

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE  
AUGUST 19, 2013**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room in the Municipal Building on Monday, August 19, 2013, at 5:00 p.m., at which time and place the following were present:

Frank Morgan	Mayor Pro Tem
Melinda Scifres	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Merideth	Councilperson
Mott	Councilperson
Pullam	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Simpson	Councilperson
Grantham	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson

The number of members necessary to consider a quorum being present, the Mayor pro ten 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, bills, and reports. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Mott, seconded by Councilperson Hood, the minutes, bills, and reports were approved as presented. The reports read as follows:

Charlie Jones, Fire Chief, reported \$3,274.50 in salaries for July, and six calls. Two of the calls were out of the City.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported \$7,947.84 in turnover to the City for admissions.

Donna Brooks, City Collector, reported \$12,934.01 in taxes due the city with \$83.48 in assessment fund, and \$183.04 in Collector's commission.

Melinda Scifres, City Clerk, reported securities pledged at the banks as follows: First State Bank - \$3,225,000; Focus Bank \$2,021,899.47; Bank Star - \$583,400.

Christi Watkins, Court Clerk, reported \$4,191.47 in fines collected; \$29.70 in POST funds; \$29.69 in JEF funds; and \$211.75 in CVC funds.

Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager, reported the following for July:

Water	\$ 79,271.22	Water customers 2395
Sewer	\$ 21,347.14	Sewer customers 2301
Garbage	\$ 37,004.27	
Meter Serv.	\$ 975.90	
Mo. Spray	\$ 711.67	
Primacy Fee	\$ 6,893.96	
Sewer Primacy	\$ 1,491.05	
Sewer Bond	\$ 10,761.22	
Bond Serv.	<u>\$ 541.00</u>	
TOTAL	\$158,997.43	

The next order of business to come before the Council was the bids for the hose for the Fire Department. Three bids had been received as follows:

Schuhmacher Fire Equipment	\$7,862.00
Banner Fire Equipment	\$7,511.92
Nafeco, Inc.	\$7,310.48

Fire Chief Jones reported he had reviewed the bids, and Nafeco, Inc. met the specifications, and was the low bidder. After discussion, Councilperson Merideth motioned to approve the bid from Nafeco, Inc., with Councilperson Pullam seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Police Chief Tony Jones then presented the Council with two ordinances for consideration. The first ordinance was regarding domestic assault and harassment. The proposed ordinance defined the charge of harassment and the penalty. The current ordinance does not have this provision. The next ordinance was regarding the use of utility vehicles on City streets. The Council had passed an ordinance prohibiting the use of ATV's on city streets several years ago. The proposed ordinance would allow the use of the utility vehicles for government use, agricultural or industrial. A special permit will be issued for persons wanting to operate a utility vehicle on the streets. The ordinances will be reviewed for consideration at the next meeting.

Councilperson Rodgers then reported the fire department had three fire calls within the last two weeks. The Fire Chief had contacted Whitener Monuments regarding the cornerstone from the 1915 fire station on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Whitener reported he would clean and mount the cornerstone from the old fire station for \$250.00, which will include the metal stand. After discussion, Councilperson

Merideth motioned to approve the expenditure, with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and motion carried.

Police Chief Jones reported a club has been staying open until 3:00 a.m. or 4:00 a.m. in the morning. The owner does not have a license. He has advised the owner that he must have a license, or if need be he will chain the doors. Liquor is being consumed on the premise. Eugene Robinson then appeared before the Council as the operator of the club. He stated he does not sell liquor, and he does not know if the patrons are putting liquor in their cups. He has so many people in the building that he cannot check everyone. There are other acts that are prohibited that have been seen at the club. Mr. Robinson stated he has so many people coming to his place, that he doesn't have enough control over the people. Police Chief Jones advised he was in violation of the fire codes by having too many people in the facility. Counselor Dorroh stated the owner would have to have a consumption license for liquor to operate, whether he sells liquor or the patrons bring it in. The club must close a 1:30 a.m. according to state law. He then advised Mr. Robinson that he was not zoned for adult entertainment, and is in violation of several City and state laws. It was agreed that Mr. Robinson would meet with the Police Chief Tuesday afternoon to discuss what he would have to do to be legal.

