

Springfield Council Meeting
September 8, 2014
7:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P. M. with the Mayor and all council members present.

The August minutes were read. Mayor McCormick asked if there was a motion to adopt. Council member Olin Williams made a motion to amend the August minutes to read the he had removed the damaged park lights himself, not an electrician. Council member Josie Williams 2nd the motion. All agreed with a show of hands.

The August Special Meeting minutes were read. Council member Cooper made a motion to accept the minutes and Council member Temples 2nd the motion. All agreed with a show of hands.

The August financials were read. Council member Cooper made a motion to accept the August financials. Council member Temples 2nd the motion. All agreed with a show of hands with the exception of Council member Josie Williams and Council member Olin Williams.

Mayor McCormick asked Pastor Jared Pemper of the First Baptist Church to come forward. Pastor Pemper said he has been in Springfield about three months and added that it is an incredible community. He thanked everyone for being so friendly to him and his family. Pastor Pemper announced there would be a community worship service held Sunday, October 5 at 5 P. M. at the Springfield High School bringing several churches in the area together. The Mayor thanked Pastor Pemper for attending the council meeting and making this announcement.

Mayor McCormick went on to the 2nd reading of the 2014-2015 budget. After reading she asked if there was a motion to adopt the budget. Council member Temples made a motion to adopt and Council member Cooper 2nd the motion. All agreed with a show of hands with the exception of Council member Olin Williams. Mayor McCormick read the Agreement to Adopt the Budget and it was passed for signatures.

The Mayor thanked everyone for coming out to the council meeting. She said the police officers have been checking on the elderly and shut- ins due to the hot weather. She asked if anybody knew of anyone that needs to be checked on to please notify the police department. The Mayor asked for thoughts and prayers for the Burley Huffman family, Mr. Wayne Lackey and Mr. G. W. Williams. She added that Mr. Jimmy Thomas' father-in-law had passed away. Mayor McCormick said Mr. John David Steverson had resigned as of August 29 due to a medical condition and would be missed. She said only two bids have been received for the clean- up of the mold problem at the old town hall but another company is expected to come in and give a bid. The Mayor said the work on the floors at the school should begin within a week. She said a contractor had turned in the proper paperwork. The Mayor said sand has been ordered for the park as well as a new sign to be put up.

Officer Charles Gaines gave the monthly Police Department report. He also announced that the police department would be offering fingerprinting for children on September 27, beginning at 10 A. M. until noon at the town hall. Officer Gaines reiterated seat belt use. He said seat belt violations would be written. He asked that everyone call 534-3550 which is the dispatch number if they need an officer so these calls could be logged in. He added that if there is an emergency to dial 911. Officer Gaines concluded saying a crime watch meeting would be held September 18 at 6:30 P. M.

Council member Temples said he has had some health issues this year and hasn't been able to do some things he was going to do. He said it seems like when he has been in the hospital or sick at home several people want to call, question or write the Mayor concerning what he is or isn't doing as far as the town is concerned. Council member Temples said he has two phones and would appreciate the concerns be addressed to him instead of bothering the Mayor.

Council member Josie Williams asked why council was not included in deciding who would do the school's floor repairs. Mayor McCormick said she had made an executive decision to get the work started.

Council member Olin Williams said maintenance was needed on all the town's buildings and nothing has been done in the last nine months. He said he had requested gas reports and maintenance records as far as the police department and could not get any cooperation out of the town. He said he had planned to give the town two checks; one from him for \$500.00 and one from his employer matching him dollar for dollar, but said he is withdrawing his check and sending his employer's check back to him. Council member Williams said if he keeps pushing the issues with the police department it will cause problems for him with his job. He said as of now he is resigning as a council member. Mayor McCormick asked that Council member Olin Williams give her a written resignation which he agreed to do.

Mrs. Sylvia Hiers asked Mayor McCormick which school board members she had shared the information with concerning the decision made on who would repair the floors at the school. Mayor McCormick told her she had made an executive decision. Mrs. Hiers asked what funds would be used to pay for the repairs. Mayor McCormick said the funds that are in the school account. Mrs. Hiers asked where the money would be gotten from for other repairs needed at the school. Mayor McCormick said from funds that have been raised since it has been started. Mrs. Hiers said she gets the picture that there is an awful lot of oversight or intent to ignore or go around the school board and feels sure the other school board members attending the meeting would be willing to cooperate in any way. She said she felt this was not a lack of cooperation but just plain cutting the school board out. Mrs. Hiers said she has worked for the town writing grants and knowing the sources to get money every year but she felt this doesn't make sense and told Council member Olin Williams she couldn't resign because she is a volunteer. School Board member Richard Phillips asked Mayor McCormick who would be doing the floor repairs. The Mayor said Baltzegar Construction would be doing the work and had followed the proper procedure. School Board member Charles Ray Brown asked if three good bids have been received. Mayor McCormick said they had.

Mrs. Sylvia Hiers asked if the school board would be included in any way in the floor repair work. The Mayor said she had made an executive decision and Mr. Baltzegar would answer to her. Mayor McCormick said she would be glad to talk with Mrs. Hiers more about this at a later date and said she appreciated everything. Mayor McCormick told Mrs. Hiers she would need copies of the audited grants from her. Mrs. Hiers said she had turned in copies of everything. Mayor McCormick said she needed to know who the money sources are, the responsibility of the premises being secure and does believe that this is being done. She added everything Mrs. Hiers and the school board has done is appreciated. Mrs. Hiers asked if the school board is functioning as far as fundraising. Mayor McCormick said fundraising should continue like it always has. Mrs. Hiers asked if the board has say so over how the money is spent or do they just raise it and turn it over to the Mayor and bow out. Mayor McCormick said the money is not turned over to her. She said that many times it has been said that it is town money and when you are using the town's tax identification number there are procedures that have to be followed. Mrs. Hiers said the procedures have been followed under every Mayor who had served. She asked again if the school board would be included in the supervision of the floor repairs. Mayor McCormick told her she would get back with her with an answer at a later date.

Council member Josie Williams read aloud her letter of resignation from town council.

At 7:54 P. M. Mayor McCormick announced council would go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

Mayor and Council came out of executive session at 8:14 P.M and Mayor McCormick said no vote or actions were taken. She added that the discussion concerned consolidating two employees positions and turning it into one.

Public Comments:

Matthew Williams introduced himself as Olin Williams' son. He announced that he would be running for council to take his daddy's place.

A concerned individual said he had taken his five year old to the park and discovered green mildew on the buildings and playground equipment. He said the park is in need of a pressure washing. He added that there was also an ant problem.

Olin Williams said he would volunteer his free time to do things for the town even though he will not be serving on council.

With no other business the meeting adjourned at 8:18 P. M.

