

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE  
May 21, 2012**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room of the Municipal Building on Monday, May 21, 2012, at 5:00 p.m., at which time and place the following were present:

Diane Sayre	Mayor
Melinda Scifres	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Pullam	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Simpson	Councilperson
Grantham	Councilperson
Hood (Absent)	Councilperson
Merideth	Councilperson
Morgan	Councilperson
Mott	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 minutes, bills, and reports. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Mott, seconded by Councilperson Merideth, the minutes, bills and reports were approved unanimously. The reports read as follows:

Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager, reported the following for the collections in the water department for April:

Water	\$ 64,247.48	Customers 2428
Sewer Use	18,424.03	
Garb. Fees	38,031.47	
Meter Serv.	814.80	
Mo. Spray	579.00	
Primacy Fee	3.00	
Sewer Bond	11,248.97	
Sewer Prim.	<u>3.00</u>	
TOTAL	\$133,351.75	

Christi Watkins, Court Clerk, reported fines collected as follows: CVC funds \$151.46; POST funds \$21.24; Fines \$2,981.33; JEF funds \$21.24.

Melinda Scifres, City Clerk, reported securities pledged for deposits of the City as follows: First State Bank - \$3,325,000; Focus Bank - \$2,021,899.47; Bank Star - \$583,400.

Charlie Jones, Fire Chief, reported \$3,367 in salaries for April, and six calls into the fire department with two out of City calls.

Donna Brooks, City Collector, reported \$5,478.65 in Turnover to the Treasurer, with \$77.68 in Collectors commission, and \$31.62 in Assessment fund.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported \$9,648.80 in admissions to the recreation center for April.

Mayor Sayre then reported the wording of the Cemetery contract still needed to be corrected. The question is in regards to the fee for opening and closing of graves. Currently the fee is \$700, of which the Cemetery Superintendent receives \$550, and the City receives \$150 for the continuing maintenance. Counselor Dorroh stated the contract gives the authority to the Cemetery Board to set the fee. Councilperson Mott reported he had checked with other cemetery managers in the area, and highest fee charged was \$500 for opening and closing of graves. After discussion, the Operations Supervisor was asked to negotiate the fee with the Cemetery Superintendent. The matter will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Councilperson Morgan reported the Police/Fire Committee had met prior to the meeting. Fire Chief Charlie Jones reported answering nine fire calls from May 9-21. Eight out-of-town fire calls have not been paid for this year.

Councilperson Morgan then reported the Committee had recommended the employment of Aaron Hatfield, Mathew Smith, and Jeremy Brotz. Councilperson Morgan motioned to approve the employment of the three men mentioned, with Councilperson Mott seconding, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote:

Rodgers	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Simpson	Yes	Morgan	Yes
Grantham	Yes	Mott	Yes
	Pullam	Yes	

It was announced the Water and Sewer Committee will meet immediately after the Council meeting. Councilperson Grantham then motioned to approve \$1,358.48 in the adjustment report, with Councilperson Mott seconding, and motion carried.

Councilperson Merideth reported the Street and Sanitation crews worked on picking up limbs and leaves, cutting right-of-ways, and around utility poles. The bush hog had broken down, one man had been off sick, and one man had been off due to the birth of his first grandchild. ASA Asphalt has completed the paving of Bushey and Walker, East 20<sup>th</sup>, Ward, East 19<sup>th</sup>, and Playground Road. Councilperson Pullam asked the drop-off in some areas of Playground be checked by the Operations Supervisor. She felt they could be hazardous.

Councilperson Simpson then stated there are several alleys that are overgrown in Ward 2, and need to be cleaned. Mr. Rushing will look at the alleys once he is given their location.

The Mayor reported the ADA lift for the pool at the recreation center has been ordered, and the specifications for the skateboard park are almost ready to bid out. The Casino has donated \$52,000 for the skateboard park, which will only leave approximately \$3,000 for the City to expend for the park.

Terry Rushing, Code Enforcement Officer reported the City has a consent form from the property owner to demolish the house at 110 East 14<sup>th</sup>. The City has two houses that need to be demolished and is working on obtaining deeds for two other properties. Mayor Sayre asked for authorization to demolish the four structures using a private contractor. Councilperson Rodgers motioned to authorize bidding for a private contractor to remove the four structures, with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

Councilperson Rodgers stated she has talked to the owners of the property at 14<sup>th</sup> and Franklin. The owners are ready to proceed once they receive an estimate. Terry Rushing stated he will contact the owner to discuss the estimate.

Mr. Rushing then reported the Air Paks for the Fire Department have been ordered, and the Police vests have been ordered for the Police Department. The Third Street water plant has been painted, and the gate has been installed at the Industrial Water Plant. The tractor and disk for the wastewater plant is in, and we are now waiting on the honey wagon. Mayor Sayre then asked if the land should be prepped before using the new equipment. Councilperson Merideth stated that he believes the land should be prepped based on his experience as a farmer. Councilperson Merideth will check on pricing to prep the land.

Councilperson Simpson then asked if the City was ready to start the mosquito spraying. Mr. Rushing stated the City would start spraying as soon as they started biting.

Jana Merideth then appeared before the Council to thank the Council for allowing the American Government Class to attend the meetings. Wednesday will be the last day of school, and the students have enjoyed this opportunity.

Councilperson Pullam then asked if the Humane Shelter is open. Mr. Rushing reported the shelter remains closed because all of the animals have not yet been removed so the shelter can be sanitized. With the diseases that animals have had recently in the shelter, it needs to have all animals removed, and the shelter sanitized before animals can be put back in.

Councilperson Pullam then asked if a drug test is required when a City employee has an accident. Mr. Rushing stated the personnel manual does not require a drug test, but it states that it can be required by the police or supervisor.

Dorothy Mitchell then appeared before the Council to report the need to have East Eleventh Street resurfaced. Mayor Sayre then reported the committee will meet to discuss the budget for next year. However, the drainage at 11<sup>th</sup> and Franklin is a larger priority at this time.

Police Chief Tony Jones thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing the five officers to travel to Washington D.C. to honor Evan Burns. Officer Burns name was placed on the memorial for

fallen officers that have died in the line of duty. The five officers spent three days, and were able to hear a speech from the President.

Chief Tony Jones stated the department is going to enforce the ATV ordinance and sports equipment on streets and no fireworks during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Officers will start writing tickets.

After discussion, Councilperson Morgan offered and moved the approval of the following ordinance, and the same was read for the first time:

**BILL NO. 2012-4**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012-4**

**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE WAGES FOR PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE, MISSOURI**

(Copy on file in City Clerk's office)

After discussion the unanimous consent of the Council is asked for a second reading of Bill No. 2012-4 which is granted and Bill No. 2012-4 is read the second time. The question before the Council now is shall Bill No. 2012-4 to be known as Ordinance No. 2012-4 pass and become law as read the second time, which resulted in the following vote on said question, to-wit:

Rodgers	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Simpson	Yes	Morgan	Yes
Grantham	Yes	Mott	Yes
	Pullam	Yes	

Upon the Mayor declaring that Bill No. 2012-4 to be known as Ordinance No. 2012-4 is passed and approved by the Council, the Mayor did approve the bill and affix her signature and was attest by the City Clerk.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Grantham motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m., with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane Sayre

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City Clerk