

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE  
JUNE 4, 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, June 4, 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
Jerry Hudgens	Sergeant at Arms
Simpson	Councilperson
Grantham	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Merideth	Councilperson
Morgan	Councilperson
Mott	Councilperson
Pullam	Councilperson
Rodgers	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 minutes of the last meeting. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Pullam, seconded by Councilperson Mott, the minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

The next order of business to come before the Council was the approval of payment of the bills. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Hood, seconded by Councilperson Grantham, the bills were approved for payment.

Mayor Sayre then reviewed the cemetery maintenance contract with the Council. The contract will be with Howard Fike for the maintenance of Little Prairie Cemetery, which includes straightening monuments, filling sunken graves, trimming trees and shrubs, removing old flowers, and other hand work necessary to maintain an attractive, well maintained cemetery, except the mowing, leaf removal, and edging which shall be contracted separately. The cemetery superintendent will open and close graves. The fee for opening and closing of graves will be \$600.00, of which the City will retain \$150.00, and the contractor will receive \$450.00. The contract is for one year. After discussion, Councilperson Merideth motioned to accept the contract, with Councilperson Morgan seconding, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Councilperson Morgan then reported the fire department had six calls from May 22 through June 4. This year the department has had nine out-of-town fire calls, and only two of those have been paid.

Jerry Hudgens, Assistant Chief of Police, appeared before the Council to report of the three police officers approved for employment at the last meeting, only one has started working. Two of the officers have taken employment with another department.

Councilperson Merideth reported the Street and Sanitation crews have cleaned out the debris in the storm water stations at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Eastwood and 7<sup>th</sup> and Maple. The crews have been cutting low hanging limbs over the streets and right-of-ways, and cleaning alleys. New signs have been erected in several locations.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported the ball season is completed with no rain-outs. The center has started the Jr. Babe Ruth season. Tournament dates have been set, and Caruthersville will host the Cap Ripken league at the Sports Plex. Also, tennis lessons will be given to 6-12 year old children. The recreation center has an intern that will be working with the children for training, and they are looking forward to a large turnout this summer.

Terry Rushing, Operations Supervisor, then asked the Council to authorize bidding the surplus property for sale. He presented the Council with pictures of the property that needs to be sold. After discussion, Councilperson Mott motioned to approve the bidding of the surplus property, with Councilperson Simpson seconding, and motion carried.

Jane Ellen Lazenby, Chairman of the Tree Board, reported the crepe myrtles had been trimmed along 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, and the street looks much better.

Councilperson Mott then reported the residence of Playground Road wanted to express thanks for the paving of their street.

Terry Rushing, Operations Supervisor, then thanked Keith Davis and Randall Waldrop for striping the parking lot at City Hall.

J. T. Spicer then appeared before the Council and thanked them for the resurfacing of East Nineteenth Street. However, he asked the police to enforce the noise ordinance and the stop sign violations in the area. Jerry Hudgens, Assistant Chief of Police, reported he would check into the matter.

Dorothy Mitchell of 409 E. 11<sup>th</sup> then appeared before the Council to inquire about the time line for the repair of the drainage at 11<sup>th</sup> and Franklin. She would like to see this completed so 11<sup>th</sup> Street can be paved. Terry Rushing reported the City crews intend to repair the six hundred feet of drainage on 11<sup>th</sup> and Franklin, and that will take over a month. The paving will not be scheduled for this coming budget year.

Laveta Lockridge then appeared before the Council regarding the inability to see when pulling off of Fourth Street onto Carleton. Jerry Hudgens stated he would have the police check the parking in that area, and see what could be done.

Mayor Sayre reported the budget is almost complete, and will be ready for adoption at the next meeting.

The next item to come before the Council was the discussion regarding the loan of \$300,000 for a fifteen year period on the fire truck through USDA. The City will have a Sales Tax CD coming due in the amount of \$300,000 next month. If the City were to use those funds to pay off the loan, it would save approximately \$91,000. The Mayor asked the Council to consider this item for discussion at the next meeting.

Councilperson Simpson then motioned to hold closed session in regards to possible litigation, with Councilperson Mott seconding, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote on said question:

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

After reconvening into regular session, Councilperson Hood motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m., with Councilperson Pullam seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Diane Sayre, Mayor

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City Clerk