

CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
June 6, 2016

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session on Monday, June 6, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council room of the Municipal Building at which time and place the following were present:

Mike McGraw	Mayor
Takella Motton	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Merideth	Councilperson
Harmon	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Duckworth	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Cartee	Councilperson
Cheek	Councilperson
Hood	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 May 2, 2016 regular minutes. Councilperson Bullington motion for approval, second by Councilperson Merideth, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Councilperson Harmon motion to approve the May 16, 2016 regular minutes, second by Councilperson Duckworth, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Councilperson Hood motion to approve the closed session minutes, second by Councilperson Merideth, which resulted in the following vote:

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

The next order of business was the approval of the reports and bills; Councilperson Merideth motion for approval, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Presentation of petitions, letters, and other communications; Mark V Reeder addressed the Council about the ferryboat incident that occurred in 1946. Mr. Reeder’s goal is to have a magazine style writing that would be published in the local newspapers, and for it to have its own website. Mr. Reeder is looking at funding from the City and to have the copyrights. Councilperson Harmon suggested that Mr. Reeder contact the Historical Society, Mr. Reeder stated that the Historical Society wouldn’t be meeting until August. Mr. Reeder wants to get the project underway, and the total budget would be \$3,000. Mayor McGraw stated a proposal would have to be submitted, and he would contact the Council, and a decision would be made at the next meeting.

The contract with Republic has been finalized and all issues were resolved in the City’s favor. Counselor Dorroh recommends the approval of the contract. Councilperson Harmon motion to accept the agreement with Republic, second by Councilperson Cartee, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Councilperson Cartee made mention that when it’s a holiday that the trash pickup would be a day late, but some residents were two to three days late, and commended Terry on taking care of the residents.

Mayor’s report; Mike Deren was here May 25, 2016 and conducted open enrollment. The majority of the employees went with the base plan, only two employees and one retiree went with the buy up plan. The Mayor expressed concern with the police and fire department’s vacation pay. The police department works 12 hour shifts, their one day of vacation cost them 1.5 work days. The fire department works 24 hour shifts, their one day of vacation cost them 3 work days. The Mayor stated he wanted to look at a fair, easy, and inexpensive remedy. Councilperson Cartee responded by saying the Police & Fire Committee had met and made recommendation to explore possibilities with Counselor Dorroh. July the 4th is on a Monday and Monday’s trash will be picked up on Tuesday and so forth, Friday’s will be on Saturday. Attempts will be made to remind the residents. Contracts are being prepared by A2H for the Cupples Building and Shifrin for the Recreation Center. The Marlar Loop has been revised to include Wal-Mart. The drainage project started and the crew worked three days, their truck broke down, and they should resume this week. John Chittenden has recommended looking at the flooding on West 10th.

The Lincoln and 18th St. project has had water table issues, digging started and water was hit at 9 ft. G&C look to get started at the end of the week if the water goes down. The city’s employee retirement plan is only at one percent of earnings. The anticipated cost for the existing plan for the 2015-2016 year is \$19,126. If the City keeps the current plan the 2016-2017 cost to the City will be \$9,300. If the plan would increase at 3 percent it would cost the City \$65,000 more. The County is at seven percent, and is paid totally by the County. Hayti is at three percent and Pemiscot Memorial Hospital is at seven percent with shared cost. Councilperson Bullington stated that she would like for the representative to come and make a presentation to the Council, so they could make an informed decision. The Mayor stated that he wanted the airport courtesy car to be taken out of service. After a lengthy discussion of whether or not the privileges had been abused, it was revealed that the keys to the vehicle were at pretty much liberty, no checks and balances. It was also discussed that one of the patrol cars could take the place of the one that is at the airport after the purchase of a new vehicle. It was also discussed that the insurance should reflect the courtesy car at the airport.

