

CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
August 1, 2016

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Monday, August 1, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council room of the Municipal Building at which time and place the following were present:

Mike McGraw	Mayor
Takella Motton	City Clerk
James DeReign	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Duckworth (Absent)	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Cartee	Councilperson
Cheek	Councilperson
Hood (Absent)	Councilperson
Merideth	Councilperson
Harmon	Councilperson
Rodgers	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 July 18, 2016 minutes. Councilperson Merideth motion for approval, second by Councilperson Harmon, which resulted in the following vote:

Bullington	Yes	Cartee	Abstain
Cheek	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes

Councilperson Merideth motion to approve the reports and bills, second by Councilperson Bullington, which resulted in the following vote:

Bullington	Yes	Cartee	Yes
Cheek	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes

The next order of business was presentation of petitions, letters, and other communications. James Board, Republic Services, addressed the Council and audience as to whether or not there are any questions or comments about services rendered by Republic. Councilperson Harmon commented on Ward 3 trash pickup being a day behind for a couple of weeks, and wanted to know if it had been caught

up. Mr. Board stated that when the regular person takes off that there's a fill in and that person isn't familiar with the route. The fill in has been given an up to date map and more training, and hopefully that should take care of the problem. Councilperson Merideth made mention of the Mayor's report stating not to overfill the totes, but if it's not picked up when it's supposed to, then it will be overfilled. He personally thought that the only problem was with the totes, until a letter was submitted by a business complaining about their dumpster pickup. Councilperson Harmon commented on the dumpsters not being picked up in a timely manner is an issue. James Board stated that if their running a day behind and a tote is overfilled the driver should get out and take care of the trash. Mr. Board stated that any problems like that he could be contacted at (573)891-9527. Mr. Board stated that he either talks or text Terry Rushing at least twice a week. Also was mentioned that one of the guys has National Guard duty on Monday's and Friday's, but that they have someone taking up the slack as of now.

Doug McDowell stated that Mr. Board had called his office in regards to the letter that was sent to the Mayor and Council concerning the problems with their dumpster pick up. The driver had told McDowell Middleton that he couldn't come down the alley because of Mediacom's sagging line. They went two weeks without any trash pickup. Once the line was taken care of the dumpster was emptied and McDowell asked what their regular day of pickup was. He was told Tuesday, they picked up the following Friday because they were behind. The next week there was not any trash pickup, it has been very inconsistent, there have been four weeks out of the last three months of no trash pickup. Mr. Board stated that he had the letter that was written to the City, and would be turning it over to the office. McDowell & Middleton will be written a check from Republic or given credit on their account. Republic Services does have a backup truck as for now for any unforeseen problems.

The City received a letter from Jesus Name Tabernacle in regards to overbilling from the Water department. They have been charged for a year for sewer, in which they have a septic tank. They have also being charged a dumpster fee for several months, and don't have a dumpster. They haven't received a bill for the last two months, because the Water department has been trying to calculate the charges. Richard Lee, Jesus Name Tabernacle, is requesting a refund not a credit for the parishioners. Councilperson Harmon stated they he would talk with Paul Shaw review the situation and get back with Richard Lee.

The City received a letter of credit from First State Bank and Trust. Councilperson Cartee explained that at this time the amount being held at the bank for the City does not require a bond being pledged. Recently there have been two bonds called and have been released. If the city's holdings exceed \$ 2 million, then the bank would pledge bonds or securities to secure the money.

The Cemetery Board met on July 21, 2016. Discussion was primarily about the marking, locating, and opening/closing of graves ending with H. S. Smith Funeral Home on July 14, 2016. The Mayor received recommendations from Carter, German, and Brimhall Funeral homes for T. J. Shallie. Mr. Shallie agreed to \$400 for o/c, the previous cost being \$450 for o/c. Ms. Parkinson made motion for the City to retain the services of Mr. Shallie, second by Polly Lunceford, and the motion passed. The Mayor made mention of some of the Council wanting to divest from Little Prairie Cemetery. Ms. Parkinson stated that the City should continue ownership and operation of the cemetery. The Mayor recommended the Council to accept Melissa McClain in the place of Elizabeth Cutler; she's resigning due to medical reasons.

Councilperson Cartee motion for the appointment, second by Councilperson Merideth, which resulted in the following vote:

Bullington	Yes	Cartee	Yes
Cheek	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes

Councilperson Bullington inquired of the Cemetery minutes showing \$75,000 as the fund balance of the cemetery fund, but is actually \$63,543.51. Councilperson Cartee wanted to know if Mr. Shallie had liability insurance, the Mayor said that he would check. Councilperson Harmon motion to table any more discussion on the cemetery, second by Cartee, which resulted in the following vote:

Bullington	Yes	Cartee	Yes
Cheek	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes

Mayor's report; there will be a list of surplus property that the public can bid on with sealed bids to be opened on August 24, 2016, which will be posted in the paper. Councilperson Bullington motion to take bids for surplus property, second by Councilperson Cartee, which resulted in the following vote:

Bullington	Yes	Cartee	Yes
Cheek	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes

The Horner Shifrin construction documents in regards to the HVAC in pool area of The Diane Sayre Recreation Center are available at City Hall an ad is in the local paper, and a free professional listing can be located on the Dodge Report website. Lincoln and 18th St. has opened, and paving is anticipated late August, early September. The Lagers representative will be here soon once the actuarial study is done for Lagers on the City's retirement plan. The Mayor will be checking with Counselor Dorroh as to whether or not Brantley Lane needs an ordinance or resolution for its name change. The airport courtesy car guidelines for usage have been supplied. Normal field hours are from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

The courtesy key can be obtained from the maintenance personnel with a valid driver's license. After hours, the keys will be locked in the maintenance office, to gain access there will be a number that can be called. A drop box will be located in the flight plan/lounge room where keys can be dropped off when returning keys after normal field hours. The air conditioner is in need of repair for the courtesy car. Councilperson Cartee motion for the air conditioner to be repaired and the courtesy car to be put back in service, second by Councilperson Merideth, which resulted in the following vote:

Bullington	Yes	Cartee	Yes
Cheek	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes

The street pavement has been completed for 7th St., W. 9th, two blocks of Locust, one block of Grand, two blocks of Henrietta, block of Washington, and the rear entrance of the Public Safety Building.

The ceiling of the Pavilion is loose which needs to be fixed, and the plaques are being ordered. Donations for tables and grills will be sought at a later time. The 4th Annual Backyard BBQ will be August 5th and 6th 2016.

Nick Cartee reported that a routine inspection was done at the Animal Shelter on July 21, 2016. There was an inventory of 8 cats, 3 puppies, 5 kittens, and 1 dog. There were no non-compliant items identified in the inspection. From July 1, 2016 to July 31, 2016 there have been at the shelter 21 dogs and 11 cats, intake; 23 dogs and 23 cats, owner's pickup; 2 dogs. Animal Rescue took in 3 dogs and 5 cats, no euthanization, and pickup of 12 expired cats. Wildlife expired that was picked up; 21 squirrels, 5 rabbits, 15 skunks, 8 opossums, and 8 snakes.

The towers at the Public Safety Building were struck by lightning, and some equipment was damaged. The equipment purchase will be \$3,040, which will be taken out of the Equipment Maintenance Budget. Reimbursement will be compensated through insurance for the equipment.

There were 6 fire calls from July 20, 2016 to August 1, 2016. On July 20, 2016; there was a smoke scare on West 8th St., July 20, 2016; gas leak on Grand, July 21, 2016; a semi-tractor trailer was afire on I-55, July 23, 2016; an electrical line was down on Henrietta and Laurant, July 25, 2016; fire alarm sounding at Pemiscot County Courthouse, and July 27, 2016; a tree limb touching an electrical line causing arching on Truman. Fire inspections were done at Lady Luck Casino on July 25, 2016. There have been 111 membership renewals for the Rural Fire Subscription since May 30, 2016. There were a total of 135 members in 2015.

Councilperson Bullington wanted to know the procedures of the humane officer off duty calls, whether or not calls were made directly to him, or if the police contacted him for the calls. Tony Jones stated that the humane officer comes in every other Saturday for cleanup and the feeding of the animals. Tony stated that if it was something major that they did call him out. Councilperson Bullington asked if there could be a log in sheet with the time, who called, and who told him to go out. Bullington asked if the police could make the determination for the humane officer to go out beyond the normal work day and for it to be logged. She stated that the overtime was out of control and that there was a need for some oversight.

Street & Sanitation; the last couple of week have been very busy, drainage was put in that has been in the works for a long time. The only thing lacking is putting in a culvert box and a strand of pipe on E. 11th St. The new dump truck is here and in operation. Assistance was given for the sewer line and tap for the bails bond building on Ward, and the following week assisted with the water tap that goes across the street. There was a large amount of limbs and debris picked up from the storm and junk. Councilperson Cartee asked if there were business licenses on the Churchill properties. Terry Rushing stated that he had talked with Eddie Taylor about the property on Hwy 84. It was discussed that mowing took place around the cars but nothing in between. The China King property has grown up as well, it was half mowed also. Terry stated that he had talked with Bob Churchill and that he had hired someone to cut the property on Hwy 84, but their lawnmower tore up trying to do so, and will be looking into see if the person will come back. Councilperson Cartee was concerned about getting something done about the cars on Hwy 84, with the new business coming in and Wal-Mart being in for a remodel. Councilperson Bullington asked about the property on Ward Ave. Terry stated that he had

talked to Wendell Hoskins, and that he was busy, and if no contact was made that a letter would have to be sent to start the process. Jimmy Hibbler made comments from the audience as to how the Code Enforcement, Police department, and the Judge worked hand and hand in the past, and got the City cleaned up. The property owners were ticketed, fined, or put in jail for noncompliance with notice to abate nuisance. There was no begging and pleading for the property owners to clean up their property, the fines were extensive, and therefore they were compliant.

Park & Recreation; the baseball season is over, and there was a lot of support from the community coming out to the games. The twelve and under got two third place trophies, the ten and under got a second and third place trophy, and the eight and under got a second place trophy. Park & Recreation will be working with Jamie Jones with flag football for 7 to 10 year olds. They're also looking at tackle football for the 10 to 12 year olds. Jamie Jones has sponsors in place for the insurance, and they're looking to possibly having a football camp. Currently there is no fee charged for the kids to come and play. They are looking forward to getting the kids back interested in the sport. The Mayor made mention of the hard surface to be implemented at French Park off of Turner field. He also mentioned a group that was writing grants for water fountains for French and England parks. Councilperson Bullington asked about the status of the swim team. Currently there's still a swim team, there's people from Cape Girardeau that's paying for the use of the pool.

Teresa Tidwell reported that the July was the biggest month ever, there were almost a 1,000 patrons coming through the doors. There were over 400 kids to take part in the Summer Reading program. Secretary of State Jason Kander will be at the library on August 13, 2016, and will be meeting in the auditorium.

Rebecca Morgan reported for the month of July the turnover was for \$16,625.54, and there were a total of \$1,525.00 money taken in for business licenses. In August she noticed that by going over an existing business list that there were about 50 businesses operating without a license. Some of the people that were called didn't know they needed a license, they didn't do any business for the year, or there's no code for the business operator in the code book.

Councilperson Bullington suggested the Mayor ask John Ferguson to attend the EPA Brownfields Grant Proposal Writing Strategies Workshop August 17, 2016 in Jefferson City, MO. The workshop is for community leaders, developers, planners, and consultants. If John Ferguson accepts to write a grant the City would pay for his services and it would be an excellent way to get McCoy's Salvage dealt with.

Business from the floor; Ella Coleman was concerned about the hole in the middle of 18th St across from Head Start, and wanted to know when it was going to be fixed. Ms. Coleman also mentioned B&H plan to help clean up McCoy's. The street is on Terry's list to get done, and McCoy's owners are hard to get in contact with. Rebecca Swims was concerned about 604 Grand property owner negligence of the property. Terry stated he would send a letter to the tenant and the owner. Jimmy Hibbler stated that on E. 11th St. there's a property that's being neglected and the house need to be torn down. Terry Rushing stated that he has to go through the process by sending a letter first.

It was asked of attorney DeReign what could be done to move the process further along. DeReign stated that you have two categories the living and the dead. The living you summons to court to pay a fine, if there's noncompliance you summons the following week with another fine, and continue to give the certification, and if it's not paid, then you go to jail. In the case of a dead person, then you deal with the heirs of the property. If there's no one that can open up an estate, then the City as a creditor can step up and open up the estate. In the situation of county owned property from delinquent taxes, the county and city would have to come to agreement of addressing any issues that may arise with the property.

The Jesus Name Tabernacle will be having a dinner August 10, 2016 between 6 pm and 8 pm to show appreciation for the Police departments of Caruthersville, Hayti and the Sherriff's department in the wake of current events in the country. Ella Coleman and the Bootheel Ladies Civitan are in the process of getting plaques for the Police department and preparing a meal that will be presented at the Public Safety Center.

Councilperson Bullington motion to go into closed session for the purpose of personnel matters, leasing, purchase or sale of real estate, second by Councilperson Harmon, which resulted in the following vote:

Bullington	Yes	Cartee	Yes
Cheek	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes

Upon returning from closed session and with no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Cartee motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Harmon, with all in favor. The meeting adjourned a 6:39 pm.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor