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~ MEDIA ADVISORY ~

SPRINGFIELD CITY COUNCILOR TO RESIGN

Ward 3 Councilor Terri Leezer to Resign on September 13

Springfield City Councilor Terri Leezer will formally resign her position as Ward 3 City Councilor at the September 13 Springfield City Council meeting. Terri is leaving to concentrate on her business, Ad Pro Northwest, which she has owned and operated since 1999.

Leezer said, "while I'm saddened to resign before my term is up, as the sole employee of my business, work commitments have drastically changed since I was elected to council leaving me with far less time available for the commitment necessary to fulfill my Council duties." Leezer said she "plans to remain active in Springfield."

Councilor Leezer has been a strong advocate for business owners and the homeless in our city. She championed the current Change for Change meter program that collects money for the homeless using refurbished parking meters.

Mayor Leiken said "Terri brought enthusiasm and a love of Springfield with her to every meeting. The council appreciates her service."

Councilor Leezer was elected by Springfield voters in 2008. Her term expires December 31, 2012. Mayor Leiken and the remaining Councilors will immediately begin the process to appoint a replacement to fulfill the term.

Background on the vacancy process: Springfield Charter, Section 20, states that "A vacancy in the Council or in the position of Mayor shall be filled by appointment by a majority of the Council. The appointee's term of office runs from the time of his or her qualification for the office after the appointment and shall continue until the beginning of the year following the next general biennial election and until a successor is qualified. The successor for the unexpired term shall be chosen at the next general biennial election after said appointment.

Council could either appoint someone of their choosing, or go through a recruitment process similar to other boards, commissions and committees. In the past, the council has gone through the recruitment process.