



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Valerie Lough
P: 937-324-7300
E: vlough@springfieldohio.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hearing on Rezoning, Proposals on Demolition, SROs on Commission Agenda

SPRINGFIELD, OH (July 30, 2019) — A rezoning hearing, two items related to demolition and school resource officers are on the agenda for Tuesday's regular meeting of the Springfield City Commission.

Prior to the formal meeting, a public hearing will be held for a proposed change in zoning for 4.7 acres at 1311 Lagonda Avenue from RS-8, Medium Density, Single-Family Residence District, to M-1, General Manufacturing District.

The City Planning Board voted unanimously on June 10 to approve the motion to rezone the parcel. The applicant, Arctech Fabricating, Inc., makes the request to accommodate the company's investment in the property.

The Commission will also hear proposals to increase a demolition services contract with Tony Smith Wrecking & Trucking to \$400,000, and to enter into a cooperation agreement with The Springfield City School District Board of Education to provide School Resource Officers.

The contract with Tony Smith Wrecking will allow the city to continue improving neighborhoods by clearing blighted structures and opening up potential Mow to Own opportunities, said Springfield City Manager Bryan Heck.

"Clearing these structures is an integral part of rejuvenating our neighborhoods," said Heck. "We are committed to improving our neighborhoods for the people who live there, and also provide an opportunity for residents to acquire the vacant lots created through sweat equity."

Springfield's Mow to Own Program allows qualifying homeowners to acquire vacant lots in their neighborhood through maintaining them over a certain period of time. For more information on Mow to Own, residents can contact the Community Development Department at 937-324-7380.

The cooperation agreement with the Springfield City School Board of Education will provide for staffing of school resource officers for the 2019-2020 school year, said Springfield Police Division Chief Lee Graf.

"Having our officers present in schools provides a benefit far beyond public safety," said Graf. "It's part of community policing, and interacting with the people that we serve on a personal level each day."

Springfield City Commission meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the City Hall Forum.