

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE**  
**June 15, 2026**

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Monday, June 15, 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
Corey Vaugh	Sergeant at Arms
Bullington	Councilperson
Lyons (Absent)	Councilperson
Hazel	Councilperson
Grable (Absent)	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Spence	Councilperson
Robinson	Councilperson
Glass	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 June 1, 2026. Councilperson Robinson motion for approval, second by Councilperson Hazel all in favor, with Councilperson Hood, Glass, and Spence abstaining.

Councilperson Robinson motion for approval of the closed session minutes, second by Councilperson Hazel all in favor with Councilperson Hood, Glass, and Spence abstaining.

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

Mayor Fales yield the floor to Brittany Hollywood to talk about her business venture. Ms. Hollywood will be opening a daycare (Tiny Tots), in the old Lee Rood School building. Tiny Tots will be offering Early Childhood Education, focusing on getting children prepared for kindergarten. The center will be accepting children with special needs, and will offer a sensory room, therapist, and will hire a nurse. Infancy to school age, which would be from six weeks to 13 years of age. Ms. Hollywood would like to have tutoring sessions for the older children, and set up scholarships for the seniors. The daycare would also aid parents who do not qualify for state vouchers with getting funding. The center will offer The WatchMeGrow app, where parents can log in and see their child's growth development, or just to see how the child is fairing. Transportation will be provided, every classroom will have lesson plans, and there will be boards for the nonverbal children. Ms. Hollywood wanted to make her presence known, and she looks forward to working with the community.

Mayor's report; Mayor Fales reported that there will be a Public Hearing July 6, 2026 for the community block grant for Street Improvements for a million dollars, with the City's portion

being a little over \$300,000.00, which will be in the next year's budget of July 1, 2026.

Police report; The police received information that Zachary R. Walker, who was wanted in connection with a shooting that resulted in a Blue Alert being issued on May 17, 2026 was at a residence in the 800 block of W. 11<sup>th</sup> St. in Caruthersville. Walker repeatedly fired at officers from the residence for several hours. Several agencies were involved in the pursuit of getting a voluntary surrender, which was not successful, and a search warrant was obtained for the residence. On June 12, 2026 SWAT made entry into the residence and took Walker into custody. Walker sustained moderate injuries, and was transported to the area hospital. There weren't any officers injured, but two juveniles were injured. The matter remains under investigation by the Missouri State Highway Patrol. The matter is an ongoing investigation, and any further information or questions should be forwarded to the Prosecuting Attorney office.

Humane report; Karol Wilcox reported that there are currently 98 animals at the Shelter. Several dogs have been adopted out. They have been dealing with the issue on E. 7<sup>th</sup> St., and looking at Grand and Collins. The traps are being used, and they're trying to find Rescues for the Owner Surrenders, but the strays are the priority. Ms. Wilcox wanted to thank the police department for coming out taking control of a dangerous situation with a dog.

Fire report; Lynn Moss reported one fire call on May 30, 2026 for stove on fire in E. Haven. As of June 11, 2026 the department has received 30 fire subscription renewals. The Fire department will be a participant of the following events: 6/16/26; Flag Day, 6/14/26; Ice Cream Social, 6/19/26; Juneteenth Parade, 6/20/26; Juneteenth celebration at French Park with fireworks show that evening, 6/26/26; Battle of the Badges Blood Drive at Temple Baptist from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., 7/4/26; Fireworks Display at the Riverfront Park that evening.

Public Works/Alliance; There was discussion about a fence that's needed at the Third St. Water Plant, there were talks about an automated fence, and the possible need for a shower because of the chlorine. To cut down on cost, and with no one really being at the location, there could be a fence with a lock, and no need for a shower. Bids and specs can be drawn up for both scenarios. There was discussion about late fees and reconnect fees for the Water department. As it stands now the Water department has to charge the fee on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before it's actually disconnected for it to show up on the computer. That fee should only be charged once before it's reconnected, but the late fee will stay in place as long as the bill is unpaid. If the meter is pulled, the client has to pay any unpaid balances, plus another deposit, with the previous deposit going towards any bill that's owed.

Code Enforcement; Tommie Brown provided the Council with a list of all the properties owned, and mowed by the City. There was discussion about the City's ongoing problem with having to put tax liens on properties for not being mowed by the property owner. As is stands once the 10 day Notice to Abate is noncompliant, Code Enforcement can get with the police and issue a citation with court proceedings taking place, which will be addressed more vigorously.

Recreation report; Lamonte Bell presented to the Council a proposal for a pavilion at French Park which will have to go out for bids. Mr. Bell also made mention of the street that goes inside the park that needs paving, in which possibly a quote could be obtained for the feasibility of the contractors doing the job during the street improvements.

The Recreation Center Turnover Report is as follows: Intake \$6,498.60 Auto Draft \$220.00 Interest \$0.93 Total \$6,719.53 Expenses/Checks \$1552.07 Turnover \$5,167.46

Library report; Tacara Sullivan reported the following: 6/9/26; Week 3 of summer reading "Egg Hatch Day", 6/13/26; GED graduation, 6/16/26; Week 4 summer reading "Fossil Day", 6/18/26; Southgate Living Center movie day, 6/18/26; Parent Café 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., 6/20/26; Conceal Carry Class 9:30-1:30 p.m., 6/23/26; Week 5 for summer reading "Dino Dig Site Day", 6/24/26; Kennett Career Center will hold a Job Fair, 6/27/26; Dennis Gurley Tribute Concert, 6/30/26; Week 6 and final day of summer reading "Dino Party".

Collector report; Paige Gillock Collections Report from June 1, 2026 through June 15, 2026 is as follows: Real Estate \$3,091.51 Personal Property \$948.22 Miscellaneous report \$300.00 Total Taxes \$3,417.67 Interest & Fees \$922.06 Total Collections \$4,339.73

Budget/Finance; Rita Jones reported that payroll was running smoothly, the purchase order module is up and running, and department heads have been trained on how to put in requisitions. Ms. Jones has completed training on the position budgeting module, which enables to estimate the cost of payroll, and give feedback on raises, and what impact it has on the budget. Continuing training on the timekeeping module, which should be simpler to navigate. Bank statements for May have been completed, and continuing to make tax payments on the portal. The following are the budget amendments that were moved around to different funds as follows:

	Before	Adjustment	After
Police phones	15,700.00	-575.00	15,125.00
Police supplies	30,000.00	-600.00	29,400.00
Police pest control	1,900.00	1,175.00	3,075.00
Recreation Misc.	0.00	253.70	253.73
Recreation Class Instrct.	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Recreation Sport League	7,000.00	1,540.25	8,540.25
Recreation Bldg. Cleaning	63,527.76	-3,293.98	60,233.78
Library Supplies	15,000.00	-11,200.65	3,799.35
Library Books/Periodicals	12,000.00	11,000.00	23,000.00
CPL Books/Periodicals	0.00	200.65	200.65
<b>Total</b>	<b>145,127.76</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>145,127.76</b>

Councilperson Bullington motion to approve the budget amendments, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

Bullington	Yes	Hazel	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Yes	Glass	Yes

New Business; The Council went over a Community Needs Assessment which had to be turned into the grant writer for the CDBG for the street improvements.

Business From The Floor; Councilperson Hood made mention of a letter from a constituent that was concerned about the noise level within the neighborhood of Walker & 10<sup>th</sup> St. The complaint was about house parties going until 3:00 a.m. Officer Sanders stated that the department have addressed the noise level on Walker, but the police hands are tied when the citizenry does not come forth with a formal complaint.

Resolution and Motions; RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE, MISSOURI STATING INTENT TO SEEK FUNDING THROUGH THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PURSUE ACTIVITIES IN AN ATTEMPT TO SECURE FUNDING

Councilperson Bullington motion for approval of the Resolution, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

Bullington	Yes	Hazel	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Yes	Glass	Yes

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Bullington motion to adjourn. Councilperson Spence second the motion, which passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

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Mayor

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