

**Public Hearing
July 16, 2018**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met for a Public Hearing on Monday July 16, 2018 at 4:00 p.m., in the Council Room of the Municipal Building at which time and place the following were present:

Cindy Bethune, Chris Crysler, Cathy Clark, Roger VanAusdall III, Johnny Young, Dick Reade, Linda Howren, Barbara Busby, Eric Petersen, Brandon Swindle, Jana Merideth, Chole White, Austin Johnson, Paul Shaw, Takella Motton, B. T. Merideth, Matt Duckworth, Sue Grantham, Don Grable, J. J. Bullington, Bill Reno, and Wenlan Reno.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss the proposed street work for Mooreland Dr. Terry Rushing started off by saying that he was working with the engineer about Mooreland Dr. There's an issue with the big trees, and Mr. Rushing called the engineer with recommendations about the trees, and was told that the trees need to come down. If the big trees aren't cut down the risk would be the trees dying or the wind blowing them over, and if they continue growing the new road would bust up. The proposed plan is to go with concrete because of its longevity. There may be possible a temporary easement to driveways and one side of the road will be done at a time. There was a question about the sewer system which is located on the south side as to if there's a problem how it would be handled with concrete. Terry Rushing stated it would be handled like all other areas a section cut out and replaced which match up better with concrete rather than if the street was asphalt. The old lines would be replaced and tied into the main line, which is already in progress. There was a question as to how the median would be affected. Mr. Rushing stated that the big trees would be taken out and replaced with new ones, and residents would have a voice as to what kind to be replaced with, approved by the engineers. There was a question, if the project would continue if the trees weren't removed. Councilperson Merideth stated that if an overlay was done which would have to occur then it would only serve as a band aid. There was a question as why the Council didn't approve the cul-de-sac. Councilperson Bullington stated the reason she voted no is because there are several streets within the City that has the same problem as Mooreland Dr. The original plan was to have a cul-de-sac with the intent to sell off some lots, which is not happening. The budget is of major concern, and with the tax payers being asked to support a tax increase, it just didn't make sense. Ms. Bullington stated that she wouldn't be opposed to widening the street for a turnaround or looking at other options. There was a question about possible sink holes once the 6 big trees are removed. Terry Rushing stated that there would be an engineer on site observing the matter making sure the holes were filled properly. There was a question about the starting date, originally it would've been July 23, 2018, but some kinks will have to be worked out. There was also a question as to how long the project would take; 60 to 90 days would be the target. With no further discussion the meeting disbursed at 4:30 p.m.

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
July 16, 2018**

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Monday July 16, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council room of the Municipal Building at which time and place the following were present:

Sue Grantham	Mayor
Takella Motton	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Rodgers	Councilperson
Duckworth	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Lyons (Absent)	Councilperson
Rittenberry	Councilperson
Grable	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Merideth	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 July 2, 2018 regular session minutes. Councilperson Duckworth motion to approve, second by Councilperson Merideth which resulted in the following vote:

Rodgers	Yes	Duckworth	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes
Grable	Yes	Hood	Absent
Merideth	Yes		

Councilperson Bullington motion for approval of the reports and bills, second by Councilperson Grable which resulted in the following vote:

Rodgers	Yes	Duckworth	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes
Grable	Yes	Hood	Absent
Merideth	Yes		

Fire report; Fire calls from July 5, 2018 through July 16, 2018 are as follows: 7/5/18; Structure fire on Beckwith with female arrested for arson along with other charges, 7/5/18; Gas meter struck while mowing grass, 7/7/18; Mutual aid request for structure fire in Hayti Heights, 7/8/18; Extrication from a RV on I55 northbound, 7/8/18; Trash fire on Laurant with a ticket issued, 7/10/18; Dumpster on fire on Ward Avenue, 7/11/18; Eighteen wheeler on fire on Rt. DD a total loss, 7/15/18; Smoke scare on Willow. Fire inspections were conducted at Lady Luck Casino on July 9, 2018.

Street & Sanitation; Terry Rushing reported the pickup of tree debris. The tractor with the bush hog its PTO clutch has gone out and is out for repairs.

Code Enforcement; Sonya Fuller reported sending out 10 letters, and is following up on multiple properties with the contractors hired by the City. Ms. Fuller has visited 28 residences making them aware of the dumpster site at the Maintenance yard. Councilperson Bullington wanted to know how

many violations actually get to court, and what happens when it does. If the nuisance isn't abated a citation is issued if it's not complied with, then a probable cause statement is issued to Municipal court. There's a trial date that is set, in which the process could take up to a month when the fine is issued. For litter a resident can be issued a ticket of \$130 without going to court. Counselor Dorroh provided several options concerning McCoy's Salvage Yard property as follows: 1. Issue the order to abate the nuisance to the property owner; if they don't comply the City can abate the nuisance or hire an independent contractor. The cost would be assessed as a special tax bill against the property, and would be enforceable through the sale of the property if the tax bill is not paid. 2. Bring an action in Municipal court against the property owner to enforce compliance with City ordinances. The property owner has to maintain premises free of litter, and violation can be enforced at any time in Municipal court. 3. An abatement order can be issued with consent of the property owner right of entry and the City or independent contractor can clean the property up, and the City can get a lien against the property for recovery of cost. 4. The City can acquire the property by donation and undertake the cleanup itself, and the property is sold to recoup the cost. This method is not recommended because of the potential environmental hazards unless it is performed through the Brownfields programs for redevelopment. The best approach with this property would be through an urban redevelopment corporation or a land clearance for redevelopment corporation each designed for blighted areas with some stipulations, which would be under the Department of Revenue's Voluntary Cleanup Program and the Department of Economic Development's Brownfields tax credit program. This would be the most expensive approach and would need to be done through various state programs. Counselor will give a recommendation once a title search is done, and more information is gathered.