Councilperson Cartee reported that the police are looking at the concerns of getting in contact with the humane officer, and are working on getting some things in place. Cartee made recommendation the purchase of another vehicle in the amount of \$38,007 and the Resource Officer would get one already in service for daily use. Councilperson Cartee motion to amend the Asset Forfeiture budget in the amount of \$38,007 for the vehicle. Councilperson Rodgers second the motion, which resulted in the following vote:

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

There were four fire calls from May 25, 2016 through June 6, 2016. On May 25th there was a rubbish fire on the South Ward limb pile, May 29th vehicle accident on I-55, May 30th an electrical line fell into a wheat field, and June 6th a structure fire with moderate damage occurred on East 9th. The Local Emergency Operations Plan was reviewed by Mark Winkler from SEMA on May 25, 2016. All sections were brought up to date, and the Promulgation Statement was presented to be signed by all members of the Council. Charlie Jones recommended the appointments of Tyler Smith and Jerry Hudgens Jr. as fire fighters. Councilperson Cartee motion to accept the appointments, second by Councilperson Harmon, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Councilperson Harmon reported that the Water & Sewer Committee consensus was to unequivocally stand by the \$100 meter deposits being paid 100% when application is made, and 100% of the \$20 late fee would have to be paid when due . If the deposit or late fee is not paid when due, then the services would be terminated. Councilperson Harmon motion to accept the recommendations of the committee, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

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

The Water & Sewer Committee also recommends the hiring of an applicant for the Water Plant at an entry level position at \$8.50/hr. The applications would be screened by Paul Shaw and he would recommend the applicant to the committee for review. Councilperson Harmon motion for the Water & Sewer recommendations for the hiring, second by Councilperson Cartee, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Councilperson Rodgers reported for Street & Sanitation; the new tractor is in, the crew has continued with their daily operations. The Right of Ways and lots were mowed as the rain allowed, assistance was given to the water department with digging along a busted water main in the 200 block of Ward Ave. The street breaks are continuing to be filled, the street sweeper will be running all week long as the weather permits, and Erb Equipment performed the 500 hours scheduled maintenance on the backhoe.

Terry Rushing reported that ASA Asphalt bid for \$213,491.30 was the lowest bid for the Street Improvement Project which was budgeted for \$292,000, and asked for the recommendation for the contract to be awarded to ASA. Councilperson Merideth motion for the approval of ASA as the contractor, second by Councilperson Duckworth, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Terry Rushing issued two building permits, one electrical inspection that did not pass, and issued two occupancies for the Safe Rooms at the Elementary and Middle School. There were three residential inspections for occupancy, two passed one did not. Terry talked with the Ward Ave. property owner, and he stated that he would have the property cleaned up by the end of June. The Armory floors have been completed. Three runway lights at the airport have been replaced, and Terry will be getting a quote for the repairing of gutters and down spouts both for the airport and the Exchange Building. The fuel hoses at the airport also need replacing, and the windsock has to be put up.

Keith Davis reported that Larry Davis had talked with him about having a dedication ceremony at the ball fields in about three weeks for Mayor Rick Davis. Councilperson Bullington asked about the exercise equipment outside of the Recreation building. There have been several people that have expressed interest in purchasing the equipment. Counselor Dorroh stated postings at City Hall and the Recreation Center would suffice with the selling being as is to the highest bidder.

Teresa Tidwell reported that the library is one of the new sites for the Summer Food Program, which is a good way to get the kids into the library. Christina Williams was the guest reader for the first Summer Reading Program. Last year there were 20 children that came, and this year it was doubled, and they compensated for it, and had a successful event.

The Mayor gave reference to Rebecca Morgan, City Collector report; April 2016 penalties paid to the City was \$2,721.31 and in May 2016 penalties paid to the City was \$4202.92. There were also six new business license issued. The Mayor stated that he would write a letter to engage Planning and Zoning in regards to the rezoning of Ward 1 and part of Ward 3.

New Business; nomination of Mayor Pro Temp, Councilperson Bullington motion to nominate Johnny Harmon, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

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

With no further business to come before the Council Councilperson Harmon motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Cartee with all in favor, with the meeting adjourning at 5:53 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk