

CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
August 3, 2026

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Monday, August 3, 2026 in the Council room of the Municipal Building at which time and place the following were present:

Takella Motton	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Leighan Fales	Mayor
Jerry Hudgens	Sergeant at Arms
Robinson	Councilperson
Glass	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Lyons	Councilperson
Hazel	Councilperson
Grable	Councilperson
Hood (Absent)	Councilperson
Spence	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 was the approval of the regular session minutes of July 20, 2026. Councilperson Bullington motion for approval, second by Councilperson Robinson all in favor, with Councilperson Glass and Lyons abstaining.

Councilperson Lyons motion for the approval of the reports and bills, second by Councilperson Robinson, with all in favor.

Mayor's report; Mayor Fales reported that the project on Third St. evolved around Randy Crawford wanting a sewer tap. The sewer was 17 feet down, and the City didn't have the equipment to do the job. Other contractors were called upon, and they didn't have the equipment to do the job either. A pipe was broke by a contractor attempting to do the job, and barricades were put up to divert traffic, this occurred within a two week period. Mayor Fales called Michael Lewis, and he said that he could do the job. Upon his arrival there was 17 feet of sewer water that had to be pumped out. The Vac truck couldn't do the job, so the contractor had to get one, in the meantime there was constant rain. Also, a bigger cage had to be deployed for safety, and the project was underway, and done successfully. Dry gravel was placed and packed in to open the road back up, concrete will be implemented when the street project is underway.

There has been an offer to buy the old fire station; Bids will have to be submitted; Mayor Fales will look into the appraised value, and make a determination along with the Council on the bid specs with getting it posted in the paper. The Armory roof was repaired, but when the leaks had occurred it short circuited and burnt out one of the AC units. Jess Cagle put in a Goodman unit for \$4,865.32, and was able to unblock, and provide access to the filter. The Armory rental is also way below what other venues are charging, especially with the square footage. There will be a price increase; once a set price

is determined, along with additional rules and regulations. There was also discussions about Michael Lewis and Jess Cagle being set up as City employees for jobs that weren't being bid out. John Armbruster sent a letter to the Mayor, Council, and City officials thanking everyone for their time and consideration in supporting him for his candidacy for Missouri House of Representative District 149.

Police report; Chief Hudgens reported that there was a homicide, and the suspects had been apprehended. The investigation is ongoing, there was a store clerk that was injured during the altercation.

Humane report; Karol Wilcox report is as follows: Intake 88, Adopted out 39, Rescue 12, Owner Redeemed 8, and took in 33. The grinder pump has been put in and is working well, with the efforts of Alliance and Cogent. The generator should be up and running by August 5, 2026. The Humane Shelter was selected for a "Local Hero Award" from Petsense by Tractor Supply in Sikeston, MO; which came with a \$250 gift card for the Shelter.

Fire report; Chief Lynn Moss reported three fire calls as follows: 7/22/26; Electrical fire on Truman, 7/24/26; False alarm on East 14th St., 7/28/26; Structure fire on Henrietta. The Fire department will be flushing hydrants through most of August, there are about a total of 60. There's a Flood Plain Workshop August 6, 2026. Also, there's a LP Gas Emergencies Class August 22, 2026.

Code Enforcement; Shawwna Riggs report is as follows: Sent out Notices to Abate, and tracking with follow up. She has keeping the City crews with an active list to mow; allowing for the mowing process to be organized throughout the season. Ms. Riggs prepared two documents for two separate City ROW's which are adjacent to the owners' property which they would like to obtain. One location is on Eastwood directly behind Jimmy Hibbler on East 11th St. The second location is between the residences of the late Betty Morgan and Jaretta Davis. Counselor Dorroh stated that an ordinance would have to be drafted to vacate the ROW's. Councilperson Lyons motion for Counselor to draft the ordinance, second by Councilperson Grable which resulted in the following vote:

Spence	Yes	Robinson	Yes
Glass	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Lyons	Yes	Hazel	Yes
Grable	Yes		

Recreation report; Doug White report is as follows: Cleaning up and cleaning out closets and rooms. There's a proposal for repairing the stucco above the entrance at the east side of the gym. The cost would be \$4,800.00 for materials, labor, and equipment. Met with Exercise Unlimited about the new gym layout and equipment upgrades; other options are being sought. Sandblasted tennis courts trash cans, repaired tennis court benches, landscaping was trimmed up. A backflow preventer has been ordered which was \$11,979.18, awaiting installment. Contact was made with A2H to get in contact with the company to get the pool humidifier fixed. Will be getting metal drain covers for sidewalk, working with Buffington to get electric panels and transformers to complete HVAC upgrades. Contractor has started on the new roof, and there's need for repairs of the roof in the pool area. A price is being established while they're working on the main section. Grants are being sought for building and park equipment, and working on a long term vision plan. Specs are being drawn up for the painting of the lobby and offices.

Painting of the pavilion at England Park has started. Awaiting prices for toilets, lighting, fixtures, door locks, from Hubbards. Specs have been drawn up for an open air pavilion at French Park and electrical outlets are being installed on pole. Sign-ups for Volleyball league starts August 3, 2026, Men's basketball also starts in August. Tennis youth camps have been scheduled for four dates in August. The Center is in need of a Lifeguard and a full time Monitor.

Library report; Tacara August Events are as follows: 8/4/26; Voting polls open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., 8/11/26; Back to School Family Movie Night 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., 8/12/26; Family Matters Movie Day 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., 8/25/26; Hiring Event & Banana Split Day Storytime, 8/27/26; American Red Cross Blood Drive 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., 8/28/26 and 8/29/26; Conference of Understanding & Overcoming Trauma.

Collector report; Paige Gillock reported that there are still several businesses that have not obtained a business license, and the police department will be making a point to visit the ones that haven't complied.

Budget/Finance report; Rita Jones reported that the time and attendance module was up and running, and the first live time transfer for the July 30 payroll occurred. The purchase order module is also up and running. All department heads have been trained, and are using the program. Training on the position budgeting module is complete, in which the software will enable her to estimate the cost of payroll, and give feedback on raises as to what impact it will have on the budget. Ms. Jones is working on the new fiscal year; will be concentrating on balancing the budget from last year, and will have a list of budget adjustments for approval.

Business From the Floor; There was a complaint about 940 Jefferson and 905 Henrietta with having so much junk in the yards, and with it steadily increasing. Shawwna Riggs will be looking to see if they are on her list for abatement, and will be checking on the properties if not. Jimmy Hibbler stated that when he was police officer they worked in synchrony with code enforcement, and the judge. The City got cleaned up, and that's the only way it works successfully.

Councilperson Lyons motion to go into closed session for the purpose of personnel.
Councilperson Bullington second the motion, which resulted in the following vote:

Spence	Yes	Robinson	Yes
Glass	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Lyons	Yes	Hazel	Yes
Grable	Yes		

Upon returning from closed session, there was discussion about the personnel policy with the hiring procedures by whose authority, which will be looked into before hiring individuals in the future. Also, there was discussion about who's responsible for the damage of equipment with the City supplying the equipment, and Alliance providing their expertise. Counselor stated that the contract would spell it out. As far as the pipe being broke on Third St. by the contractor, they will be responsible for the damages.

Councilperson Bullington motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Grable, with all in favor.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk

DRAFT