

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
May 4, 2026**

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Monday, May 4, 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
Grable	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Spence	Councilperson
Robinson	Councilperson
Glass (Absent)	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Lyons	Councilperson
Hazel	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 April 20, 2026. Councilperson Lyons motion for approval providing a correction of Councilperson Hazel abstaining from his appointment. Councilperson Hood second the motion, with all in favor.

Councilperson Grable motion for approval of the closed session minutes, second by Councilperson Lyons

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

Mayor Fales introduced her City appointments as follows: City Clerk/Takella Motton, Court Clerk/Nyoka Rushing, City Counselor/Lawrence Dorroh, Municipal Judge/Kim Carter, City Engineer/John Chittenden, City Code Enforcement/Tommie Brown, Building Commissioner/John Ferguson City Prosecutor/Lawrence Dorroh, Emergency Manager/Charlie Jones. Department Heads/Fire Chief/ Lynn Moss, Public Works/ Leighan Fales, Street/ William Tolley, Librarian/ Tacara Sullivan. Councilperson Bullington motion for approval, second by Councilperson Lyons, which resulted in the following vote:

Grable	Yes	Hood	Yes
Spence	Yes	Robinson	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes
Hazel	Yes		

Mayor Fales Council Committee appointments are as follows: Finance/Johnny Hood, Paul Glass, JJ Bullington, *Jimmy Lyons. Police & Fire/Johnny Hood, *Mike Hazel, Don Grable, Jennifer Spence

Street & Sanitation/Luther Robinson, * Paul Glass, JJ Bullington, Jimmy Lyons Water & Waste Water/J*Johnny Hood, Paul Glass, Don Grable, Jimmy Lyons Insurance/Luther Robinson, Mike Hazel, Don Grable *Jennifer Spence Recreation Center/Luther Robinson, Mike Hazel, *JJ Bullington, Jennifer Spence.

Mayor Fales appointments to the Boards of Commissions are as follows:

Airport Board/Josh Rittenberry ,Historical Committee/Pam Alston Cemetery Board/Brooke MillerLibrary Board/Laurie Curtis Planning & Zoning/Pam Alston, Board of Adjustments/Kenny McClain Park Board/Grant Marshall, Jacklyn Underwood, Pam Alston, Abigail Lewis Tree & Beautification/Brooke Miller. Councilperson Bullington motion for approval, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

Grable	Yes	Hood	Yes
Spence	Yes	Robinson	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes
Hazel	Yes		

Mayor report; Mayor Fales reported that the equipment used to tear down the building on 3rd St. was inoperable, with someone from Kansas City having to come down to repair. There was discussion on the feasibility of the City tearing down a structure that was steel or concrete. In the future there will be a case by case analysis as to whether to bid out or the City to take on the task. A list was obtained for all the City properties, and some were cleaned up, the old fire station was one of them, which will be advertised for leasing; the lighting was changed out to LED. The Recreation Center lighting is also done, and the lighting for Riggs Park was completed.

Police report; Chief Hudgens reported that there was no reward for the eagle kill or suspects.

Humane report; Karol Wilcox reported that the Shelter’s grinder pump losing power during the lightning strike. Upon arrival they realized that the outside pump well and cleanout was gushing out raw sewage water all over the yard. Once inside the building there was raw sewage water in office, eight inches in the kennel room. Notified Chief Hudgens to tell Alliance that the vacuum truck was needed, and sewage was still entering the drains. The State was notified per protocol of a bio-hazard affecting animals. The animals were evacuated to the parking lot in temporary kennels while the cleanup took place. Once the Vac truck got there, water was removed from the drains to keep it from being infiltrated. Sewage water did infiltrate all of the building except the storage/dryer room. During this ordeal one dog was lost, and the Shelter is now dealing with a parvo-like illness. There is currently a quarantine. The grinder pump and well will be evaluated as to where the problem lies, and there’s a list being kept for all items lost for insurance purposes.

Fire report; Chief Moss reported eight fire calls as follows: 4/19/26; False call at Walker Terrace, 4/23/26; Gas smell with finding an open drain on Truman, 4/25/26; Thermal sensor on Ward Ave, 4/26/26; Structure fire in kitchen on E. 18th St., 4/28/26; Fire in Elementary School in Steele, MO, 4/28/26; Downed power line on fire in Steele, MO, 4/28/26; Alarm malfunction at Compress, 4/28/26; Structure fire on County Hwy 559 in Cooter MO. May 5, 2026 Emergency Operation/Safety Spring Meeting. May 12, 2026 presenting an award at the C’ville Scholarship Awards Ceremony. May 14, 2026

Mutual Aid Coordinators Meeting. May 18, 2026 Mental Awareness Day at the Public Library.

Chief Lynn Moss fire appointments are as follows: Officers & Engineers/Lynn Moss-Chief, Kevin Curtis-Assistant Chief, Randy Guest-Captain, Jerry Hudgens Sr.-Lieutenant, Troy Meales-Lieutenant, James Rushing-Engineer, Jimmy Lyons-Engineer. Firefighters/Tony Smith, Terry Rushing, Jess Cagle, Michael Coleman, B. T. Merideth, Thomas Guest, Paul Shaw, Devan Ford, Jerry Hudgens Jr., Ross Pilcher, Jessica Meales, Corey Vaughn, and Brian Shelton.

