

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
PUBLIC HEARING**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met for a Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 6, 2022, at 5:00 p.m., in the Council Room in the Municipal Building at which time and place the following were present:

Sue Grantham, Karol Wilcox, Matt Wimberly, Paige Gillcok, Luther Robinson, Ricky Lyle, Marsha Hayes, Jimmy Lyons, John Chittenden, Barry Gilmore, Dustin Sterling, Art Benson, Don Grable, Charlie Jones, J. J. Bullington, Helena Robinson, Lillie Wilbourn, Lamont Bell, Tony Jones, Kathy Morgan, Jennifer Spence, Lawrence Dorroh, Takella Motton.

The purpose of the hearing was to receive input from the public regarding the tax rate to be set for 2022 in which the City has received the ceiling for the tax rate from the State Auditor's office.

The tax rates are set to produce the revenues which show what's to be required from the property tax. Each tax rate is determined by dividing the amount of revenue needed by the current assessed valuation. The result is multiplied by 100 so the tax will be expressed in cents per \$100 valuation as follows:

| ASSESSED VALUATION | CURRENT TAX YEAR 2022 | PRIOR TAX YEAR 2021 |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Real Estate | \$31,605,493 | \$31,525,989 |
| Personal Property | <u>\$13,653,144</u> | <u>\$12,019,050</u> |
| TOTAL | \$45,258,637 | \$43,545,039 |

The following tax rates were proposed:

| | AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUES BUDGETED | TAX RATE CEILING (PER \$100) |
|-------------------|---|---|
| General Fund | \$ 283,138.03 | \$.6256 |
| Special Sewer Tax | 96,038.83 | .2122 |
| Library Fund | 45,258.64 | .1000 |
| Public Health | 80,922.44 | .1788 |
| Cemetery Fund | <u>20,230.61</u> | <u>.0447</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 525,588.55 | \$ 1.1613 |

Councilperson Bullington inquired about increasing the rate for a fund, Counselor Dorroh stated that the rates were set, but with the majority going to the General Fund, money could be taken from it to increase another fund. With no further input from the public, the Public Hearing was closed, and

the regular session proceeded.

CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
September 6, 2022

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room in the Municipal Building on Tuesday, September 6, 2022, immediately following the Public Hearing 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 |
| Glass (Absent) | Councilperson |
| Bullington | Councilperson |
| Lyons | Councilperson |
| Rittenberry (Absent) | Councilperson |
| Grable | Councilperson |
| Hood (Absent) | Councilperson |
| Robinson | 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 August 15, 2022 minutes. Councilperson Grable motion for approval, second by Councilperson Lyons with all in favor.

Councilperson Lyons motion to approve the closed session minutes, second by Councilperson Grable, with all in favor.

Councilperson Lyons motion to approve the reports and bills, second by Councilperson Bullington, with all in favor.

John Chittenden, City Engineer addressed the Council with proposed plans for the City's water system. The levee well for the Third Street Water Plant needs rehabilitating so that we will have two wells for the plant, which is the only plant now operating. The work would entail replacing the pumping equipment with a larger pumping unit, provide a new control panel integrated with the existing controls and SCADA and change the power supply from 240-volt to 480-volt for a budget of \$215,000.00.

The City also needs to add media to the filters at Water Plant II so that the plant is back up and running. Alliance will install the media if the City can get it delivered. The budget for this project would be \$60,000.00. Well No. 5 for Water Plant II is out of service due to pumping sand. A diagnosis is being worked on to correct the sand production issues. The cost of a new well would be a \$1,000,000; therefore it's cost effective to see if Well No. 5 can be saved. On a positive note, the grant for the Street Project has come through, the Airport layout plan is underway, the Sewer Lining and Manhole

Rehabilitation is ongoing, and an application for an ARPA grant with DNR for Sewer has been submitted. The City should know something by the first week in October.

Councilperson Bullington made motion to accept Mr. Chittenden’s recommendations contingent upon addressing any policies that may have to be adhered to, and for the expense to be taken out of the Water Wastewater Construction account. Councilperson Grable second the motion, which resulted in the following vote:

| | | | |
|------------|-----|--------|-----|
| Bullington | Yes | Lyons | Yes |
| Grable | Yes | Spence | Yes |
| Robinson | Yes | | |

Humane report; There was an intake of 93 animals during the months of July and August. The Shelter adopted 57 animals, five were sent to Rescue, four were euthanized, and eight were owner redeemed. The Shelter has been working on the East 5th St, 10th and Eastwood, and the 5th and Grand area for repeat offenses on dogs at large. There were five puppies sent to Rescue after being dumped in the Brown Shoe ditch from the Eastwood area. The owner is being cited and will be moving through the court system. There have been several attempts to cite and have dogs removed from the East 5th St area, which is still in process.

