

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE**  
**November 3, 2014**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room in the Municipal Building at 200 W. 3<sup>rd</sup>, at which time and place the following were present:

Sue Grantham	Mayor
Melinda Scifres	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Cartee	Councilperson
Cheek	Councilperson
Fike	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Merideth (B. T.)	Councilperson
Merideth (Baughn)(Absent)	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Bullington	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 to come before the Council was the approval of the minutes of the last meeting. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Cartee, seconded by Councilperson B. T. Merideth, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The next order of business was the approval of the bills for payment. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Cartee, seconded by Councilperson Hood, the bills were unanimously approved for payment.

Mayor Grantham then thanked Terry Rushing, Tony Jones, Randall Lee, Keith Davis, and the Fire Department for all the hard work in October. They worked hard to make the Trunk or Treat a success on Halloween. She thanked them for an excellent job.

Councilperson Cartee then reported the Fire Department had responded to four calls in the last two weeks. The Council was advised that Michael Coleman has requested to be reinstated on the Fire Department. He is now working at the Pemiscot County Sheriff's office. After discussion, Bullington motioned to approve the appointment of Michael Coleman to the Fire Department, with Councilperson Cheek seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Cartee reported from 10/1/14 through 10/31/14 there had been 20 dogs in the shelter, and six cats. One dog had been retrieved by the owner, and eighteen were adoptable. Police Chief Jones then reported a resident was raising rabbits as show animals on Poplar. An animal has killed one of the rabbits. It was believed to be the dog in the neighborhood. The Animal Control Officer will talk with the owner of the dog to insure the dog does not run lose. Counselor Dorroh

advised the Council rabbits could be kept within the city limits as long as the resident does not make a business of selling the rabbits. The residents have not witnessed any animal attacking the rabbits, but they know one has been killed.

Police Chief Tony Jones thanked Terry Rushing and his family and all those that helped with the trunk or treat. Church groups worked hard, as well as the Ladies Civitan Club. The weather was colder than in past years, and kept many children away, but the ones that attended had a great time.

Paul Shaw, Water/wastewater Manager, reported the crews have been working on leaks in several areas of the City. A water tap and a sewer tap have been completed for the new doctor's office on Fifteenth Street. There are several items that remain to be fixed as follows: sewer repairs in the alley behind Magnolia, and a repair to the sewer connection at Casey's General Store on Truman. A leak at the casino will begin as soon as the one call is complete. Smoke testing will be done in areas of the City to check for leaks. Door hangers will be put out the day before an area is tested to let the customer be aware of what is going on.

Mr. Shaw then reported that Rural Water Association held a seminar on safety. Elizabeth Hardesty was asked to speak at the seminar about her experience. She did a great job, and contributed a lot to the seminar.

Terry Rushing, Operations Supervisor, reported the Street crew had been helping the water and sewer departments on some of the leaks. They worked on the sewer leak at 1305 Ward, and the water leak at 7<sup>th</sup> and Ferguson. Next week the crews will begin putting up the Christmas lights on the decorative street poles.

Councilperson Bullington reported that Dr. Steven Gubin recently had a birthday, and his staff collected over \$300 for him. He would like to purchase a bench for the Tennis Courts, He sent the money collected by his staff to the Tennis Association for the purchase of the bench. The tennis association wants to purchase additional benches with the funds that are left over so the account can be closed. Mayor Grantham thanked the Tennis Association, and stated this would be a great idea for the tennis courts.

The Code Enforcement Officer then reported he had sent out 21 letters to abate a nuisance. Three notices to vacate, repair, or demolish structure. Three citations had been issued for violations, and seventeen warning had been issued regarding residential parking.

The Operations Supervisor reported the contractors have poured the parking areas, and finished the floor of the pavilion. He is still working with Ameren on completing the paperwork for the utility connection for the airport. He advised the Council that 600-25 lb. bags of ice melt had been ordered in advance for the winter.

The next item of business was the responsibility for removing trees between the sidewalk and curb that were considered dangerous. Counselor Dorroh reported the City and the property owner should share equally depending on the tree. The property owner at 605 Highland has

agreed to pay for ½ of removing the tree, and grinding the stump. Two quotes had been received from the two companies within the City as follows: Delta Tree Service - \$750; M & M Tree Service - \$659. Councilperson Bullington motioned to approve the low bid from M & M Tree Service, and the owner to pay ½ of the cost, with Councilperson B. T. Merideth seconding the motion, and motion carried unanimously.

Bob Lazenby then appeared before the Council to request the handicap spots be repainted in the downtown area. The parking spots have become very dim, and people that are not handicapped are parking in the spots. The Operations Supervisor will look into the problem.

Mayor Grantham advised the Council that Teresa Tidwell will not be able to serve on the Library Board since she has been hired as an employee. Brenda Collins has resigned from the Library Board to keep her grandchildren. Mayor Grantham asked that Ellen Madison be appointed to replace Teresa Tidwell, and Terry Ann Callen be appointed to replace Brenda Collins. Councilperson Cartee motioned to approve the appointments, with Councilperson Bullington seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Bullington then reminded everyone that the lighting ceremony at the Library for the Christmas village would take place at 6:30 p.m. tonight, and invited everyone to attend.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Hood motioned the meeting adjourn at 5:37 p.m., with Councilperson Cartee seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

  
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Mayor

  
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City Clerk