

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
NOVEMBER 5, 2012**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room in the Municipal building on Monday, November 15, 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
Morgan	Councilperson
Mott	Councilperson
Pullam	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Simpson	Councilperson
Grantham	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Merideth	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 of the last meeting. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Mott, seconded by Councilperson Morgan, 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 Grantham, seconded by Councilperson Hood, the bills were approved for payment unanimously.

Mayor Sayre then reported bids had been opened for the bids for the armory roof and the recreation center roof. One bid was received from Commercial Roofing out of Memphis as follows:

Armory	\$136,000
Recreation Center	\$15,500

The bids are higher than the estimates received before due to the prevailing wage, and the performance bond. Councilperson Pullam motioned to approve the bid, with Councilperson Mott seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sayre reported she had talked with the accountant regarding the payment for the armory roof. He suggested the funds be taken from the Capital Improvement Sales Tax Fund. This fund is to be used for Capital Improvements such as the roof. Councilperson Merideth motioned to

amend the budget in Capital Improvement Sales Tax for the armory roof in the amount of \$136,000. Councilperson Grantham seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sayre then recommended the Sales Tax Fund be amended to pay for the remaining portion of the Recreation Center Roof. The City had received \$10,500 in insurance for the roof, leaving a balance of \$5,000. After discussion, Councilperson Mott motioned to approve amending the budget in Sales Tax for the balance on the roof, with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

John Ferguson, Economic Developer, then reported he had applied to MoDot for an enhancement grant in the amount of \$295,000. The city's portion of the grant would have a 20% match required. He stated he would ask the casino for help with the project. The project would consist of a proposed walking path linking the exchange building and Reynolds Park, a proposed parking lot, and relocation of the flag pole. The grant had been submitted on November 2, and announcements will be made in January as to who will receive the grants.

Mayor Sayre then reported representatives from American Ramp took pictures of some of the local children using the skate park. The children told the representatives they were very excited about the skate park.

Councilperson Morgan then reported the fire department had reported nine fire calls from October 17 through November 5. Four of the calls were outside the city.

Police Chief, Tony Jones, then reported several officers attended a homicide seminar. The officers learned quite a bit from the seminar, and hope to be able to attend again in a couple of years. Chief Jones stated there is one speaker he would like to talk with the teachers. This would be a great benefit to the school.

Councilperson Rodgers then asked what kind of response the Chief had received regarding the Halloween event. Chief Jones stated there were approximately 1,000 children attended the event. The community has said many positive items. Mayor Sayre stated she has received many contributions from the community and businesses for the event. She wanted to thank everybody for their time and effort.

Terry Rushing then reported the house at 948 Madison had been demolished. The crews then loaded tires for Liberty tires, cleaned up the main streets, and assisted setting up for the Halloween event.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported the skate park is finished, and the center is getting a great response from the kids. He has had approximately 15 kids skating in one day. The Grand Opening will be held on Saturday, November 17, at 1:00 p.m. Key chains, t-shirts, skate boards, and other items will be given away that day. Mr. Davis thanked the Mayor, Council, and casino for all the help in getting the skate park constructed. Kick ball sign ups have started and will run until the 12th.

Terry Rushing reported he got a right of entry to the property at 900 East 9th to clean out the fence row on the Adams Street side. This is one of the locations where the “No Littering” signs will be placed.

Mr. Rushing then reported he had contacted the County and asked the commission to either abate the taxes on the property at 506 E. 13th and deed the property to the City or the County demolish the structure. The County is going to deed it over to the city, and abate the taxes. The City has taxes in the amount of \$186.47 on the property that will need to be abated. After discussion, Councilperson Mott motioned to approve the abatement on the taxes for the property, with Councilperson Pullam seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rushing then reported the City has received a grant from USDA Rural Development for a police vehicle and equipment for the police department. The grant is 55%/45%, with the city’s portion being approximately \$17,100 (total \$38,000). He asked the Council to consider increasing the Sales Tax Budget for the vehicle. After discussion, Councilperson Morgan motioned to approve the amendment to the Sales Tax budget, with Councilperson Merideth seconding, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Mr. Rushing then reported the gas pump has quit at the maintenance shed. Currently employees are charging gas at a local gas station. Mid-South Steel was contacted to replace the pump, and they returned a quote in the amount of \$5,020. One other company had been contacted, but would not return a quote. It was recommended the Sales Tax Budget be amended to pay for the pump replacement. After discussion, Councilperson Morgan motioned to approve the quote and amend the Sales Tax Budget, with Councilperson Merideth seconded the motion, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote:

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

Mr. Rushing then reported a one year warranty inspection was performed on the Public Safety Building. Several deficiencies were found, and the architect is sending a letter to the contractor regarding the problems. A copy of the letter will be sent to Rural Development.

John Ferguson then reported Trinity Marine is building an extension near the port. This will be a great asset for Trinity when it is completed.

Mayor Sayre then reported the audit has been completed, and the Council has been given a copy to review. The auditors found two issues: delinquent real estate and personal tax book and excess funds in the old bond account. The City Collector has provided a list of delinquent taxes from

2007 until current, and she will be at the next meeting. Counselor Dorroh stated he and the judge are currently working on the excess funds in the old bond account. The bonds will either be forfeited or returned to the payees. After discussion, Councilperson Grantham motioned to approve the audit, with Councilperson Morgan seconding, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote:

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

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Hood motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 p.m., with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk