

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
MARCH 17, 2014**

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

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

The first order of business was the nomination of an Acting Mayor Pro Tem. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Merideth, seconded by Councilperson Grantham, Councilperson Pullam was nominated unanimously for Acting Mayor Pro Tem.

The number of members necessary to consider a quorum being present, the Acting Mayor Pro Tem 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 Grantham, seconded by Councilperson Hood, the minutes, bills, and reports were approved unanimously. The reports read as follows:

Charlie Jones, Fire Chief, reported \$8,169.11 in salaries for February with sixteen fire calls.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported \$7,395.20 in admissions to the recreation center.

Donna Brooks, City Collector, reported \$14,055.42 in taxes collected, with \$234.08 in Collector's commission and \$163.22 in Assessment Fund.

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

Terry Rushing, Street Commissioner, reported \$1,100 in rentals for the armory, and \$1,332.23 for other fees paid to the City.

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

Water	\$ 85,637.81	Water Customers	2329
Sewer	22,877.76	Sewer Customers	2242
Garbage	35,072.42		
Meter Service	799.37		
Mo. Spray	566.01		
Primacy Fee	7.00		
Sewer Primacy	3.50		
Sewer Bond	10,504.30		
Bond Service	<u>541.00</u>		
Total	\$156,603.84		

Christi Watkins, Court Clerk, reported \$61.06 in POST funds, \$11,233.35 in fines collected, \$123.00 Sheriff’s Retirement, \$60.93 in JEF funds, and \$435.21 in CVC funds.

The next order of business to come before the Council was a discussion of the salary for Chief of Police. Councilperson Merideth motioned to table the matter until the next meeting, with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried. A Police and Fire Committee meeting will be held prior to the next meeting.

The next item to come before the Council was the vacation time for the police and fire departments. Councilperson Rodgers motioned to table the discussion for the vacation time, with Councilperson Mott seconding, and motion carried.

Councilperson Rodgers reported the fire department had answered six calls during the period of March 11 through March 17. Several training classes were scheduled in March - one for pipelines and the other would be a storm spotter class held by the National Weather Service. Fire Chief Jones then reported the lighting in the hallway at the Public Safety Center constantly stayed on. He asked that the lights have a sensor put on them to turn them off. He had received two quotes to change the lighting, and the quotes read as follows:

Hampton Electric	\$270.00
Peeler & Sons	625.00

After discussion, Councilperson Merideth motioned to approve the low bid from Hampton Electric. Councilperson Hood seconded the motion, and motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief Jones then reported the generator at the Public Safety Building has not been serviced since it was installed over a year ago. Two qualified vendors to service the generator were contracted to give quotes on the service, and the quotes read as follows:

Hill Electric	\$701.57
Tipton Electrical	1000.00

Both companies are certified to service a Generac generator. After discussion, Councilperson Grantham motioned to accept the low bid from Hill Electric, with Councilperson Simpson seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Simpson then expressed her gratitude to the Police and Fire Departments for their action during a fire on Collins. Her grandchildren were in the house, and the departments carried out their duties to the best of their ability, and she appreciates their hard work.

Police Chief Tony Jones then reported Officer Michael Hopper will be leaving the Police Department on March 31, 2014. His final work day will be on March 21st. Councilperson Merideth motioned to accept the resignation, with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Police Chief Jones then reported that two Easter Egg Hunts have been scheduled within the community. Asset Forfeiture funds can be used for community events. He asked the Council to approve \$1000.00 be taken from the account and split between both of the agencies that are sponsoring the event for children. Councilperson Simpson motioned to approve the funds from Asset Forfeiture, with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried.

Police Chief Tony Jones then reported to the Council that the Police Department had a 2010 Silverado four door/four wheel drive truck that could be given to the Code Enforcement Officer if the Council would allow \$10,000 for the truck, so the department could purchase another Tahoe. After the \$10,000, the remainder of funds for the Tahoe would come from Asset Forfeiture Funds. After discussion, Councilperson Merideth motioned to table the purchase of a truck, with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried.

Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager, reported the heat/air unit in his office had quit working. Three bids had been sought for the replacement of the unit as follows:

Chris Peeler and Sons	\$ 995.00
Guy's Refrigeration	1,100.00
Hill Electric	\$1,169.27

Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Mott, seconded by Councilperson Hood seconding and motion carried. The replacement of the unit will be paid for from the Water & Sewer Operation and Maintenance Fund, equipment and maintenance line.

Mr. Shaw then reported DNR had performed an inspection on the water plant last Friday, and the City received a good report.

Terry Rushing, Street Commissioner, reported cold asphalt will not be available from the plant until April. In the meantime, potholes will be filled with chat. He has talked with the mechanic regarding the John Deere tractor, and he said he cannot give a quote to tear the tractor apart to

determine what is wrong. The mechanic would have to completely disassemble the top part of the tractor, and then go into the motor to see what is wrong. An advertisement has been placed to see how much a new tractor would cost.

Randall Lee, Code Enforcement Officer, reported he had sent out four notices to abate a nuisance, three letters to vacate, repair or demolish structures, and followed up on other complaints. He is still working on the Churchill property.

John Ferguson then reported the Planning Commission had met with the owners of the property at 15th and Schult. The property behind the Public Safety Building was not rezoned to business, and has remained R-2. The lots on the front of the block that face Ward Avenue have been rezoned to B-1. The property in question is lots 4-9 in Block 27 of Hunter’s Addition. Three of the lots belong to the City, and the other two belong to Jim Brands. The Planning Commission recommended approving the change. A public hearing has been set for April 7, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

The Housing Authority has reported two appointments needs to be to the Housing Authority Board before April 1 as follows: Joey Ledford and Rodney Fisher. Mayor Pro Tem Morgan has written a letter asking the appointments be approved. Councilperson Rodgers motioned to approve the appointments, with Councilperson Merideth seconding, and motion carried.

Councilperson Mott then motioned to hold closed session regarding real estate, with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote:

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

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Mott motioned the meeting adjourn at 5:56 p.m., with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

Acting President Pro Tem

City Clerk