

The City of Springfield, Ohio
City Commission Public Hearing Minutes
Tuesday, December 8, 2020 – 2:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM Internet Application

130-20 2021 Appropriations Budget.

In an effort to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, a special virtual public hearing was called to order by President Copeland. Roll Call was answered by Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and President Copeland.

Mr. Copeland inquired from the Clerk if proper legal notice was given on such public hearing.

The Clerk read a communication relative thereto, attached to which was a copy of the public hearing notice. Said notice was published in the *Springfield News-Sun* on November 27, 2020.

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. O'Neill, the communication and notice were ordered received, recorded in the minutes, and filed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

December 8, 2020

Honorable City Commission
The City of Springfield, Ohio

Honorable Commissioners:

Notice of a Public Hearing to consider the budget for the calendar year 2021, was published in the *Springfield News-Sun*, a newspaper of general circulation within the City, on November 27, 2020.

Attached hereto is a true and correct copy of such legal notice.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill R. Pierce
Clerk of the City Commission

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
2021 BUDGET

A virtual public hearing on the 2021 Budget will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2020, as an online Zoom meeting. The purpose of the hearing is for public review and discussion of the 2021 Budget.

The public is encouraged to provide written and oral comments on the entire 2021 Budget and to ask questions concerning the proposed 2021 Budget. Persons needing assistance to participate should contact Jill Pierce, Clerk of the City Commission, before the meeting at 937-324-7341.

Copies of the 2021 Budget are available for public inspection ten (10) days prior to the Budget Hearing by appointment only which may be scheduled with the Clerk at the number above. An electronic copy can also be emailed, upon request. Please email tross@springfieldohio.gov to request a PDF copy.

The City of Springfield, Ohio
Mark B. Beckdahl
Finance Director
11-27/2020

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Mr. Copeland called upon Finance Director Beckdahl for a report.

Mr. Beckdahl reviewed the 2021 General Fund revenues projected at \$47,943,840 which is \$953,020 (1.9 percent) less than the revised 2020 budget. Income Tax receipts for 2021 are estimated to remain flat compared to the 2020 revised budget.

The General Fund revenues are broken down as follows:

Income Tax	75 percent
Local Government Fund and State Shared Taxes	3 percent
Services and Charges	4 percent
Fines and Forfeitures	3 percent
All Other	15 percent

Dr. Estrop asked for a comparison of the local government and state funding as it is today and prior to the state reducing the funding to cities and counties. Mr. Beckdahl stated Springfield received about \$5.5 million at its highest amount. Changes at the state level forced the city to go to the voters for additional income tax. Mr. Beckdahl added that he does not foresee the state returning the level of funding to local governments.

Mr. Beckdahl reviewed the proposed General Fund expenditures. Total expenditures for 2021 are projected at \$51,072,230 assuming full staffing levels. Operational deficit (expenditures exceed revenues) for 2021 is projected to be \$3,128,390 mostly due to transfers for capital equipment and paving. The General Fund has an expected balance of \$10.7 million at the end of 2021 which is 21.07 percent of expenditures to meet the promise of rebuilding reserves per the tax levy.

The expenditures from the General Fund were categorized as follows:

Public Safety	55 percent
Municipal Court	10 percent
Neighborhood Services	11 percent
NTPRD and SCAT	2 percent
All Other	22 percent

Mr. Beckdahl reviewed proposed staffing for 2021. Police is budgeted at 130 sworn officers; Fire staffing is budgeted at 127 firefighters/paramedics. Overall staffing is budgeted at 553.9 full-time equivalent employees for 2021 which is less than 2020 as a result of dispatch services being combined with Clark County Dispatch in 2021.

Permanent Improvement revenue is budgeted at \$7,530,000 with \$3 million planned for neighborhood street paving. Expenditures for one fire ladder truck, eight police cruisers, one police staff services vehicle, police in-car cameras and two dump trucks with snow plows are planned for 2021. National Trail Parks and Recreation has budgeted \$200,000 for capital items. Other projects also include significant airport repairs and updates along with much needed repairs and maintenance to city-owned buildings.

Mr. Beckdahl reviewed more than \$80 million dollars in Capital projects using Utility Funds (Water, Sewer, and Stormwater combined) that have been completed in the last five years including the completed High Rate Treatment facility at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the completed Erie Express Sewer, continued neighborhood utility upgrades, and the proposed Eastern Pressure District water project. No rate increases are recommended in this budget.

Mr. Beckdahl reviewed promises made to Springfield citizens as a result of the levy campaign including at least \$2 million annually for neighborhood streets, adding police officers to the Safe Streets Task Force, reopening both the Police Substation and Fire Station #5, increasing the reserves annually to stabilize the city's finances, and investing in needed equipment.

Mr. Beckdahl provided a copy of the Neighborhood Street Paving Program Plan for 2018-2022 indicating the locations of completed and upcoming projects.

The 2021 Appropriations Ordinance will be presented to the Commission for adoption at the December 22, 2020, meeting.



There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Mrs. Chilton, the public hearing adjourned.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COMMISSION

CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION