

CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
September 4, 2012

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 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
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Rodgers	Councilperson
Simpson	Councilperson
Grantham	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Merideth	Councilperson
Morgan	Councilperson
Mott	Councilperson
Pullam	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 Grantham, the minutes were approved unanimously.

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

Councilperson Morgan then reported the fire department had responded to four fire calls from August 27 through September 3, with two of the calls being out-of town calls. Recently a defensive driving course was conducted, with twenty-one firemen being in attendance, and ten police officers. The Police and Fire Committee had met prior to the meeting to interview an applicant to take the place of Andrew Thrasher who has left the department. Randall Lee was interviewed, and the Committee was recommending his employment to the Police Department. Councilperson Morgan motioned to approve the recommendation, with Councilperson Merideth 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
Hood	Yes	Pullam	Yes

Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager, then reported he had contacted Flynn Drilling regarding the repair of Well #2. The company had responded they would pull the well to determine the extent of the repairs for \$5,000. A contract price for repairs will be made after the well has been pulled. After discussion, Councilperson Grantham motioned to approve the expenditure of \$5,000 to have the well pulled, with Councilperson Simpson seconding, and motion carried. This is the well beside the levee on Third Street.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported the sign-ups for Pee Wee Football are finished. Over 40 children have signed up to play football. The league will play other towns this year. The High School is having their first tennis home game today. This is the first game in a long time, they have had at home. Visitors from Sikeston have commented on how nice the facility is.

John Ferguson then appeared before the Council to advise them he had written a grant to get additional equipment for the skate park from American Ramp Company. The additional equipment had been included in the bid for \$32,000, the City added three other pieces of equipment (sign frame, bench, and slotted trash receptacle), which raised the cost to \$34,317.59. Keith Davis reported the equipment has a twenty year warranty. After discussion, Councilperson Merideth motioned to approve the modified bid, with Councilperson Morgan, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Mayor Sayre then asked Mr. Ferguson to up-date the Council on some of the projects at the Exchange Building. Mr. Ferguson advised the Council that prospects have looked at the building, but need a facility that is ADA accessible. There are plans to install an elevator with the assistance of funds from the casino. Hopefully, the funds will come through for the project.

Terry Rushing, Operations Supervisor, reported he has sold a permit to the owners of Taven Apartments to rebuild.

Mayor Sayre then reported a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting was attempted, but a quorum was not present. The reason for the meeting was a request from Eric Petersen, who owns property on the east side of South Ward and on the north and south side of I-155. Mr. Petersen is requesting a commercial zone on the property so that a business might be constructed. Currently the property is zoned R-1. The members that were present at the Planning and Zoning Commission discussed allowing the property on the north side to be rezoned. Another meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission will be held. Counselor Dorroh reported the City could advertise a public hearing to help expedite the process for the property, and the hearing would be held the first meeting in October. Councilperson Mott motioned to hold a public hearing at the first meeting in October, with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried. In the meantime, a Planning and Zoning Commission will be rescheduled.

Eric Howell with the Pemiscot County Saddle Club then appeared before the Council regarding the rodeo that is being held at the American Legion Fairgrounds for St. Jude Hospital. The Saddle Club is expecting approximately 300 visitors nightly during the event. Mr. Howell asked if the City could provide lighting for the parking area. Terry Rushing reported the City has some portable lights that could be used for the event. Mr. Howell thanked the Council, and reported he hopes to make this an annual event.

Mayor Sayre then reported the City will need to hold a public hearing on September 17, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. to receive input from the public for the tax rate for the 2012 tax year. The Council has been provided information regarding the tax rate, and they were asked to review the information for the next meeting.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Mott motioned the meeting adjourn at 5:35 p.m., with Councilperson Simpson seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk