

**PUBLIC HEARING
City of Caruthersville**

The City of Caruthersville held a Public Hearing Monday, March 16, 2026 at 5:15 p.m. at the Caruthersville Municipal Building for any comments from the public as to the City making amendments to the Zoning Code to permit an Equine Therapy Business (non-boarding) as a conditional use within the City and to consider the granting of an Equine Therapy (non-boarding) conditional use permit to Mitchell Wooden for property located at Dudley and East 20th St. Also, an amendment to the Zoning Code to permit Electronic Billboards as a conditional use permit to Robinson Outdoors for property located on West 3rd St. on property operated at Whiskey Ken's Levee Lounge. Mayor Pro Tem Hood opened the floor up for any comments concerning the Equine Therapy, and there was none. Counselor made mention to the Council to think about any input concerning distance, how many, what areas, etc. concerning the Electronic Billboard signage. Cortney Gardner was in favor of the signage, especially with the City being able to benefit from the free advertising. Mayor Pro Tem Hood motion to close the hearing to go into regular session, second by Councilperson Bullington, with all in favor.

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
March 16, 2026**

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Monday, March 16, 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 (Absent)	Mayor
Jonathan Grays	Sergeant at Arms
Bullington	Councilperson
Lyons (Absent)	Councilperson
Fales	Councilperson
Grable	Councilperson
Hood	Mayor Pro Tem
Spence	Councilperson
Robinson	Councilperson
Glass	Councilperson

The number of members necessary to consider a quorum being present, the Mayor Tem 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 March 2, 2026. Councilperson Bullington motion for approval, second by Councilperson Spence all in favor with Councilperson Glass and Hood abstaining.

Councilperson Robinson motion to approve the closed session minutes of March 2, 2026, second by Councilperson Bullington all in favor, with Councilperson Glass and Hood abstaining.

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

Next on the agenda were the Demo bids for 932 Beckwith and 409 E. 13th St. These are the following bids for 932 Beckwith; Bootheel Septic & Plumbing \$4,900.00 Southern Tree \$6,000.00 409 E. 13th St; Bootheel Septic & Plumbing \$3,200.00 Southern Tree \$5,000.00. Councilperson Bullington made motion to accept the lower bids, second by Councilperson Grable, resulting in the following vote:

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

The mowing bid packets were broken up in nine different packets giving the bidders the opportunity to acquire some of the packets if not all. Allens Lawncare and Russ Riggs Lawn & Landscape bid on every packet, and River City Contracting bid on three of the packets and were higher than Allens and Riggs. Allens was slightly lower than Riggs in a couple of areas. Allens sum total was \$7,365.00 and Riggs sum total was \$6,075.00. Councilperson Bullington motion to go with Russ Riggs sum total of \$6,075.00, second by Councilperson Grable, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Police report; Jonathan Grays was in for Chief Hudgens, and Councilperson Fales had questions about the smoke shops in town. Officer Grays reported that the police get called out to one particular smoke shop at least five times a week for disturbances. Councilperson Fales wanted to know what could be done. Counselor Dorroh stated that there were ordinances in place about keeping order, which would go through Municipal Court. Counselor Dorroh also stated that as far as limiting the amount of smoke shops in town it would have to go before the Planning & Zoning Committee. There was a question about illegal gambling machines. Counselor Dorroh stated that there has to be proof of gambling, and that there was activity at the state level for legislation regarding illegal gambling.

Humane report; Karol Wilcox reported successfully trapping a pack of dogs in the Collins/Highland area, and they will be moving eastward trying to trap more. Coming up April 25, 2026 is the 5k, Rabies clinic, and the city tags will be done on Saturday, March 28, 2026. Intake was 17, and a couple of owner redeems. Also, the Shelter has help from the police in dealing with abandoned properties with animals.

Fire report; Chief Lynn Moss reported three fire calls as follows: 3/5/26; Alarm call with nothing found on Truman Blvd. 3/6/26; Vehicle accident with fire on I55 at 14 MM. 3/9/26; Fire pit at rear of house on Franklin.

Public Works/Alliance; Erica Bogenpohl reported that more than likely the repair budget that's set at \$65,000.00 will be exceeding its' threshold at the end of the year. The City will be invoiced for

anything over \$65,000.00. Through the month of January expenditures is at \$63,000.00, with an additional \$2,000.00 in the last six weeks. They have recommended prioritizing and delaying anything that can be done so.

Code Enforcement; Barry Gilmore reported the following: Bid opening for 932 Beckwith and 409 E. 13th St. were opened, with Bootheel Septic & Plumbing being the lower bid. There are two other properties for possible demos for later on in spring. Mr. Gilmore has been looking at other alternatives for landfills to use to save money and time. Since the use of the grapple truck the City is averaging 20 tons per month of trash and debris, which is not inclusive of yard waste. Waste Pro will be providing totals of what they remove. The new hoist for the Industrial Plant will be installed Tuesday, March 17, 2026. The tree clearing at the airport is underway, with hauling taking place this weekend if weather permits. Street repairs were done on East 10th St, East 11th St, Beckwith, and Compress Rd. Started mowing this week with all the growth of grass/weed early on.