Public Works/Alliance; Public Works monthly turnover is as follows: Number of Customers/Water 2078 Sewer 2012 Garbage 1832 Garbage Commercial 159 Turnover Checks/ Water \$115,973.26 Sewer \$36,957.05 Garbage \$1,277.73 Sewer Bond \$9,186.82 Bond Service \$541.00 Total \$214,627.05. William Tolley and Austin McCaig are both working on CDLs'

Code Enforcement; Tommie Brown reported assisting Progressive Church with removing metal that might have caused injury, also assisted individual with getting an additional garbage can. Permitted for a fence installment on Vest, cleaned office, and learned more about responsibilities of the job. Accompanied Chief Moss to conduct an occupancy code for MO Tobacco and Beer on Truman. Permitted to construct a 20x60 accessory building. Received information about a property on Collins where squatters were living, and found trash and debris; will be sending out a letter for nuisance. Talked with Councilperson Robinson concerning a property that will be looked at getting condemned. Will be sending out more notices; met with Pics Motel owner who's looking to put up a chain link fence, and will be looking at code to see if it's possible. Also took photos of properties from 3rd to 7th St. and from Truman to the Levee in an attempt to identify nuisances.

Recreation report; Lamonte Bell reported a membership purchase for \$65.00 and a rental for French Park at \$100.00. Monthly Rental Activity/Gym volleyball \$100.00, and England Park \$50.00

Library report; Tacara Sullivan reported as follows: 4/20/26; MO Connections held an end of the year testing for homeschool students. 4/21/26; 4H held National Youth Development Program; 4/22/26; MO Evergreen added two libraries bringing the state total to 90. 4/23/26; Kennett Career Center hosted a Job Fair. 4/25/26; 20th Annual 5k Run. 4/29/26; Lincoln Univ. Extension held a Garden Fair. Southgate Living Center came in for movie day. May Events are as follows: 5/2/26; Book reading and signing with Ann Bullington Butler "Autism Colors". 5/5/26; MO Dept. of Conservation "Southeast Swamp People" 5/15/26; America's 250th Anniversary "Oddly Oval" guest speaker Kevin House. 5/18/26; FCC Behavioral Health "Mental Health Matters". 5/19/26; Summer Reading Program "Unearth a Story". 5/26/26; "Unearth a Story" week two/Dino Puppet Day.

Casey Henson brought before the Council a proposal to create a dedicated position to develop, manage, and maintain the City websites and digital communications. The purpose for the position is to ensure that all entities have accurate and timely information available to the public, modern easy to navigate websites, consistent branding and communication, and increased accessibility to city services, programs, and events. The position responsibilities would be to design and build official websites for each department, maintain and update website content, post announcements, ensure mobile-friendly and ADA assessable design, manage domain names, hosting, and technical updates, assist with social media, and provide basic tech support.

City Collector; Paige Gillock abstract report from April 1, 2026 to April 20, 2026 is as follows: Real Estate \$2,235.97 Personal Property \$765.21 Drainage Districts \$803.85 Miscellaneous \$11,204.14 Total Taxes \$14,376.17 Interest & Fees \$633.00 Total Collections \$15,009.17.

Budget/Finance; Rita Jones reported that payroll had been turned over to her completely. This week was for purchase module training; will be working with department heads to train on putting in purchase requisitions. The timekeeping module will take place in June, which should be a lot more simpler. With a break in training for the next two weeks; will allow her to work on cleaning up the budget; should have a list of budget amendments for approval in a few weeks. Reconciliation of bank statements are completed for March, and she’s working on completing April. Continuing to pay federal and state taxes online; making deposits for the Recreation Center, and keeping records of memberships purchased. The Fiscal Budget from July 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026 is as follows: \$1,264,192.53 Total Activity \$515,641.76 Budget Remaining \$748,550.77. The Total Funds Summary for March is as follows: Beginning Balance \$5,099,907.02 Total Activity \$635,938.39 Ending Balance \$5,735,845.41.

New Business; Mayor Leighan Fales entertained a motion to remove Carolyn Sue Grantham and Barry Gilmore from City banking accounts with Focus, First State Bank, and Bank of Missouri, and to be replaced by her, Brenda Leighan Fales. Councilperson Bullington made the motion, second by Councilperson Grable, which resulted in the following vote:

Grable	Yes	Hood	Yes
Spence	Yes	Robinson	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes
Hazel	Yes		

Business From The Floor; Robert Hunt was concerned about the new owners of the property on Madison continuing the same type of behavior as prior tenants. Since there’s no utilities for the structure, and order to vacate can be coordinated between Code Enforcement and the Police Department. If the order is not acknowledged, than it will go before Municipal Court in which fines will be applied daily.

Counselor Dorroh introduced Bill No. 2026 Re: Project No. 25-081A Construction of 4-Unit Box Hangar and Taxilanes, and Bill No. 2027 Re: Project No. 2025-081 A-3 Land Acquisition Services Phase 1 which will have to be changed to Bill No. 2027 and 2028 respectfully.

BILL NO. 2026-06 **ORDINANCE 2026-06**
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMNT BY AND BETWEEN THE MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AND THE CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE UNDER THE AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

Councilperson Bullington motion for the first reading by title only, second by Councilperson Grable, with all in favor. Councilperson Lyons motion for the second reading, second by Councilperson Hood, with all in favor. Councilperson Bullington motion for passage, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

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