

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
MARCH 3, 2008**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room of the Municipal Building on Monday, March 3, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., at which time and place the following were present:

Diane Sayre	Mayor
Melinda Scifres	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Chris Riggs	Chief of Police
Ferrell	Councilperson
Merideth	Councilperson
Morgan	Councilperson
Pullam	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Simpson	Councilperson
Walton	Councilperson
Braswell	Councilperson

The number of members necessary 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 to come before the Council was the approval of the minutes of the last meeting. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Pullam, seconded by Councilperson Walton, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The next order of business to come before the Council was the approval of payment of the bills. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Pullam, seconded by Councilperson Walton, the bills were approved for payment.

The next item of discussion by the Council was the reconsideration of the liquor application from Sherry Pierce for a liquor-by-the-drink and Sunday sales at 911 Truman Boulevard. Counselor Dorroh stated a majority vote of the officials is necessary to approve a liquor application. After discussion, Councilperson Morgan motioned to reconsider the license, with Councilperson Braswell seconding, and motion carried, with Councilpersons Pullam and Simpson abstaining. Counselor Dorroh stated the application is in order, and the necessary fee is attached to the application. In reference to the proximity to the school, the City ordinance states 100", while the state law is 300'. The establishment is 430' from the school, property line to property line. The applicant meets all the prerequisites for a license; by law, the license should be granted. After discussion, Councilperson Morgan motioned to approve the license at 911 Truman for Sherry Pierce, with Councilperson Braswell seconding, and roll call was asked for,

which resulted in the following vote:

Ferrell	Yes	Rodgers	No
Merideth	Yes	Simpson	Abstain
Morgan	Yes	Walton	Yes
Pullam	Abstain	Braswell	Yes

The vote of the Council resulted in a majority of the officials voting in favor on the license. Therefore, the application for Sherry Pierce did pass.

Councilperson Morgan then motioned to approve the license for Walt Bracken for liquor by the drink at 906 Truman for a sports bar and grill. Councilperson Merideth seconded the motion. When asked about the hours of operation, Mr. Bracken reported he would be open from 11:00 a.m. through 1:00 p.m. Roll was asked for, which resulted in the following vote:

Ferrell	Yes	Rodgers	No
Merideth	Yes	Simpson	No
Morgan	Yes	Walton	Yes
Pullam	Abstain	Braswell	Yes

The vote of the Council resulted in a majority of the officials voting in favor on the license. Therefore, the application for Walt Bracken did pass.

Mayor Sayre stated that many times the Council feels a responsibility to the persons they represent. This has been a concern to members of the Council. It is not the business of the Council to randomly discriminate against who should or should not get a license. The Council has to be sensitive to those they represent. The City has to vote as to how the law is outlined. There is a lot of concern regarding the conduct of some of the establishments in the community. The police department should become more pro-active in the monitoring of such establishments. The City needs to work together to keep order in the neighborhoods where these establishments are located.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported that sign-up for baseball and softball have begun, and approximately 200 children have signed up for the program. Cost estimates are being obtained for the wind damage on the roof over the pool area at the recreation center. Mr. Davis should have a cost in approximately one week.

Jamie Stricklin, Code Enforcement Officer, reported he had contacted the owner of the GEM theater, and the debris should be hauled away this week. Counselor Dorroh and Mr. Stricklin will put the notification in writing to the owners regarding the thirty day time frame for removal of the debris.

Mayor Sayre then reported the Counselor and the Code Enforcement Officer will

be working together to abate the property on East Seventh Street known as the junk yard.

Jane Ellen Lazenby, representing the Tree Board, then appeared before the Council to invite everyone to the football field parking lot on March 8, at 10:00 a.m. The girl scouts will be planting sixty-five red-buds and dogwoods in the area affected by the tornado, in observance of their 100th anniversary. She then thanked Barbara Rodgers, Martha Fowlkes, and Rosalyn Thompson for their efforts in the project.

Councilperson Walton then reported Compress Road needs to be resurfaced. Mayor Sayre stated she will contact the paving company working in the area, and ask for a change order and cost estimate to present at the next meeting to the Council.

Mayor Sayre then reported to the Council she is glad to be back. She received an excellent report, and will not require any treatments. She thanked everyone for all the prayers and thoughts during her recent illness.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Rodgers motioned the meeting adjourn at 7:25 p.m., with Councilperson Simpson seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk