

CITY OF SPRINGVILLE  
ORGANIZATONAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 2, 2020

The newly elected City Council met in an organizational session on Monday, November 2, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Springville City Hall. Mayor-elect Dave Thomas welcomed guests.

Mr. Ryan Taylor was recognized to give the invocation.

Major Kenneth McEntyre presented the colors, and Colonel Frank Waid led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. John David Russell was called upon to administer the Oaths of Office to the follows:

Mayor - Dave Thomas  
District 1 – Herbert Toles  
District 2 – David Vinson  
District 3 – Wayne Tucker  
District 4 – Katrina Hennings  
District 5 – Tiim Walker  
District 6 – Marshall Parker  
District 7 – Sherry Reaves

Mayor Thomas assumed the role of presiding officer. He stated he would like to see citizens involved in city government and play a role.

The agenda was presented for approval. Councilmember Parker moved the agenda be approved, seconded by Councilmember Tucker, and the motion carried.

Resolution 2020-027 to elect a Mayor Pro-Tem was presented. Councilmember Toles nominated Councilmember Wayne Tucker, seconded by Councilmember Walker. There being no other nominations, the nominations were closed. Councilmember Toles moved Wayne Tucker be named as Mayor Pro-Tem, seconded by Councilmember Vinson, and the motion carried with Councilman Tucker abstaining.

Resolution 2020-028 to elect Lynn Porter as City Clerk was presented. Councilmember Reaves moved this resolution be approved, seconded by Councilmember Vinson, and the motion carried.

Resolution 2020-032 to name a Municipal Judge for a two year term was presented. This will be Lee Barnes. Councilmember Toles moved this be approved, seconded by Councilmember Parker, and the motion carried.

Mayor Thomas presented a resolution to name Charlie D. Waldrop as City Attorney, and passed out Mr. Waldrop's resume. Mr. Thomas stated he proposed this change to keep this out of county politics. Mr. Waldrop is not here tonight due to a prior engagement.

Councilman Parker moved this resolution be approved, and there was no second.

Mayor Thomas asked was there any discussion.

Councilmember Vinson stated they have worked with Attorney James Hill and had a good relationship with him for many years and have been very satisfied. He stated he also recognized that the Mayor has certain authority in making appointments, and he would support whoever comes in.

Councilmember Toles stated Mr. Hill has been able to work successfully with the County on the City's behalf for many years on roads. He stated he felt he was honest with the City, but it is the Mayor's decision.

Councilmember Reaves stated she agreed with what has been said. James has been good to us and has become a friend to us. He has responded to us when we needed him. She stated he is a citizen in Springville, and she felt this was important to her

Mayor Thomas said Mr. Hill has been city attorney for ten years.

Councilmember Tucker stated Mr. Hill has been here a long time, so when you ask him something he does not have to go look it up. He has been a good attorney. It is hard for me to make a motion or a second on this.

Councilmember Walker stated he wished he had been given this these names prior to the agenda, and Councilmember Hennings agreed.

This is nothing personal. This is strictly putting my team together. I am sure he is competent and has done a good job. He represents Moody, Ragland, and the St. Clair County Commission. If the City of Springville ever has a conflict with St. Clair County, where is the loyalty? I am sorry that we were not able to get you this information in advance.

Councilmember Reaves stated when James has not been able to be here, he has always had his Dad here.

Mayor Thomas stated, therein lies part of what he sees as a concern. I do not feel like our State Representative should have so much influence in Springville affairs. The motion fails for lack of a second. For the record, barring any legal challenge, or evidence that it is improper, and I have not found anything, I will appoint Charlie Waldrop.

The Organizational Resolution 2020-026 was presented for approval. Mayor Thomas stated he believed this to be standard fare and called for a motion. Councilmember Tucker moved it be approved, seconded by Councilmember Toles, and the motion carried.

Resolution 2020-029 to appoint Richard Harvey as Fire Chief was presented. Councilmember Toles, moved this be approved, seconded by Councilmember Vinson, and the motion carried.

Councilmember Toles stated Richard Harvey has been with us about twenty years, and he did not think we could find anyone better.

Resolution 2020-33 naming Lance Bell as public defender was presented. Discussion followed on who should make this appointment the Mayor or the Municipal Judge. Councilmember Toles moved to table this appointment, seconded by Councilmember Reaves, and the motion carried.

Mayor Thomas stated the Council now has documents before them on two resolutions. Councilmember Toles moved the agenda be amended to add these items, seconded by Councilmember Reaves.

Resolution 2020-31 to appoint Jeff Martin as head of Park and Recreation was presented. Mayor Thomas stated the next Resolution 32 is to appoint Ashley Hay as executive assistant to the Mayor, so Ms. Hay will not be out of a job, she will just change responsibilities.

Councilmember Tucker moved this be approved, seconded by Councilmember Toles. Councilmember Vinson called for discussion and he was not expecting this to come before us tonight, stated Ashley came to us a couple of years ago and has done a outstanding job and has gotten us over a quarter of a million dollars in grants. He stated he did not see a reason for the change. He stated he did not know if the person recommended had the same qualifications., and he would be opposed to removing a quality person.

Councilperson Reaves agreed saying we have a quality person who has proved herself. She stated she did not agree with this.

Mayor Thomas stated there will be a new position as Executive Assistant to the Mayor. Mayor is a part-time position with full-time responsibilities. He stated he has already spoken with Ms. Hay and explained he intends to be a Parks and Recreation kind of Mayor, promoting the nature preserve and eco-tourism. He stated he will be utilizing her administrative and grant writing

skills in his office. She would still be up to her elbows in Park and Recreation activities. She will be assisting Jeff Martin. She unquestionably has the skills in the recreation area. Mr. Martin has skills in the parks area with greenscapes, naturescapes because he has the knowledge and certifications for chemical applications and such. He has worked with sports programs in the community. This could save money in contracts. He felt hand in hand this will be a better situation.

Discussion followed on past affiliations between Mr. Martin and the city. Councilmember Toles moved to go into executive session to discuss good name and character, seconded by Councilmember Reaves. Mayor Thomas stated they will return to this meeting at the end of the session. Time 6:44.

The Organizational meeting reconvened at 6:53.

Councilmember Reaves moved Resolutions 2020-34 and 2020-35 on the Park and Recreation department head and the Executive Assistant to the Mayor be tabled until the next meeting, seconded by Councilmember Vinson, and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Toles moved Resolution 2020-30 appointing Wayne Walton as Police Chief be approved, seconded by Councilmember Tucker, and the motion carried.

Wayne Walton was called forward and Lyle Harmon was called upon to administer his oath, after which Chief Walton was presented with his stars.

No other business coming before the City Council in this organizational session, a motion was made to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn B. Porter  
City Clerk

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Dave Thomas, Mayor