

CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
September 21, 2026

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Monday September 21, 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
Leighan Fales	Mayor
Jerry Hudgens/Corey Vaughn	Sergeant at Arms
Hazel	Councilperson
Grable	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Spence	Councilperson
Robinson	Councilperson
Glass (Absent)	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 September 8, 2026. Councilperson Bullington motion for approval, second by Councilperson Hazel, with all in favor.

Councilperson Hood motion for approval of the closed session minutes of September 8, 2026 second by Councilperson Hazel with all in favor.

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

Counselor Dorroh made revisions to the Armory rental agreement based on some of the language from the Arts Council rental agreement. The new rental fee will be \$800.00 as was determined at the last meeting. The deposit will have to be decided, the current \$200.00 will not even cover toilet expenses, which occurs more times than not. The last incident that occurred at the Armory was at a repast; damages were calculated at a couple of thousand. Councilperson Hazel motion to have the deposit go to \$500.00, second by Councilperson Grable, which resulted in the following vote:

Hazel	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Lyons	Yes		

James Keen an attorney from Kennett, MO is proposing an ordinance that would prohibit the sale of synthetic marijuana along with the other unregulated intoxicating products. The ordinance would include safeguards against products that imitate candy, food, etc., and add 1000 ft. degree of separation

between the facilities, with the ones already in place being grandfathered in. Violations of the ordinances would impose fines up to \$500.00. Counselor Dorroh stated that the 1000 footage between the facilities would have to come before the Planning & Zoning Commission. The ordinance itself would address youth access, packaging, business location, advertising, licensing, and enforcement. Councilperson Lyons motion to refer the ordinance to Planning & Zoning, and to have Counselor Dorroh to move forward with the review of the ordinance for potential passage. Councilperson Hazel second the motion, which resulted in the following vote:

Hazel	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Lyons	Yes		

Police report; Chief Hudgens reported that their computers had been hit with a virus, therefore no one will be able to obtain reports until the computers are back up and running.

Fire report; Chief Moss reported five fire calls as follows: 9/1/26; Structure fire on Hwy E, 9/6/26; Medical assist State Hwy D, 9/8/26; Trash fire on railroad Hwy 84, 9/15/26; Structure fire on Grand, 9/15/26; Structure fire on Truman Blvd. Scheduled for fire drills for Caruthersville School District on September 23, 2026. Scheduled for a conference at the Lake of Ozarks September 28, 2026.

Water/Alliance; Pam Peeler reported that the Water office was getting new computers, and a remodel of the office space, which were way overdue. The Water Meter Fund is a restrictive account, but found out through the auditors that enough money would have to be in the account to cover everyone if they decided to close their account at the same time . No one hardly ever gets a refund for a \$100.00, unless a bill is paid before its shut off. Usually whatever is owed the refund will be whatever is left over, and sometimes it's not enough. The auditors stated that whatever is left over for the meter deposit refunds could be used for operations. Ms. Peeler has been talking with the surrounding communities, and found that they're charging anywhere from \$140.00 to \$150.00 for deposits. Ms. Peeler propose that the City charge \$150.00 for deposits. Counselor Dorroh will be drafting an ordinance to the affect, and look at the established fees for transfers. Councilperson Bullington motion for approval of the remodeling, upgrades, to come out of the water meter account for operations. Councilperson Hazel second the motion, which resulted in the following vote:

Hazel	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Lyons	Yes		

There are eight new fire hydrants that have been setting up since 2020. Chief Lynn Moss will be compiling a list of hydrants that are faulty, these hydrant run around \$3,400.00. Erica Bogenpohl with Alliance reported operations remaining steady across water treatment, wastewater treatment, distribution, and collections. Compliance reporting was completed, water and wastewater samples were within the required parameters, and crews continued maintenance, repairs, GIS mapping, and housekeeping efforts. Key production and service activity included 36.7 million gallons of wastewater treated, 10,994 gallons of water produce, 190 service orders completed, 8 water leaks repaired, 82

line locates, and 500 GPS points added. Vandevanter worked on correcting the overflow and flooding of the 3rd St. Water Plant to no avail. The Plant needs a pump that can be relied upon, which would be a new one at \$21,499.64, with the existing pump needing to get fixed for backup. There also needs to be a diagnosis for the 3rd St. Plant to see if it warrants to file a claim, and determine whether there's negligence. Councilperson Lyons motion for approval of the purchase of the motor, second by Councilperson Hazel, which resulted in the following vote:

Hazel	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Absent	Bullington	Yes
Lyons	Yes		

Joey Helwig has been working half of his time here and half his time at another Plant. There has to be a full time person to run the City's Water plants. Therefore, there has been a posting for the position, and in the meantime Erica will be in charge of the Plants. Ms. Bogenpohl also made mention of documentation needed from Schulte for the lead line service contract in order to be in compliance with the state. Ms. Bogenpohl asked Counselor to reach out to DNR upon failed attempts by her and the City Clerk in getting responses for requests.

Code Enforcement; Shawna Riggs reported that she was in the process to demolition four additional properties with two undergoing asbestos testing. There are five residential and two business properties that continue to be noncompliant, and there's a shed located on a City easement on Zaida that she's dealing with. Also, in the process of preparing the tax bills for mowing which has a October 15, 2026 deadline in order for the City Collector to process before her mail outs November 1, 2026. Tenants have reached out complaining about black mold and wanting inspections for the Crenshaw Apartments by the old fire station because of the poor living conditions.

Parks & Recreation; Doug White reported being in contact with Exercise Unlimited for a lease agreement of \$1,268.77/mo. for all new equipment for five years and can own the equipment, or start all over with a new lease, which is already in the budget. Councilperson Hazel motion for approval, second by Councilperson Lyons, which resulted in the following vote:

Hazel	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Absent	Bullington	Yes
Lyons	Yes		

Library report; Tacara Sullivan report is as follows: 9/1/26; Library meeting which approved to change business hours except for programs and events. 9/8/26; Career Exploration Series. 9/22/26; "Hello Fall" story time. 9/25/26; "Wall of Distinction" 9/26/26; "Jess Walk" 9/29/26; Empower MO townhall, 9/29/26; Kennett Career Center Job Fair.

City Collector; Jacklyn Underwood hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Ms. Underwood has processed a couple of business license, and processed tax payments. She will be going on vacation next week, and Paige Gillock will come in after she get back, and show her how to do turnover.

Budget/Finance; Rita Jones reported that everything was transferring to the payroll module correctly. Working on the budget, tracking memberships for Recreation Center, have completed bank statements through August, completing online payments for federal and state taxes. Have recently start conducting job shadowing for a High School student. As of August 31, 2026 the total fund balance for all the funds are as follows: Beginning Balance \$5,488,321.33 Total Revenues \$1,710,660.79 Total Expenses \$2,002,023.57 Ending Balance \$5,196,958.55.

Councilperson Hazel motion to go into closed session for the purpose of litigation, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

Hazel	Yes	Grable	Yes
Hood	Yes	Spence	Yes
Robinson	Absent	Bullington	Yes
Lyons	Yes		

Upon returning from closed session Councilperson Grable motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Lyons, which passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk

DRAFT

DRAFT