

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD  
JUNE 5, 2006**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Anderson called the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Springfield to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Anderson led the pledge of allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Agne, Burdett, Eib, Good, Hinton, Whitfield, and Mayor Anderson.

Also Present: James Jenkins – City Manager and Kris Vogel – City Clerk.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Hinton, seconded by Good and unanimous that the minutes of the May 15, 2006, regular meeting be approved subject to additions and corrections.

V. REPORTS

A. City Manager – James Jenkins

1. Authorize – BCATS FY 2007 Local Funding Resolution

City Manager Jenkins stated the following resolution would authorize the City of Springfield to participate with Battle Creek Area Transportation Study.

**Resolution #33-06**

It was moved by Hinton and seconded by Eib that the following resolution be adopted (the resolution was read in part; a complete copy is on file in the City Clerk's office):

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the local share requirements for the operation of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study for 2007 will be \$38,644.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Springfield agrees to participate in the funding of the local share costs of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study for fiscal year 2007 (October 1, 2006 - September 30, 2007) by providing 5.6% of the local match required for Study costs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the local match share for the City of Springfield for FY 2007 will be \$ 2,164.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Springfield agrees to submit to the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study office (601 Avenue A, Springfield, MI 49015 RE: Fund No. 2321) payment of local match share no later than January 1, 2007; or the City of Springfield shall have the option of making the payment in two (2) equal installments by January 1, 2007, and April 1, 2007, respectively.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Springfield agrees this resolution becomes effective at such time as all other local Study participants providing financial support pass resolutions of financial commitment in the proportion and manner described in this resolution.

All ayes. Resolution adopted.

## 2. Authorize – Expenditure for Limited Bus Service

City Manager Jenkins stated the following resolution would authorize the expenditure for limited bus service through the City of Springfield. City Manager Jenkins explained the bus service would consist of five runs through the City of Springfield each day along Avenue A and Dickman Road. City Manager Jenkins stated that the time to negotiate with Battle Creek is close to its end as the plan will go into effect July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mayor Anderson thanked City Manager Jenkins for his time and effort spent on negotiations with Battle Creek attempting to keep the bus service for the Springfield residents. She also stated this has been a controversial issue for the past several months, and feels at this time there is no real resolution.

Council Member Burdett also thanked City Manager Jenkins for all of his work on the negotiations of this issue. This situation has limited the City of Springfield on what can be done for the residents. He noted that the proposed amount of money to be spent for the amount of service to be provided is not worth it.

Council Member Whitfield stated under this plan the City would be spending three times the amount of money for three times less service. He stated that if that amount of service could satisfy the needs of the consumer he would be happy with that; however, he is concerned that it may not.

Council Member Agne stated that he was not happy with the option and agreed with Council Member Whitfield that the City should continue to negotiate with Battle Creek to see if there is a better solution.

Council Member Hinton stated they had discussed the stops on Avenue A, but had not addressed the residents catching the bus on Goguac Street; these stops would be completely eliminated. Council Member Hinton stated she feels the tax money would be spent in a very limited way.

Council Member Good agreed with Council Member Hinton that with his business on Goguac and 20<sup>th</sup> Street he sees the amount of riders that use the bus in the area. He stated there are businesses off 20<sup>th</sup> Street that rely on some of these riders as employees or consumers. Council Member Good stated if the Council was to accept this offer he feels it would take away from one group of citizens to give to another group. He noted that City Manager Jenkins has worked diligently, as the Council has asked he to do, trying to find other alternatives to the situation at hand.

Council Member Eib stated he would have to abstain from and discussion or action pertaining to this subject, due to his employment with Battle Creek Transit.

Mayor Anderson asked if there had been any discussion about charging the City by its usage, monitoring the amount of riders actually using the bus in Springfield? City Manager Jenkins stated this option had not been considered.

City Manager Jenkins noted that the Battle Creek Transit van service is still an option for individuals, but it will be more costly to the riders.

Mayor Anderson noted there is also the Community Action Agency van for those citizens who qualify.

**Resolution #34-06**

It was moved by Good and seconded by Hinton that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD to authorize the expenditure of \$10,000 to Battle Creek Transit to maintain a limited bus service through the City of Springfield for FY06/07.

Abstained: Council Member Eib

Nays: Council Members Agne, Burdett, Good, Hinton, Whitfield and Mayor Anderson.

Resolution failed.

3. Authorize – City Manager to Enter into Agreement with the Access Vision.  
City Manager Jenkins stated the following resolution would allow him to enter into an agreement with Access Vision. He noted this would be a continuation of the franchise agreement the City now holds with Comcast.

**Resolution #35-06**

It was moved by Eib and seconded Good by that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD has finalized a franchise agreement with Comcast; and

WHEREAS, Access Vision is available for community use and broadcasts City meetings for free; and

WHEREAS, 60% of the City's franchise fees have supported Access Vision in the past.  
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement (attached) continuing this relationship.

All ayes. Resolution adopted.

4. Authorize – City Manager to Enter into Agreement with the City of Battle Creek

City Manager Jenkins stated the following resolution would allow him to enter into an agreement with the City of Battle Creek for water.

**Resolution #36-06**

It was moved by Agne and seconded by Burdett that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement (attached) with the City of Battle Creek for water service.

All ayes. Resolution adopted.

5. Introduce – Outdoor Furnace Ordinance

City Manager Jenkins stated the following ordinance would ban any future installations of outdoor furnaces. He noted any person already having one would be grandfathered in.

**Ordinance #04-06**

It was moved by Whitfield and seconded by Agne that the following ordinance be introduced by title only (a complete copy of the ordinance is on file in the City Clerk's office):

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES WITH REGARD TO OUTDOOR, FREE-STANDING, SOLID FUEL BURNING APPLIANCES.

Council Member Burdett stated he felt it would be hypocritical to say residents could burn leaves, but they could not use a solid fuel outdoor furnace.

Mayor Anderson asked about the effect this type of appliance would have on the environment? Council Member Burdett stated the leaves are already being burned. Mayor Anderson stated the leaves are only a few that are being burned a couple times a year versus a furnace that the Council does not know if it will burn cleanly.

Council Member Good stated other municipalities have discussed this type of ban. He indicated these furnaces will be less obnoxious as the manufacturers are making them better as their popularity increases and put the same amount of smoke in the air as a regular house furnace. Council Member Good stated they have found a way to put a scrubber in the chimney that is the same as the industrial companies use to reduce the amount of coal admissions into the air. He stated he is not ready to say no to the residents putting these in yet, especially with the gas prices going sky high.

All nays. Ordinance failed to be introduced.

6. *Bills in Line for Payment*

It was moved by Good, seconded by Burdett and unanimously approved that the checks be drawn from the various accounts and the bills be paid.

VI. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Members Burdett and Hinton reminded the community that schools are out for the summer and asked everyone to be alert for the children.

Council Member Burdett congratulated all the children who graduated from high school and that graduated from middle school to high school.

Council Member Whitfield thanked ARC of Battle Creek for putting on their first disc golf tournament at Begg Park.

City Clerk Vogel reminded the community that the Farmers Market is open on Wednesdays from 3-6 p and Saturday from 8a-1p. Fresh produce should be available within the next couple weeks.

City Manager Jenkins stated the Cereal City Chorus has an upcoming show and City Manager Jenkins has tickets available for anyone interested.

## VII. CITIZEN COMMENTS

## IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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Kris Vogel, CMC  
City Clerk

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Susan L. Anderson, Mayor