

**PUBLIC HEARING
City of Caruthersville**

The City of Caruthersville held a Public Hearing Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the Caruthersville Municipal Building for any comments from the public as to the City adopting an ordinance to approve capital facilities lease financing to provide funds for the repair and replacement of roofs, and HVAC systems at the Caruthersville Recreation Center, and the construction of pickleball courts at England Park. There were no questions or comments, therefore the meeting was adjourned to go into the regular session meeting

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
February 17, 2026**

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Tuesday, February 17, 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
Sue Grantham	Mayor
Jerry Hudgens	Sergeant at Arms
Fales	Councilperson
Grable	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Spence	Councilperson
Robinson	Councilperson
Glass	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Lyons	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 February 17, 2026. Councilperson Hood motion for approval, second by Councilperson Grable all in favor with Councilperson Glass abstaining.

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

Next on the agenda was the yearly audit done by Smith & Davis for the cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities and the business-type activities of the City of Caruthersville for the year ended June 30, 2025. Councilperson Bullington made reference to expending beyond the budget, and the need to curtail expenses. The new accounting system will allow department heads to make a requisition which will create a purchase order. They will be able to see what they've spent, and what is left for them to spend. Also, with the in house ability to monitor, and provide financial

statements on a monthly basis amendments can made to the budget when necessary. The Water fund has carried the Sewer fund for years, and the only answer to solve the problem is to increase sewer rates. The City rates are lower than the surrounding areas, and so low that the City does not qualify for grants. The Summer Food Program continue to operate at a loss, instead of breaking even as it should. The only option is for them to seek sponsorship from the County like most cities, or make sure that their expenses are in a timely manner to account for the year end totals. The Recreation Center has always operated at a loss, hopefully with the new repairs, programming, and monitoring it can get on track.

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

Fales	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Yes	Glass	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes

Unfinished Business; A Planning & Zoning meeting was held Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall for the purpose of zoning for a horse therapy facility, a multifamily unit, and advertising for a billboard digital sign. The digital billboard sign would be 8 by 16 feet, which would be located at Whiskey Ken’s, leased for advertising. The company Robinson Outdoor would also advertise for City events and alerts free of charge. Counselor Dorroh stipulated a conditional use permit would be in order. The Board Adjustment motion for approval for a conditional use permit specific for Whiskey Ken’s subject for preview of language, and upon review of the ordinance by Counselor Dorroh, and it passed unanimously. Mitchell Wooden had previously gone before the Planning & Zoning for a change in zoning to C1. After review it was determined that a conditional use permit would be in order. The Board motion for approval of the horse therapy facility, which passed unanimously.

DR Construction has been bouncing around having a multifamily complex for a while, and they have settled on a property on East 18th St. They are interested in a four to five unit complex. The ordinance only allows for a three family unit with the dimensions of the property. The zoning would have to be changed from R2 to R4 which would affect the surrounding areas not just that particular area. The Commission elected to table the request upon the gathering of more information on the property, and the possibility of another property that would fit the criteria of the ordinance.

Fire report; Chief Lynn Moss report is as follows: 2/3/26; Vehicle entrapment on Hwy U, 2/5/26; Structure fire on Madison, 2/6/26; Smoke scare on East 9th St., 2/9/26; Carbon monoxide alarm. There will be a weather alert seminar at the Library March 3, 2026 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Public Works/Alliance; Alliance Operations Report for the month of January is as follows: Personnel/Freddie Self was hired on as the new utility worker, and they’re also looking forward to hiring a part time CDL driver. Safety/The training covered Bloodborne pathogens, CPR refresher, and driver safety. Spring cleaning was also done at all three plants. Operations by Numbers/Gallons of water treated 11, .08 mg, Gallons of water produced 36, 75 mg, Water leaks repaired 6, Service orders completed 157, Meter changeouts 17, Line locates 71, GPS points 30.

Water Treatment/Submitted monthly compliance monitoring report, all samples were within

parameters. The severe cold weather increased water demand; ran daily leak reports and had to cut off customers flagged for critical leaks. In doing so customers saved money, and they were able to keep up the demand and maintain pressure throughout the system. The air compressor at Industrial has been rebuilt and reinstalled along with the new airline running to the control panel. Repaired Caustic leak, and repaired Caustic pump at the 3rd St. plant. Test ran the Industrial plant, and are disinfecting the Clearwell. They should be able to collect samples in a couple of days, and will be able to put the Plant back online once they get the samples back. This will enable them to have redundancy, and give the opportunity to do maintenance and repairs to the 3rd St. Plant.

Waste Water Treatment/Monthly discharge monitoring reports were submitted, and all sample were within parameters. Cleaned and organized the tool shed, Grit classifier is in the shop for repairs, and Rotor 1 is up and running with the bearings being replaced. Water Distribution/ There were six bacteriological samples collected, and passed. A leak repair was done on Grand, service repair on Beckwith, and service was replaced at East 14th St. Sewer Collections/The Casino lift station submersible was rebuilt and installed, a new tap with a street cut, and point repairs were done on West 7th St and Laurant. Repair expenses were over budget by \$7,296.00 and Chemical expenses were under budget by \$2,752.0.

Code Enforcement; Barry Gilmore report is as follows: The Corps of Engineers reviewed phase two of the flood wall project, and the Walker Avenue side will be open soon. Time Pekios will be coming to inspect houses on Beckwith and East 13th St. for asbestos, and they will be demoed by next month. Two chain hoists were inspected at the Water plants to move chlorine cylinders. Both hoists need repairing, and they will have to come up with something temporarily to move cylinders next week. The tree removal project is underway, and will have to be completed by March before the bats return. There have been 10 street breaks that have been repaired, and potholes were filled. Cogent replaced the pump on 3rd and Eastwood, and it's fully operational. Awaiting Master Meter shipment of the registers that were under warranty. When they are installed, it should bring the reading percentage up to about 90 percent, which will save time when preparing bills. Cogent will be giving an estimate for the damage and repair costs for the grit classifier. Rogers should be wrapping up flushing hydrants soon, tables were delivered to the Armory, and new inventory will be done, with everything labeled as City property.

Parks & Recreation; Lamonte Bell turnover report is as follows: Intake \$9,735.60 Auto draft \$220.00 Interest \$1.13 Total \$9,957.73 Expenses \$525.37 Turnover \$9,431.36. Councilperson Bullington made mention that a Pre-Construction meeting is needed to take place with Jeff Eakes, and it was decided to have it on Wednesday, February 26, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall

Library report; Tacara Sullivan reported that the Kennett Job Service office would be hosting a job fair Wednesday, February 25, 2026. Friday, February 27, 2026 is the Black History Program, which will be the next portion of America's 250 Birthday Celebration. The next 250th Celebration will be dedicated to the Revolutionary women.

Collector report; Paige Gillock turnover report is as follows: Real Estate Tax \$24,314.85 Personal Tax \$15,995.94 Interest & Publication \$307.43 Total Tax \$40,618.22 Taxes & Fees \$1,728.04 Total Overall \$42,346.26

Budget/Finance; Rita Jones report is as follows: Continuing with Tyler Technologies with the

process of building the accounting side of the new software system, which she now has access to. By the last of February the software accounting/accounts payable portion will go live. The handwritten checks will no longer have to be done the accounts will be processed through the software. The payroll side of the software is now being built, and bills are continuing to be paid, along with online payments for state and federal taxes. Deposits are also being continued to be made for the Recreation Center, and membership records are being kept.

New Business; The Board of Adjustments met Tuesday, February 11, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. The purpose of the hearing was to receive testimony relating to an application for a zoning variance for a manufactured home placement on East 20th St. by James Elliott Jr. Also a request for a variance for placement of a digital billboard sign on West 3rd St. by Robinson Outdoor. The variance for the manufactured home was motion to be approved and granted to allow for 10 inches on each side of the trailer. The request for a variance for a billboard sign was referred by Counselor Dorroh to go before the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Mayor Grantham reported that there will be an E-Waste event April 14, 2026 at the Rick Davis Athletic Field. Acceptable items are electronics, appliances, and power tools. Unacceptable items are batteries, tapes, chemicals and hazardous materials, bulbs, cylinders, tanks.

Business From the Floor; Scotty Johnson, owner of the Grateful Headz proposed to the Council an ordinance that would eliminate illegal gambling machines within the City. Mr. Johnson believes that the said ordinance would protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizenry. Mr. Johnson stated that the smoke shops that have these machines were predatory establishments that take advantage of the youth and vulnerable with enticements. Counselor Dorroh will review the mock ordinance.

Mitchell Wooden talked about the Equine Therapy that he wants to establish on Lincoln, he stated that the property would be fenced in. This type of therapy has been shown to help with mental and physical health challenges. Counselor Dorroh stated that a motion would be in order to publish in the paper February 25, 2026, and have a Public Hearing for the conditional use permit for the digital board sign and the Equine therapy. Councilperson Lyons motion for approval, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

Fales	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Yes	Glass	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes

Counselor Dorroh introduced the following bills:

BILL NO. 2026-01	ORDINANCE 2026-01
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PROJECT FOR THE CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE, MISSOURI;	
APPROVING THE ISUANCE OF LEASE CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION IN THE AGGREGATE	
STATED PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$1,140,000 PLUS A NET REOFFERING PREMIUM OF \$7,561.10	
IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF ROOFS AND HAVAC	
SYSTEMS AT THE CARUTHERSVILLE RECREATION CENTER, THE CONSTRUCTION OF PICKLEBALL	
COURTS AT ENGLAND PARK AND TO PAY THE COST OF ISSUANCE OF SAID CERTIFICATES; AND	

AUTHORIZING CERTAIN OTHER ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF SAID CERTIFICATES

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

Fales	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Yes	Glass	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes

BILL NO. 2026-02 **ORDINANCE 2026-02**
AN ORDINANCE FINDING, DETERMINGING, AND DECLARING THAT THE ESTABLISHED 2018 SALES TAX APPROVED BY THE VOTERS SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON THE SALES OF DOMESTIC UTILITIES

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

Fales	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Yes	Glass	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes

BILL NO. 2026-03 **ORDINANCE 2026-03**
AN ORDINANCE AMEDING SECTION 705.240 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE RELATING TO CONNECTIONS TO PUBLIC SEWER LINES

After much deliberation, the Council decided to forgo the ordinance, and stick with the fee schedule and ordinance that's already in place.

Next on the agenda was Resolutions and Motions; Counselor Dorroh made the introduction for a resolution for the pickleball courts as follows:

A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE INTENT OF THE CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE, MISSOURI, TO REMIBURSE ITSELF FOR CERTAIN CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Councilperson Bullington motion for approval, second by Councilperson Lyons, which resulted in the following vote:

Fales	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes

Robinson	Yes	Glass	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes

Councilperson Grable inquired about LED lights for the baseball fields. It would have to be bid out, and be looked at for the budget.

Councilperson Bullington motion to go into closed session for the purpose of personnel and legal, second by Councilperson Lyons, which resulted in the following vote:

Fales	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Yes	Glass	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes

Upon returning from closed session, Councilperson Robinson motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Hood, with all in favor.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk