

CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE  
OCTOBER 5, 2015

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session on Monday, October 5, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., in the Council Room of the Municipal Building at which time a place the following were present:

Mike McGraw	Mayor
Takella Motton	City Clerk
Michael Santschi	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Cartee	Councilperson
Cheek	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Merideth	Councilperson
Harmon	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson

The number of members to consider a quorum being present, the Mayor called the meeting to order and announced the meeting was in session for the transaction of business.

The first order of business was the approval of the regular minutes motioned by Councilperson Bullington seconded by Councilperson Hood, and the motion carried. Councilperson Bullington motioned the approval of the closed minutes, seconded by Councilperson Harmon, and the motioned carried. Councilperson Hood made motion for the approval of reports and bills, second by Councilperson Bullington.

The next order of business was presentation of petitions, letters, and other communications. Communication was received from Patty Matthews about residents on her street not being able to have mailboxes in front of their homes, with the street not being named. It was noted that the issue had come before the Council at another time, and it was believed to be, that the street was named Brantley Dr. The matter will be researched to see exactly what took place. The Workers' Compensation Audit was received, and there will be a penalty with Branum's not carrying worker's compensation insurance. They produced proof of insurance that was effective August 15, 2015, which will be fine for next year, but they have been without worker's compensation insurance for two years. It is the recommendation of the Council to stay with the same salary schedule until upon further review. The Mayor made mention of Teresa Tidwell's back pay as to whether the City would issue the pay. Counselor Santschi stated that with the Library being under the City's domain, the City would be liable for any recourse brought against the Library.

Santschi stated with the Library being a separate entity, it needed to be conducted as such. He recommended that the Library be funded adequately by the City, and become a separate entity making its own decisions. The Mayor made mention that the Library may be under contract, and that it needed to be researched. It was noted that Tidwell's back pay would be paid by the City at any rate, whether the Library Board voted to do so, or if the City voted on the back pay. Councilperson Cartee made motion for the Library Board to make the decision to institute back pay for Tidwell, second by Councilperson Merideth, and the motion was carried unanimously. Councilperson Harmon made motion to follow the salary schedule and compensate the City Clerk with 16 years of experience, with the education and job experience being considered. The base pay would be \$29,645.50; along with 10 hours of overtime being authorized in a 26 week pay period would bring the rate to \$35, 203. Councilperson Hood seconds the motion, which resulted in the following votes:

Cartee	No	Cheek	No
Hood	Yes	Merideth	No
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Bullington	Yes		

Councilperson Bullington noted that there was an ordinance for a temporary City Clerk to be paid the same as the permanent City Clerk. The Water Clerk has no such an ordinance, but could be used as a guideline. Councilperson Rodgers noted experience not matching the salary schedule with the increase in pay being inconsistent with the salary schedule. It was also noted that an ordinance would have to be revised at a later date for the Water Clerk position. Councilperson Bullington made motion for the temporary Water Clerk to be paid at the same rate as the existing Water Clerk. Councilperson Harmon seconds the motion which resulted in the following votes:

Cartee	No	Cheek	No
Hood	Yes	Merideth	No
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Bullington	Yes		

Cartee reported that the Police department have two positions opened and is required to fill the Housing Security Officer position. Councilperson Cartee made motion to hire an applicant from the academy, second by Councilperson Harmon, which resulted in the following votes:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Hood	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Bullington	Yes		

Carree reported that the Fire department had five fire calls from September 24, 2015 through October 5, 2015. On September 24, trash fire on County Rd 524, September 25, brush fire on County Rd 363, September 27, debris, tires, and trash burning on County Rd 524, September 29, a radiator hose burst on vehicle, October 2, grease fire on stove, County Rd 534. The training session for September was a tour of Trinity Marine plant #73 and Principles of Modern Fire Attack. There were three fire inspections conducted and three fire drills conducted at schools. The Basic Grain Bin Engulfment Course is scheduled for Saturday, October 10, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the fire station.

Paul Shaw reported that the valve has been installed at the plant, and will look at using the contractor for the Magnolia Project to replace the elbow for the leak. Richard Lee reported that the Department of Natural Resources has approved the City for a grant of \$62,500, and the City would be responsible for \$12,500. It's an all-around fix for providing a plan on paper for our inflow and infiltration problems. A bid process has to take place, and an ad will appear in the paper October 7, 2015 for the Statement of Qualifications.

Teresa Tidwell attended the Kansas City MO Library Association Convention, and look forward to implementing some of the innovative programs that were discussed.

Terry Rushing reported that the Riverfront Project is still underway, with \$20,000 left to take care of the rest of the job. An attic access has to be installed, the front ramp has to be completed, striping, and lights. Terry stated that the project would be completed before winter. There's a problem with Branum's removing their dumpsters, and Republic has to place their dumpsters in an inconvenient area in some cases. Trash is continuing to be put in the Branum's dumpster, overflowing in some areas, and it's hard to get in contact with someone from Branum's. Counselor Santschi will be sending Branum's a letter asking them to remove their dumpsters.

Charles Frencher posed a question from the floor. He wanted to know why a person being served a citation would have to pay court cost if the matter was taken care of before going to court. Tony Jones reply was that it was Missouri law, same as a warrant, if there's no arrest, and you still have to pay court cost.

Erica Grady addressed the Council with a sexual harassment and racial slurs complaint. It was asked if she had registered a complaint while she was an employee. Tony Jones states a report was taken while she was an employee. Counselor Santschi stated that the process would be to file a grievance with her Supervisor. The Supervisor would in turn conduct an investigation and report findings to the Council. The Council would then have an executive session to address Grady's grievances.

Shelby Walker from Ward 4 was concerned about the ward not being represented

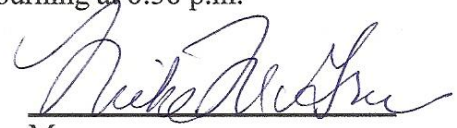
with 2 seats being vacant. Walker wanted to know when someone would be appointed, and was not interested in Merideth being appointed with him residing in Ward 4, but being elected in Ward 2. The Mayor stated the appointment would mean that they would serve until the next election, and that he would be looking into the matter.

The budget is still underway; the consensus is to have a more conservative budget. Councilperson Bullington will be instituting the new salaries into the original budget. The Department heads have been instrumental in coming up with ways to cut down on expenditures and this will also be taken into consideration.

Councilperson Harmon motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Bullington, and the motion carried unanimously with the meeting adjourning at 6:38 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk

  
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Mayor