Water & Sewer; Paul Shaw reported that he's waiting to get information from John Chittenden concerning the Industrial tower.

Park & Recreation; Wes Deere reported that the swim meet was a success, and the Park Board meeting will be Wednesday July 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Pee wee flag football signups will be coming up soon.

Library report; Teresa Tidwell reported that in order to access eBooks quickly you need to go the available now pay tab. With the Library being an overdrive advantage library, the 10th of every month if you have an eBook you want to access then you will be advanced up in first position. The summer reading program is coming to an end. Next week will be ice cream, karaoke, and dance parties.

Budget report; Councilperson Bullington reported that the Finance committee had met last week, and half of the budget has been done. Once the June financials are available the budget should be completed soon thereafter.

New business; Jana Merideth reported attendance of the Economic Development meeting at the Delta Center July 5, 2018. Attendance is planned for the Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative annual meeting in Davenport, IA September 18-20, 2018. The Economic Development Planning Team next meeting will be October 9, 2018 at 5:30 p.m., the consensus is to continue working on the Essential Water & Sewer campaign. There will be a tour of the Water plant on Industrial Dr. at 6:00 p.m. Thursday July 19, 2018 hot dogs and snacks will be provided. The American Legion Post 88 will be opening their meeting for a presentation from Water & Sewer on Thursday July 26, 2108 at 6:00 p.m.

The Lions Club will be hosting an informational meeting at the Library with a question and answer segment about the water project, and Water & Sewer will be giving a presentation there also. Friday August 3, 2018 the Essential Water & Sewer Campaign Committee will have a booth at the Backyard Barbecue. Monday August 6, 2018 is the City Council meeting which will be brief and a tour of the 3rd St. plant will ensue. There will be a door to door campaign on August 5, 2018. After the election, focus will be back on the packet consisting of information about the City that the Mayor has proposed for potential business interest.

Business from the floor; Edward Isom was concerned about 12th and Vest with the potholes and how water sets on one side of the street for weeks at a time. Mr. Isom wanted to know if 12th and Vest was on the list for street repairs, and Terry Rushing stated that it was. Mr. Isom also brought up having to have liquor license at his establishment if liquor was on the premises if a party was conducted by him or someone wanting to rent his establishment. He mentioned that people had parties at the American Legion, Armory, and Community Center and they charge admissions, and have liquor on the premises. Counselor Dorroh explained that they were not operating as a business and that was the difference. Mr. Isom has told people that wanted to rent his building that they would have to get a liquor license to have a party, because that was what he was told. Counselor Dorroh stated that he would get with the Chief of Police to see his position. Mr. Isom stated he didn't care about the rules, but wanted to be on the same playing level field as everyone else, what goes for one should go for all.

Charles Cain wanted to know why the 3rd St. plant wasn't working, he was told that the boards were struck by lightning, and the reason the insurance wasn't used was because the basement was also flooded, they didn't realize until later it was struck by lightning, and it was too late to file a claim. Mr. Cain wanted to know if the 3rd St. plant was actually needed. Paul Shaw stated that during winter the City almost ran out of water because of the water running constantly because of the low temperatures. Mr. Cain inquired about the water wells, he was told that there are 2 wells and one of them was barely getting by. Mr. Cain inquired about the inflow source correction, and was told that the sewer mains were 60 to 70 years old and was in need of replacement of the clay pipes. Mr. Cain inquired about the force mains, and was told that they were 15 inches in diameter and keep breaking. Mr. Cain inquired of the sewer evaluation, and was told that they would go in with a camera to see when it rains where they're getting the most water. Mr. Cain inquired of the disinfection system, and was told that it was mandated by state. Mr. Cain inquired of the standby generator, and was told that the one that the City has doesn't generate enough power for the whole plant. Mr. Cain inquired of the stairs, walkway, and handrailing, and was told with the added regulations that they have to walk around 15 ft. in the air with only a ledge for support for testing. There were other questions that were asked that Paul Shaw explained. In summary a lot of the equipment has to be replaced because it's obsolete for replacement parts.

Mary Gilmore inquired about the mowing of the exit at the S. Ward entrance. There had been discussions previously of getting different entities within the City to pitch in for the cleanup so the burden wouldn't be solely on the City. MODOT also stated at a previous meeting that they wouldn't be mowing exit ramps only 2 to 3 times a year, because they didn't have the manpower to do so. Terry Rushing will be contacting MODOT to see when or if they would be mowing in the area.

There was discussion of the poor reception of cell phones with AT & T, and the Mayor stated the matter could be looked into. The reception has not always been so bad, and there use to be good reception.

Chief Tony Jones stated that a tree had been cut down on S. Ward and hit a pole and lines are down; power should be restored within the next 2 to 3 hours. Chief Charlie Jones had a message sent out to Nexel that anybody without power and in need of their medical equipment to be hooked up can come to the Public Safety Building.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Merideth motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Hood, with all in favor, the meeting adjourning at 6:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk

DRAFT