

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
JUNE 16, 2014**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room in the Municipal Building on Monday, June 16, 2014, at 5:00 p.m., at which time and place the following were present, to-wit:

Rick Davis	Mayor
Melinda Scifres	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Merideth (Absent)	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Cartee	Councilperson
Grantham	Councilperson
Hood	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, bills and reports. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Rodgers, seconded by Councilperson Cartee, the minutes, bills and reports were unanimously approved. The reports read as follows:

Donna Brooks, City Collector, reported \$4,951.07 collected in taxes, with \$49.53 in Collectors commission, and \$34.75 in Assessment Funds.

Charlie Jones, Fire Chief, reported \$6,792.25 in salaries for May, and fourteen fire calls.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported \$10,102.02 in admissions to the recreation center for May.

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

Christi Watkins, Court Clerk, reported \$6,266.68 in fines collected, with \$42.67 POST funds, \$304.25 in CVC funds, \$114.00 in Sheriff's Retirement System, and \$42.70 in JEF funds.

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

Water	\$ 74,559.09
Sewer Use	20,751.94
Garbage Fees	35,699.82
Meter Serv.	796.35
Mos. Spray	561.70
Primacy Fee	3.00
Sewer Bond	10,375.42
Bond Serv.	541.00
Interest	117.81
Long/Short	-301.78
Credit Card Fee	<u>-291.19</u>
TOTAL	\$142,813.16

Fire Chief Jones then reported between June 7 through June 16, there were four fire calls. He has scheduled training for the area departments at the Marquis Plant on Hwy 84. The Council will need to sign for acceptance on the promulgation statement for the Emergency Operation Plan. The information will be sent to the state and placed on file. Fire Chief Jones then reported J & M Display will conduct the fireworks display on Friday, July 4. The display will be on Bunge property behind City Hall when it becomes dark. The manager of Bunge has given permission to use the property.

Police Chief Jones advised the community that fireworks will not be tolerated within the City limits. Citations will be given to parents for the offense. He then reported two officers attended class to qualify as firearm instructors. Officers Lucas Horrell and Quntazi Jones can now give training at the firing range in Steele to the officers, and can train them on the AR15 rifles. Police Chief Jones then reported he has met with ladies from the Civitan Club regarding ways to increase the Public Safety in their area.

Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager, reported the Primacy Fee and the Sewer Primacy Fee will be added to the water bills next month. This is a fee that DNR requires be added to the bills to assist in paying for the lab testing that is necessary for drinking water, and on wastewater. Mr. Shaw had presented the Council with a list of leaks that have been found in the City. He reported which leaks have been fixed. Mayor Davis asked that the Council be kept up-to-date on the progress of the repairs.

Terry Rushing, Street Commissioner, reported during the last storm there was wind that blew some trees over, and the streets were starting to flood because a storm drain pump had quit. He thanked the Police, Fire, Water and Sewer departments for their assistance during the storm. The efforts displayed a lot of teamwork. The dump truck that hauls the cold asphalt from Cape, lost power today, and will need to be fixed. Mr. Rushing reported he had attended an airport board meeting, where he learned the City has \$525,488 available in grant funds. The engineer has presented plans for a five unit hangar. Bids will be opened on July 9 for this project. Future funds may not be given to the City unless the airport becomes a ten based unit facility.

Randall Lee reported that 45 of the properties on his list from last meeting have mowed their properties, but he has sent out fourteen new notices. Twenty-One properties will be turned over to the Street department to be mowed, and ten citations have been submitted to the court. Mr. Lee then reported he has issued two notices to vacate or demolish a structure. He has continued working

with one property owner regarding tall grass at multiple sites. He inspected the salvage yard and found several violations, he has talked with the owners, and will be sending a written notice.

Wanda Proctor of 1111 West 11th Street then appeared before the Council regarding the water line that had been recently placed down Collins. The contractor did not fix the block between 11th and 12th Streets, but her husband did correct the problem. Paul Shaw reported he will check the problem, and discuss this with the engineer.

Dorothea Cagle then appeared before the Council to ask who is responsible for mowing the alleys. Counselor Dorroh stated it could be considered the City's responsibility because of the utility easements. However, if the alley closes it reverts to adjacent property owners and could be considered as part of the owner's property. The City would need to purchase equipment, and additional manpower to clean the alleys. The Street Commissioner stated the City crews will go into an alley when it is reported, and do the initial clean up, so the property owners can continue to maintain.

A resident of 1900 Dudley then came before the Council to ask whose responsibility it is to remove road kill such as a skunk from the road. Mr. Rushing reported he will contact the animal control officer about the animal.

Mayor Davis then reported to the Council that the City's Economic Developer will not be working as closely with the City in the future. He will be working at the Port Authority. Mr. Ferguson has advised that he will still work some as Economic Developer, but his main job will be the Port.

The next item of business to come before the Council was budget amendments for the 2013-2014 fiscal year as prepared by Doug McDowell, CPA. Mr. McDowell asked the Council to authorize him to make necessary amendments to the budget once the year ends to keep the City in compliance with State law. After discussion, Councilperson Grantham motioned to allow Mr. McDowell to make the amendments as requested, with Councilperson Bullington seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McDowell had presented a preliminary sheet for budget amendments to the Council, as follows:

See next page

The next item to come before the Council was the approval of the budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Councilperson Bullington reviewed the budget with the Council. This budget is a work in progress. Items the department heads have requested are incorporated into the appendix of the budget. The Council must have a budget in place before July 1 for the new fiscal year. After reviewing the budget, Councilperson Cartee motioned to approve the budget, with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried unanimously. (Copy on file in City Clerk's office)

The next item for discussion was the Street Crime Task Force. Counselor Dorroh advised from a legal prospective, the contract was in good form. Cities would work together in high crime areas to alleviate some of the problems in an area. Each City would be responsible only for their employees, even though they would be working with a different department. The officers would be paid an overtime rate for working the task force. The Cities that work the task force will be reimbursed upon the forms being submitted to the state. Police Chief Jones was unaware if there is a limit to the reimbursement funds for each department. After discussion, Councilperson Rodgers motioned to allow the police department to participate in the street crime task force, with Councilperson Cartee seconding, and motion carried unanimously/

Counselor Dorroh then reviewed a draft of a firearms ordinance. A businessman has made a request that the property on South Ward be rezoned to allow an indoor firing range and archery range. The request is to also allow an outdoor paintball range. This would be allowed in a B-2 range. No action is necessary at this time by the Council. The Planning and Zoning Commission would need to review the request, and make recommendations to the Council. Councilperson Grantham motioned to turn the matter over to the Planning and Zoning Commission, with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Hood motioned the meeting adjourn, at 5:57 p.m., with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk