

Town Hall Public Meeting
April 23, 2009 @ 6:00pm

Present: Mayor William Isley Jr, Councilmember's, Herbert Toles, Hugh Marlin, Wayne Tucker, Katrina Hennings, John Coyne, David Jones and Brian Skinner.

Colors presented by Corporal Wayne Walton, Officer Jay Cantrell and Officer Chris Hayes with Springville Police Department.

Mayor Isley gave the invocation and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Isley opened by setting ground rules concerning questions and answers. He advised there will not be any discussion about bingo at this meeting, because this was not the purpose of the meeting.

Mayor Isley gave the state of address;

1. Financial status of the city is good, expenses and revenues are at 50% based on a 6 month budget, overtime has been cut back, and working hard not to waste Governmental funds. Feels the department heads have done a great job in keeping the budget down.
2. Created a citizens committee to research, plan, suggest and provide information to the liaison who will bring recommendations before the City Council.
3. City is moving forward on major economic projects for highway 11, such as covering the ditches in front of the Middle School.

Mayor Isley introduced the following department heads who spoke briefly about their department. Public Works Superintendent Earl Peoples, Inspector Mike Terry City Clerk, Brenda Roberts, Police Chief Gregory Charles and Fire Chief Richard Harvey.

Mayor Isley introduced Councilmember's; Brian Skinner-District 7, David Jones-District 6, John Coyne,-District 5, Katrina Hennings,-District 4, Wayne Tucker- District 3 and Mayor Pro-tem, Hugh Marlin-District 2 and Herbert Toles-District 1.

Mayor Isley advised this public hearing was called to address the top 5 concerns of the citizens, based on 2100 questionnaires sent out with the utility billing and 208 responses. The concerns were listed in priority order by the Public Works Department.

1- TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Mayor Isley replied the City is seeking assistance to try and improve the congestion by applying for grant to widen Highway 174 and the intersection of Marietta Road. Mayor Isley called on Wayne Tucker who replied US hwy 11 is a Federal highway and must meet certain guidelines before the State will do anything. Tucker said he met with engineers from ALDOT (Al Dept of Transportation) for assistance in traffic congestion, but no funds were available, but now there maybe some stimulus money to support the project. Mr. Tucker added the last traffic count done by ALDOT reports there was enough traffic at the four-way stop that would provide a traffic light, but the road is not wide enough for turn lanes and still not enough funds available thru the State.

Mayor Isley replied we have a comprehensive plan in place that suggested bypass roads implemented to assist in traffic congestion, but the council needs to decide where in Springville these roads should be located.

#2- LITTER AND TRASH ON ROADWAYS

Mayor Isley said he agrees, and advised citizens to write down tag numbers when they see trash being thrown from a vehicle and report to the police department. This will give the police department the authority to contact the owner of the vehicle concerning the incident.

He mentioned the city provides an annual clean up day each year for citizens who wish to pick up trash on the streets or in their neighborhood. They can clean out their basements, garage etc. We just need to educate people about littering.

#3- PARKS & RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS

Mayor Isley stated he agrees the city needs additional youth facilities, and the city has been in discussion with a property owner on property to extend the city park, however the location of the property cannot be disclosed at this time.

#4- CRIME, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Mayor Isley advised the city does have drugs in town and prevention measures are being taken to address them.

#5 –Debris Pickup to be included in weekly garbage pickup

Mayor Isley stated the city has a binding contract with Advance Control to furnish weekly garbage pickup and twice a month for debris pickup. He advised the city cannot request weekly debris service until the contract expires. Then the City will have to advertise bids for what type services will be included in the contract.

Questions & Answers from Citizens

1. Laws pertaining to littering. Police Chief Charles explained the police officers have to see the violation before a citation could be issued. However, the citizens can file a complaint against the person littering, this will also require a court appearance.
2. Request to change the regular city council meeting back to 7:00pm.
3. Status of the Dollar General Store sprinkler system? Mayor Isley responded that the sprinkler system is being addressed at this time and assured fire protection will be in place.
4. Turn lane status for Dollar General, Metro Bank and The Gardens? Mayor Isley, Earl Peoples and Wayne Tucker commented, but the State of Alabama / Al Dept of Transportation has to approve the plans and issue the permit before turn lanes can be installed. Katrina Hennings stated she has spoken with the developer Paul Kell concerning The Gardens. He will start construction on the turn lanes as soon as the State of Alabama approves the permit. Earl Peoples advised the State has held up the project for a long time and now they are working with both developers of The Gardens and Crandall Crest Subdivision for joint turn lanes.
5. Questioned why Springville Elementary School does not have crossing guards. Mayor Isley responded the Board of Education does not hire crossing guards, but the City does pay for a crossing guard on Highway 11 in front of the Middle School to help children cross the

highway. Mayor Isley asked Chief Charles to be present when school dismisses to see how many children cross on Wilson Street to Orchard Drive and report back to him.

6. Someone from the Library Foundation was present to state they have outgrown their facility and wanted to know what type of support the City is going to give. Mayor Isley advised an Advisory committee has been appointed to research. The City supports the Library and will continue to apply for financial assistance through grants.
7. Concerns were expressed about vehicles parked along the road going up to the VFW building. Mayor Isley advised no parking signs have been placed and the police will start enforcing.
8. Questions about growth the of the City. Mayor Isley advised he hopes the city can incorporate properties that are within the city limit boundaries, but not inside the city limits. Mayor Isley advised the Industrial Development Board and the Commercial Development Board are pursuing with Industrial and Commercial growth.
9. Questioned the City on plans for a designated building for a Seniors Citizens facility. Mayor Isley advised the City plans to seek grants for funding assistance.
10. Mayor Isley advised the city is developing a new website, which will link the City with the Chamber of Commerce and encourages everyone to visit it. There will be links to connect to information posted, department heads, Mayor & City Council. The address is springvillealabama.org.

Meeting was adjourned at approx 8:20pm

Attest:

Brenda Roberts, City Clerk or

Mayor William Isley, Jr.

Lauri Jones or Helen Williams