The Corps of Engineers will be here Monday March 23, 2026 for their event, crews will be tidying up Reynolds Park in the meantime. The crew has been working on the Armory over the last few weeks; painting, bathroom repairs, inventoried chairs and tables, and removed the standing/rolling racks. Swapped out the old plow on the old truck, and prepped for use on one of the new trucks. Both plows are fully functional for next winter. The property owner on West 4th St. has agreed to sign and consent to abate the nuisance with April 1, 2026 being the deadline for clearing the property. The property owner on Willow has agreed to have the property cleared by April 1, 2026. The Vac truck is back in operation, and Master Meter is still working on fulfilling the City's warranty request.

If the weather permits the City will be replacing several of the bad flags in the cemetery. Rogers Hydrant completed their flushing of hydrants, the Lead Line inventory is about to be completed, bids are being submitted for the airport hangar, and testing is being done for a new CDL driver. A part was installed on the well pump motor, looking at a new company for generator service because of travel cost, and the issues at 8th & Ferguson have been identified and hopefully will be resolved by March 13, 2026.

Recreation report; Lamonte Bell reported that he had gotten information about the sign at the Recreation Center and for the Library, and would be getting with the Council. There have been forms drafted that will show monthly rentals, and what's going on with the Sports program. Turnover is as follows: Intake \$9,334.60 Auto Draft 220.00 Interest \$0.96 Total \$9,555.56 Checks \$428.06 Turnover \$9,127.50

Wayne Smith reported that the Pickle Ball courts were done, and left remaining was the electrical. Wayne Smith did most of the design, and Chris Crysler interfaced with all the contractors. The County removed the asphalt and concrete free of charge, Mr. Crysler used some of his equipment. The installation of the lights would have been more than the lights, so they installed themselves with help from Tyler Brooks. The Casino helped with erecting the poles, and the cable and conduit was donated, and Randy Guest installed meter bases. Installation of the lights would have been roughly \$30,000.00, and contractor fees \$30,000.00. Neighboring communities have spent \$80,000.00 vs. \$48,000.00 what they've spent. Mr. Smith encourages the community to come out, and try their hand at pickleball, it's an easy game to learn for all ages and levels of athleticism.

Library report; Tacara Sullivan reported the following: 3/2/26; Casey Henson read to several

classes at the Early Learning Center in Hayti, MO as part of the Read Across America/Dr. Seuss Birthday week. 3/3/26; There were over 30 attendees at the Storm Spotting training hosted by the Fire department. 3/10/26; Held the St. Patrick’s Day story time and activity, they crafted their own leprechaun mask while having snacks. 3/13/26; The third of the seven presentations for America’s 250 Celebration was “Women in the American Revolution”. 3/14/26; DAR came and planted a Sycamore tree in honor of our American patriots as part of the America’s 250th Birthday Celebration.

Councilperson Hood made mention of John Buchanan’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt that will be taking place Saturday, April 4, 2026 at French Park.

Collections report; Real Estate \$2, 4125.01 Personal Property \$1,569.44 Miscellaneous \$627.50 Total Taxes \$3,940.46 Interest & Fees \$671.49 Total Collections \$4,611.95

Budget/Finance; Rita Jones report is as follows: Continuing with a trainer from Tyler Technologies on the proper navigation and usage on the new system. Balancing all the accounts, and making sure everything in the software is in correctly. Now have the ability to process bills and enter all the deposits. Training for the payroll will start Monday, March 16, 2026, paying federal and state taxes online, and making deposits for the Recreation Center, and keeping a record of memberships purchased.

Business From the Floor; Chyneva Moore had a complaint about her water bill; she wanted a broken down bill, and stated she didn’t get a bill. It was stated that the bills were always due on the 10th of the month, and she’s set up on ebilling. It was explained that she didn’t make a payment in November or December, and her bill was adjusted off by \$670.40. She made a payment in February of \$120.00, and the bill was adjusted off in February for \$550.64 leaving a balance of \$190.75, and now the bill is \$304.00 with this billing cycle. Counselor Dorroh stated that the issue would have to be resolved through the Mayor and the Water clerk due to the Council not having the accessibility of all the information. Sharletta Jackson had a question about her water bill that was \$383.00 last month, and was told to pay her normal bill. So she waited for the next month, and the current bill was \$400.00. After getting the leak release from her landlord, she was under the impression that her bill was \$93.00 without the extra charges. Mr. Gilmore stated that Ms. Jackson adjustment had been adjusted at the Water Committee meeting 30 minutes ago, with her turning in her paperwork in on Friday.

Introduction to Bills; Counselor Dorroh introduced the following bills:

BILL NO. 2026-04 **ORDINANCE 2026-04**
AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE COMPENSATION FOR THE OFFICE OF CITY MARSHAL OF THE CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE, MISSOURI

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

Bullington	Yes	Fales	Yes
Grable	Yes	Hood	Yes
Spence	Yes	Robinson	Yes

Glass Yes

BILL NO. 2026-05 **ORDINANCE 2026-05**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE IV OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO INCLUDE EQUINE THERAPY FACILITY AMONG THE ENUMERATED USES FOR WHICH A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED

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

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

Counselor Dorroh stated that a vote for the conditional use permit would be in order. Councilperson Bullington made motion for approval of the conditional use permit, second by Councilperson Grable, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Counselor Dorroh will be drafting an ordinance for the electronic billboard sign, keeping in mind distances and the limits.

Councilperson Hood made motion to go into closed session for the purpose of real estate and personnel, second by Councilperson Robinson, which resulted in the following vote:

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

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

ATTEST:

Mayor Pro Tem

City Clerk

DRAFT