The Shelter will be ordering two big traps, four medium, and four small. They will also be replacing all the dog houses, the used ones will be cleaned up and available for a dog in need. Repairs were made to the City kennels and the propane tank had bolts replaced and a sensor installed. There will be a meeting with the Humane Shelter, Police, and the City Attorney, hopefully to come up with a more stringent method as to when a person is cited and doesn’t adhere to the citation.

Fire report; Fire calls from August 15, 2022 to September 6, 2022 are as follows: 8/15/22; Structure fire within a wall on Grand, 8/18/22; Structure fire with moderate damage on Chaffin Dr., 8/29/22; Fire alarm sounding on Stonewall Dr. with nothing being detected with the owner being told to contact their Alarm company because of several malfunctioning calls. Training for the month of August was “Uses of the Thermal Imaging Camera & Extrication Techniques and Electric Vehicles.” There have been 92 fire calls compared to 106 a year ago.

Alliance report; Dustin Sterling provided two proposals for the replacement of the 10th & Carleton Lift Station pump. Vandevanter proposes \$7,850.00 with a two year warranty, and Equipment Pro Incorporated proposes \$4,607.91 with a three year warranty with the ceramic coating protection for an additional \$400.00. His recommendation is with Equipment Pro Inc. for the extended warranty and lesser price. Councilperson Lyons motion for approval, second by Councilperson Bullington which resulted in the following vote:

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|------------|-----|--------|-----|
| Bullington | Yes | Lyons | Yes |
| Grable | Yes | Spence | Yes |
| Robinson | Yes | | |

Code Enforcement; Barry Gilmore reported that the City ended up with two properties from the tax sale. There were other bidders on the bus barn, with Gilmore taking a step back. All interested

parties will invest in cleaning up the property, and if it gets redeemed there will be a hefty bill. Clean up was done on a property on East 8th St and Laurant; 17 tons of junk was removed. Point repairs are almost done; the last one is on 3rd St. Planning to tear down more houses, eight to nine properties by the end of the year. Magnolia Cemetery is out of hand, notice sent out, if not adhered to the City will start the cleanup, and put on the owner's tax bill. There have been 92 notices sent out, with a fraction adhering and with the others not. Mr. Gilmore recommended repairing the six hydrants and replacing the seven hydrants previously discussed. All together the expense would be \$65,000.00, saving \$500 by going with the better hydrant from Mueller. Councilperson Lyons motion to approve the repairs and replacements by using the Water Wastewater Construction account. Councilperson Bullington second the motion, which resulted in the following vote:

| | | | |
|------------|-----|--------|-----|
| Bullington | Yes | Lyons | Yes |
| Grable | Yes | Spence | Yes |
| Robinson | Yes | | |

Parks & Recreation; Lamont Bell reported that the Recreation Center was finally set up with United Healthcare. There has been a setback for the pool lift. Apparently there's copper in the concrete. Memphis Pools is willing to do the job if there's an electrician on board; should know something by the end of the week. The parts came in for the swings, in which some repairs were done in England Park. French Park will need some chains and bolts to be replaced.

Library report; Marsha Hayes reported that one out of five AC units were working at the Library, and she's was working on getting a quote from D & L. On September 9th, 10th, and 11th The Bootheel Community Theater will have a play, showings are at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and Sunday at 3:00 p.m.

City Collector; Paige Gillock reported collections from August 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022 as follows: Real Estate \$18,865.98, Personal Property \$8,374.03, Drainage Districts \$400.00, Miscellaneous \$2,966.21, Total Taxes \$22,966.09, Interest and Fees \$8,098.40, Total Collections \$31,064.49.

Introduction to Bills; Counselor Dorroh introduced a bill to set forth the tax rate for 2022. Councilperson Lyons motion for the first reading, second by Councilperson Grable as follows:

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>BILL NO. 2022-12 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION AND LEVYING THE TAXES AND DECLARING THAT PURPOSE OF WHICH THE SAME SHALL AND SHOULD BE USED FOR THE YEAR 2022</p> | <p>ORDINANCE 2022-12 AND DECLARING THAT PURPOSE OF WHICH THE SAME SHALL AND SHOULD BE USED FOR THE YEAR 2022</p> |
|--|---|

Councilperson Grable motion for the second reading, second by Councilperson Lyons, with all in favor. Councilperson Lyons motion for passage of the bill, second by Councilperson Grable, which resulted in the following vote:

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|------------|-----|--------|-----|
| Bullington | Yes | Lyons | Yes |
| Grable | Yes | Spence | Yes |
| Robinson | Yes | | |

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Grable motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Lyons, with all in favor.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk

DRAFT