administrator

Springdale, Ohio

May 29, 2015

To: Mr. Thomas Vanover
President
Springdale City Council

From: Derrick Parham
City Administrator

Re: Report on Pending and Future Legislation

Item I

An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk of Council/Finance Director to Enter Into an Agreement with Advanced Data Processing, Inc. dba Intermedix, for Ambulance Billing and Related Professional Services and Declaring an Emergency

For over twenty years, in fact since 1993, Medicount Management, Inc. provided life support services billing for emergency runs made by City personnel. Due to a new ownership at Medicount as well as a reduction in the quality of service, the City entered into an agreement with Advanced Data Processing (Intermedix) in June 2011. At that time, the amount of revenue generated by the City's life support services had been declining drastically. In comparing the City's 2010 paramedic services revenue collection to the 2014 collections, there has been an increase of 42% in this revenue line item from \$356,253 to \$505,042.

The agreement with Intermedix authorized in 2011 appears to have expired during 2013, and since then, we have been operating under the terms of that agreement. Assistant City Administrator Jerry Thamann and Fire Chief Michael Hoffman have been working with representatives of Intermedix to draft a new agreement. According to Mr. Thamann, Intermedix is proposing very few adjustments to the existing agreement. It seems the primary change is to the fee schedule associated with the use of Intermedix's equipment that the department currently uses.

An ordinance, with an emergency clause, authorizing the City to enter into an agreement with Intermedix for ambulance billing services is intended to be before Council at the meeting of **06/17/2015**. At this time, the appropriate language is still being worked out between the parties. Because the exhibit for this ordinance is approximately thirty pages in length, a copy of the exhibit is not anticipated to be included with the legislation. However, once the agreement is finalized and ready for Council's consideration, a copy will be available for review in the Clerk of Council/Finance Director's office.

Item II

An Ordinance Awarding a Contract to the Lowest Bidder for the Boggs Lane Rehabilitation Project and Declaring an Emergency

In the City's 2013 Budget, the Boggs Lane Repair project and the Jake Sweeney Place Reconstruction project were originally two separate projects. However, they were filed jointly as a single project in the City's unsuccessful State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP) application. When the City filed its new SCIP application in 2014, the City's proposed contribution to the project was increased. Unfortunately, combining the two projects and increasing our share did not help the City secure SCIP funding for the project.

In addition to the SCIP funding request, the City also applied for and was successfully approved for \$100,000 in HB51 funds with the Ohio Department of Transportation's Office of Jobs and Commerce for the combined Sweeney/Boggs project. Earlier this year, the City, ODOT, and the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District (HCTID) tentatively agreed that the City could use the \$100,000 HB51 funds to improve only a Boggs Lane project, if the project was under construction this year (2015). In addition, this fall the City would once again submit an application for SCIP funding to rehabilitate Jake Sweeney Place. If the City's application is successfully approved, the City would rehabilitate Jake Sweeney Place in 2016. If the application is not approved for SCIP funding, the City can not afford to rehab the street without outside funding.

The Boggs Lane Rehabilitation project will involve total curb and gutter replacements, several pavement repairs, grinding and resurfacing the existing asphalt street, replacing catch basins and drive aprons as needed, and new pavement markings. The latest engineer's estimate for the project is \$245,234. Using this total and when applying the HB51 funding (\$100,000), the City would be responsible for the remaining \$145,234. The project is currently out to bid with results scheduled to be received on June 3 and a contract awarded at the **06/17/2015** meeting. The design engineering was previously completed in 2014.

An ordinance, with an emergency clause, awarding a contract to the lowest bidder for the Boggs Lane Rehabilitation project is scheduled to be before Council at the **06/17/2015** meeting.

Item III

An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk of Council/Finance Director to Enter Into an Agreement to Provide for Mutual Aid Fire and EMS Services and Declaring an Emergency

Fire and Emergency Medical Services agencies in Hamilton County have had a mutual aid agreement in place since at least 1991. In fact, Ordinance 10-1991 authorized Springdale's Fire Department to participate in a mutual aid process with other Hamilton County communities. Unfortunately, no changes, updates, or adjustments have been made to the Mutual Aid Agreement approved in 1991.

In 2014, the Hamilton County Fire Chief's Association began a process to update the existing agreement. The Association along with their legal counsel and representatives from several other jurisdictions worked to construct the new proposed agreement. Although the majority of the language has changed, they worked very hard to retain the essence of the agreement. City of Springdale staff and legal counsel have also reviewed the document and are recommending City Council adopt the agreement.

An ordinance, with an emergency clause, authorizing the City to enter into an agreement to provide mutual aid Fire and EMS services will be before Council at the **06/17/2015** meeting.

Item IV

An Ordinance Authorizing the City to Participate in the Ohio Municipal League's 2016 Group Retrospective Rating Program for Workers' Compensation and Declaring an Emergency

In an effort to save on workers' compensation premiums, the City began participating in a group rating program with the Miami Valley Risk Management Association (MVRMA) in 1993. The experience of being in a group has served our organization well. When MVRMA discontinued their group rating program beginning with the 2011 program year, the City was presented with an opportunity to join the Ohio Municipal League's (OML) program. The City has participated with OML every year since, and the program continues to prove beneficial to our organization. The City has qualified to once again participate in the OML's Group Retrospective Rating Program (Group Retro) for 2016.

Group Retro is a performance-based incentive program where cities continue to pay their own individual premiums to the Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) and based on the performance of the entire group, each city could receive either a refund or an assessment. The key to the success of the Group Retro program is based on best safety practices, education, and aggressive claims management. CompManagement, the program administrator, is selective in which cities are allowed to participate in the Group Retro program. If a city's BWC claims experience exceeds the industry standard that city will not be allowed to enroll in the program. This selective process protects the group's ability to receive a larger refund and minimizes the possibility of an assessment.

An ordinance, with an emergency clause, authorizing the City to participate in the OML Group Retro program for 2016 will be presented to Council for consideration at the **06/17/2015** meeting.

Item V

An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Springdale Police Department to Participate in the Hamilton County Heroin Coalition Task Force and Declaring an Emergency

In recent years, heroin-related overdoses and deaths have continued to rise and present challenges for local law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and the State of Ohio as well as Hamilton County and its member communities. The law enforcement community throughout Hamilton County has realized it will require a coordinated response to attack the local heroin overdose and death epidemic. As such, the Hamilton County Heroin Coalition Task Force has been formed. Through the Task Force, communities will have the ability to combine their resources and develop consistent investigative responses to heroin-involved incidents. The Task Force will be comprised of the Hamilton County Sheriff, Hamilton County Prosecuting Attorney, and other local government agencies in the Greater Cincinnati area.

Springdale and other local agencies have been asked to commit to the program by executing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining the structure, operations, and organization of the Task Force. Through this MOU, the City's involvement is limited to law enforcement activities. An ordinance, with an emergency clause, authorizing the City to participate in the Hamilton County Heroin Coalition Task Force was planned to be presented before Council at the **06/03/2015** meeting, however a number of small details in the agreement have yet to be resolved. As a result, the legislation will be postponed until the **06/17/2015** meeting.

Item VI

A Resolution Adopting the 2016 Tax Budget of the City of Springdale for the Year January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016

The 2016 Tax Budget will be presented to City Council for consideration on **06/17/2015**. Based on State regulations, the deadline for Council to adopt and subsequently submit the tax budget generally occurs around the date of the second City Council meeting in the month of July. With the implementation of the City Council summer schedule, the only meeting in July is scheduled for **07/15/2015**. Holding the public hearing at the second meeting in June as opposed to the July meeting allows the City time to address any issues which may arise and still comply with the deadline for submitting the tax budget. A legal advertisement announcing the Public Hearing for the 2016 Tax Budget will be published prior to the **06/17/2015** meeting date.

A resolution approving the 2016 Tax Budget in conjunction with the required Public Hearing is scheduled to be before City Council for consideration on **06/17/2015**.

Item VII

An Ordinance Assessing Property Owners for Improvements Made Related to Their Drive Aprons for the Ashmore Court and Woodvale Court Rehabilitation Project and Declaring an Emergency

As the City has been getting back into the neighborhoods making improvements by upgrading our streets, curbs, catch basins, and other infrastructure features, the City has adopted a policy of requiring residents to repair/replace their drive aprons. Not all drive aprons are automatically included in this requirement. Only those drive aprons meeting the following criteria are required to make the improvements: *1) if more than 1 inch of vertical separation exists between the apron and any adjoining concrete (apron, curb, or sidewalk); 2) if there is deterioration of more than 50% of the apron's surface; or 3) if there is a crack or cracks greater than ½ inch in width in the surface of the apron.*

As a part of the Ashmore Court and Woodvale Court Rehabilitation project, eleven of the twenty-three property owners were required to make improvements under the policy. As of the printing of this memorandum, all but five property owners have fulfilled their financial obligation. Of that total, two properties are on Ashmore Court, and the remaining three are on Woodvale Court. In the next month (no later than June 30), a letter will be sent to each of the remaining property owners notifying them of this upcoming legislation and their ability to avoid the assessment.

An ordinance, with an emergency clause, assessing property owners for improvements made to their drive aprons for the Ashmore Court and Woodvale Court Rehabilitation project is scheduled before City Council at the **07/15/2015** meeting.

Item VIII

An Ordinance Authorizing the City to Fund the Employees' Health Savings Accounts in 2015 and Declaring an Emergency

Since the City joined the Center for Local Government Benefits Pool (CLGBP) to provide medical insurance coverage for all full-time employees, the City has funded a portion of the employees' Health Savings Accounts (HSA). During the first year of the program, the City funded the accounts at 100%. Since that initial period, the City has contributed 50% of the employees' deductible for medical coverage. The medical deductibles for Springdale employees are \$2,000 for single coverage and \$4,000 for family coverage. The City's 50% contribution made to the employee's account was \$1,000 for single coverage and \$2,000 for family coverage.

The City Administration is recommending Council continue to fund each employee's HSA account at the 50% rate for 2015, not to exceed \$1,000 for singles and \$2,000 for families. Contributions made to the accounts of new full-time employees will continue to be prorated based upon the schedule found on Exhibit A attached to the ordinance.

An ordinance, with an emergency clause, authorizing the funding of HSA accounts for all full-time City employees on the City's Health Insurance Plan, will be before Council at the **07/15/2015** meeting.

Mayor
Clerk of Council / Finance Director
City Council
Assistant City Administrator
Law Director
City Engineer
Department Directors
Recording Secretary
Reading File