Councilperson Grantham then motioned to dedicate Third Street from Cotton to the Casino in memory of Diane Sayre. Councilperson Merideth seconded the change, and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Hood reported the Water and Sewer Committee had met prior to the meeting. The committee had been advised the manhole at Jiffy Jim's had been fixed, and was now in operation. The water department had received a letter from Missouri Department of Natural Resources regarding the feeding of fluoride into the water. DNR stated the fluoride should not be intermittently fed into the system, but routinely added to the water. DNR has no say in whether or not the City chooses to add fluoride to the drinking water. If fluoride is fed, it is very important to do so at a consistent daily rate to accomplish acceptable levels throughout the distribution system at all times. Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager, reported Caruthersville is one of the few cities to add fluoride to the water. The Council was asked to allow the department to discontinue the feeding of fluoride to the water. This would save approximately \$10,000-15,000 per year by not adding the chemical. Councilperson Hood motioned to discontinue the feeding of fluoride, with Councilperson Simpson seconding, and motion carried.

Mr. Shaw then reported the crews had fixed a leak at England Park, and the manhole at Jiffy Jim's had been repaired by a contractor.

Terry Rushing reported the street crews had been trying to catch up on the mowing and picking up limbs and debris. On Tuesday the crews will be back on East 11<sup>th</sup> Street to finish the drainage job. The crews are cutting limbs that are hanging over streets, and obstructing signs.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported the swim team had try outs on Sunday, and 13 more children made the swim team. This will make approximately 35-40 children on the team now. Also, a lifeguard class has been conducted for persons to be certified as a guard.

The Pee-wee football sign-ups have started. Any children interested in signing up for the pee-wee league, should get a form from the recreation center.

Terry Rushing then thanked the Police Department for assisting in the removal of a sign on South Ward that was illegally placed. They have assisted in removing basketball goals that have been placed adjacent to the street. Mr. Rushing he has verbally warned several property owners regarding the tall grass on their property.

Mr. Rushing then asked the Council if the employees would receive raises this year. He was aware they had decided to review the salaries. Councilperson Rodgers stated she would like to discuss this with the Mayor Pro Tem and the Finance Committee. She hopes to have something for the Council by the next meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan then reported the helicopter in Veteran's Park is very faded. The City needs to see what can be done to the helicopter to preserve it. The Council agreed the Park Department should review the possibilities to repair the helicopter.

The Council then discussed setting a date for the public hearing to set a tax rate. After discussion, Councilperson Merideth motioned to allow the Clerk to set the hearing for first available date, with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

The next item of business to come before the Council was the signatures for the Federal Reserve and the bank signature cards. Currently the signatures at the banks are Diane Sayre, Baughn Merideth, Frank Morgan, and Barbara Pullam. The Council was asked to place Sue Grantham on the bank signature cards in place of Diane Sayre. This change would be for all accounts at all banks. The Federal Reserve signatures are currently Diane Sayre and Melinda Scifres. The Council agreed the change for the Federal Reserve signatures would be Melinda Scifres, Frank Morgan, and Sue Grantham. After discussion, Councilperson Mott motioned to approve the changes on the signature cards as stated, with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan then asked the Council to approve changing the date of the next meeting to Tuesday, September 3, 2013. Councilperson Hood motioned to approve the change, with Councilperson Merideth seconding, and motion passed unanimously.

Councilperson Grantham then motioned to hold closed session regarding the hiring of personnel, with Councilperson Pullam seconding, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote, to-wit:

Merideth	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Mott	Yes	Simpson	Yes
Pullam	Yes	Grantham	Yes
	Hood	Yes	

After reconvening, Counselor Dorroh asked the Council to approve the purchase of a scanner for the Court JIS system, which would make sending the court information electronically to the Judge and the Prosecutor, much easier. Currently the police have to bring the copies of the documentation to the Judge and Prosecutor. The scanner in question is on the state bid for approximately \$1,000. After discussion, Councilperson Merideth motioned to approve the purchase of the scanner, with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Mott motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 p.m., with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Pro Tem

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk