

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
Public Hearing
February 18, 2014**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met for a public hearing in the Council room in the Municipal Building on Tuesday, February 18, 2014, at 5:00 p.m., at which time and place the following were present:

Sheila Simpson, Johnny Hood, James Mott, Phyllis Traughber, Richard Lee, Mike Abbott, John Ferguson, Dustin Price, John Christian, Emma Campbell, Keith Davis, Jerry Hudgens, Tony Jones, Paul Shaw, Randall Lee, Sue Grantham, Barbara Pullam, Lawrence Dorroh, Melinda Scifres, B. T. Merideth, and Barbara Rodgers,

The first order of business was to nominate an Acting President Pro Tem for the Council. Councilperson Hood nominated Councilperson Pullam as President Pro Tem, with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

The purpose of the hearing was to receive input from the public regarding two issues. The first item was the rezoning of the property on Hwy 84 known as the former Raben Tire Company. The Planning and Zoning Commission had received the request to change the zoning to an I-2 zone, which would allow a salvage yard or transfer station at the site. The Planning and Zoning Commission denied the request due to the residential area located near the site. The Commission felt this would not be a business that should be on the main entrance into the City. The property is currently zoned as a business area.

Councilperson Simpson stated she agreed with the recommendation of the Planning Commission. She stated the City wanted the business to locate here, but in a different location.

Councilperson Mott stated he felt the City needed the business to locate in the City, and the Council should allow the rezoning. He felt the business the owner has in Kennett has been kept in acceptable condition, and he would do the same for Caruthersville.

Mr. John Christian asked if the City had an industrial Park on South Ward, where a business of this nature could be located. Counselor Dorroh stated the business owner has been in negotiation with one of the owners of a building at the Industrial Park.

Councilperson Mott stated the business owner wants to put in a recycling center, and he feels this is needed. Mr. Christian stated he wanted the business to locate here, but in a different location, such as the Industrial Park. The City does not need another junk yard on Third Street coming into the city.

John Ferguson reported he has contacted one of the building owners at the Industrial Park for this type of business.

Phyllis Traughber reported she opposes this rezoning because it would be another eyesore on Hwy 84. She stated she is a preacher for a church near that location, and plans to move to

Caruthersville. This is a main entrance into town, and that is not the type of business that attracts people to the community.

Dustin Price, a member of the Planning Commission, reported the business owner was asked if he was willing to keep the building a recycling center. He told the Commission he would like to expand if the opportunity came along.

Counselor Dorroh stated when you rezone property, you are not looking just at the present people and use, but the future can change the use at any time. The Commission denied the request for that location. This concluded this portion of the hearing.

The next request was for the approval of a preliminary plat for a parcel of land adjacent to the Industrial Park. The owner has submitted a preliminary plat to the Planning Commission for a subdivision which would be constructed in phases. The first portion of the subdivision would be the section of land that faces South Ward. The subdivision would eventually go all the way to Greenwell Road.

Counselor Dorroh stated since this is a subdivision to the City there will be expense for the City to provide water and sewer lines to the subdivision. The Commission recommended the Council approve the preliminary plat. The property is zoned R-1, which is residential use only.

With no further input to the hearing, the hearing closed.

ATTEST:

Acting President Pro Tem

City Clerk

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
February 18, 2014
Regular Session**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room of the Municipal Building at 5:20 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2014, at which time and place the following were present:

Frank Morgan (Absent)	Mayor Pro Tem
Melinda Scifres	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Pullam	Acting President Pro Tem
Rodgers	Councilperson
Simpson	Councilperson
Grantham	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Merideth (Absent)	Councilperson
Mott	Councilperson

The number of members necessary to consider a quorum being present, the Acting President Pro Tem 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, bills, and reports. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Hood, seconded by Councilperson Mott, the minutes, bills, and reports were approved. The reports read as follows:

Christi Watkins, Court Clerk, reported \$76.29 in POST funds, \$77.12 in JEF Funds, \$11,112.61 in fines collected, and \$543.82 in CVC funds.

Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager, reported the following for January:

Water	\$70,440.66	Water	2329
Sewer	19,121.07	Sewer	2242
Garbage	34,238.89		
Meter Serv.	763.84		
Mo. Spray	540.00		
Primacy Fee	6.00		
Sewer Primacy	1.40		
Sewer Bond	10,208.24		
Bond Ser.	541.00		
St. Breaks	<u>1,000.00</u>		
TOTAL	\$136,861.10		

Charlie Jones, Fire Chief reported \$6,901.56 in salaries for January, and thirteen fire call responses.

Melinda Scifres, City Clerk, reported securities pledged for deposits at the banks as follows: First State - \$2,525,000; Focus Bank \$2,021,899.47; and Bank Star \$583,400.

Randall Lee, Building Inspector, reported \$325 in permit collected for January.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported \$14,215.09 in admissions to the recreation center for the month of January.

Donna Brooks, City Collector, reported \$16,956.25 in taxes collected, with \$162.23 in Commission, and \$237.78 for Assessment Fund.

Terry Rushing reported \$200 in rentals for the Armory.

The next order of business to come before the Council was the bids for the grates at Easthaven and Midtown. One bid was received from David Ledford in the amount of \$10,633.70 for the replacement of thirteen grates. Councilperson Mott motioned to approve the bid from David Ledford, with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and motion carried.

The next item of discussion to come before the Council was the salary for the Mayor. Acting President Pro Tem Pullam had called surrounding cities and found that Caruthersville pays the Mayor much more than those. Only one City pays health insurance for the Mayor. After discussion, Councilperson Hood motioned to leave the Mayor salary as it is, with Councilperson Mott seconding, and motion carried, with one no vote from Councilperson Rodgers.

Assistant Police Chief Jerry Hudgens then appeared before the Council to discuss the purchase of 25-30 cameras that would be placed all over the City to help deter the crime. The cameras would be placed on water towers and existing buildings and poles. These would be primarily placed at the entrances to the City. Other cities have done this and have been very pleased with the results. The cameras are not to be used for speeding. The approximate cost for the cameras and installation would be \$125,000, and Asset Forfeiture Funds would be used for the cameras. He was then asked about updates for the cameras and the computer that will be used for viewing. Assistant Chief Hudgens stated this is something they would need to building into their budget for the future. After further discussion, Councilperson Mott motioned to approve advertising for bids for the camera equipment, with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried.

The next item of discussion was the three Dodge Police cars. Assistant Chief Hudgens stated the department is constantly having problems with the cars, and they are now out of warranty. The radiators are leaking, and the department has already replaced one. Don Brown Chevrolet has received the state bid on the Tahoe, and will accept the Dodge Chargers as a trade-in. The department has a 2010 Silverado that needs to be replaced, and the dealership has agreed to take that vehicle as a trade in for a four wheel drive. The Police department was requesting the Council allow the purchase of three two wheel drive Tahoes, and one four wheel drive Tahoe, and trade three Dodge cars and one 2010 Silverado in on the Tahoes. The funding would come from the Asset Forfeiture Funds. After

discussion, Councilperson Hood motioned to approve the purchase with trade-ins from Asset Forfeiture funds as requested, with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and motion carried.

Councilperson Rodgers then reported that seven fire calls were answered by the fire department from February 6 through February 18, 2014.

Councilperson Hood then reported that repairs have been made at several lift stations. The water department did receive a resignation from Tim Constant that was effective on February 5, and they will need to get someone to replace him. The Water/Wastewater Manager reported he had funds budgeted for a saw and a trash pump. He contacted HD Supply and got a quote for the saw in the amount of \$995.00. Councilperson Hood motioned to approve the purchase, with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

The next item was a two inch trash pump for the field crews. One quote was received from HD Supply in the amount of \$735.00. Councilperson Simpson motioned to approve the purchase of the pump, with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

The Water department would like to purchase another 100 meters that will work with the remote read system. This will make 800 meters that have been purchased, which is approximately ½ of the meters in the system. Councilperson Hood motioned to approve the purchase of the 100 meters, with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

A request was then made that Tony Wynne be a Field Supervisor for the Water Department, and be given a \$1.00 an hour increase. Councilperson Mott motioned to approve the promotion and raise, with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried.

Councilperson Mott then asked if the Water Department was disposing all of the bad debts after the determination at the hearing. Counselor Dorroh stated the hearing was for two individuals only. The motion that was made at the hearing was the debt was not proven valid for the individuals that were running office only, and was for temporary meters. He stated he could not recommend anything on the issue for water bills on the bad debt list or other temporary meters.

Councilperson Rodgers then asked if something could be done about the trash across from Easthaven on Twentieth Street. The Housing Officer will talk with the Director of Housing to see what can be done about people putting their trash out early, and the Code Enforcement Officer will focus on the matter of litter in the area.

The Street Commissioner then asked the Council for approval to order base chat to repair street breaks at a cost of approximately \$1,000. Councilperson Rodgers motioned to approve the purchase, with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

The Code Enforcement Officer then reviewed his report with the Council, and advised the Council he had sent a letter to one property owner giving him until February 28 to have the far west lot on Highway 84 cleaned up. He is to submit a plan that will have the lot cleared by April 30, 2014. He had issued other citations and notices of violations in the last two weeks, and followed up on complaints.

The next order of business to come before the Council was the audit for fiscal year 12-13. Councilperson Simpson then motioned to table the audit until she can talk with the accountant. Councilperson Rodgers seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Counselor Dorroh then advised the Council a decision would need to be made regarding the rezoning of the property on Hwy 84 known as the former Raben Tire Building to I-2. Councilperson Mott motioned to accept the zoning request. The motion failed due to a lack of a second. Councilperson Simpson then motioned to deny the request for a zoning change, with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and motion carried with one no vote from Councilperson Mott.

The next issue to come before the Council was the approval of the preliminary plat for the property on South Ward. Councilperson Rodgers motioned to approve the plat, with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Simpson motioned the meeting adjourn at 6:40 p.m., with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

Acting President Pro Tem

City Clerk