

CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
February 20, 2018

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Tuesday February 20, 2018 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
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Hood (Absent)	Councilperson
Merideth	Councilperson
Grantham	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Duckworth	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Cartee (Absent)	Councilperson
Rittenberry	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 February 5, 2018 regular session minutes. Councilperson Merideth motion to approve, second by Councilperson Duckworth which resulted in the vote:

Merideth	Yes	Grantham	Yes
Rodgers	Yes	Duckworth	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Rittenberry	Absent

Councilperson Duckworth motion to approve the closed session minutes, second by Councilperson Merideth, which resulted in the following vote:

Merideth	Yes	Grantham	Yes
Rodgers	Yes	Duckworth	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Rittenberry	Absent

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

Merideth	Yes	Grantham	Yes
Rodgers	Yes	Duckworth	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Rittenberry	Absent

Presentation of petitions, letters, and other communications; John Chittenden addressed the Council about the drainage issues on Belle which would have been a long term fix to pick up a substantial amount of water. What was presented earlier to the Council were improvements that would eliminate a nuisance spot. Mr. Chittenden and Terry Rushing are proposing at this time a more cost effective method with Street and Sanitation doing some of the remaining drainage projects and the more in depth project which would be 9th and Belle to be done by a contractor. The in house work would include 10th and Belle by running a cross pipe under Belle from west to east to take to the main drain pipe. The 18 hundred block of Walker down to 20th St. a drain pipe can be put underground, and an add on of 20th and Kelly Dr. could be done All the in house work can be done plus some additions for the same price for what has already been approved by the Council for contracted work. A contractor would put in a curb box on the north and south side of 9th and Belle which would push water into the new drain line. The contracted work can be done right away, and the in house would have to be prioritized so that the project wouldn't be engulfed by the daily activities. The in house project would start on Belle, Walker, and then 20th and Kelly. There was also talk about possibly fining contractors or residents for not following the City's rules and regulations for the cleanup of construction debris, which take away from City workers doing their tasks.

Councilperson Duckworth made motion for a budget amendment out of Sales Tax for the 9th and Belle project in the amount of \$17,035 and the 7th and Maple project for \$10,955. Councilperson Grantham second the motion, which resulted in the following vote:

Merideth	Yes	Grantham	Yes
Rodgers	Yes	Duckworth	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes

The sewer work that was done on 20th St. went over budget in the amount of \$25,000, and an amendment is requested to come out of the Sewer Extension fund. Councilperson Duckworth motion for approval, second by Councilperson Merideth, which resulted in the following vote:

Merideth	Yes	Grantham	Yes
Rodgers	Yes	Duckworth	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes

The estimated cost for the Mooreland Drive project is \$265,000 which is budgeted for out of the Street project; the request is to seek bids. Councilperson Duckworth motion for approval, second by Councilperson Rodgers, which resulted in the following vote:

Merideth	Yes	Grantham	Yes
Rodgers	Yes	Duckworth	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes

The Mayor made mention of the state emergency management agency letter that he received about the flood maps that will be used for the proposed special flood hazard areas that will be presented on the flood insurance rate map. John Chittenden stated that it was very important to respond to the letter for comments because there have been areas that have been deemed flood zones

that had never been before. Dave Wyman with MODOT also mentioned that there have been errors made in regards to flood maps. Mr. Wyman came to address the Council and public about signage that inform people about gas, food, lodging, and attractions in a community. There are welcome signs or monument options that the City can get. The welcome signs have to be within MODOT's ROW at the City's expense and have a breakaway system. Welcome monuments have to be outside of their ROW because it's a non-moveable object. The blue signs for gas, food, lodging, and attractions can be obtained through a program with Missouri Logos, in which businesses can subscribe to. The plaquered sign is \$1,000 a year per sign. Ron Young can be contacted at 1-800-666-3514 for interested parties. There's also a STP Urban Development program which is an 80/20 matching program through the federal government. The City has \$85,277.09 left in the fund, which is targeted for an overlay of 20th St. Mr. Wyman also stated that MODOT will be installing lighting on Exit 4 and Exit 6 in 2020. There was a question about MODOT's responsibility in mowing exits off the highway. They only mow for visibility not aesthetics, and usually twice a year. Chief Charlie Jones inquired about MODOT extinguishing fires on the interstate. MODOT has taken a back seat and has left extinguishing fires to the experts; they deal with the maintenance of the highways.

Brian Shelton, Conservation Agent, addressed the Council about the coyote issue. Mr. Shelton stated that coyotes are scavengers with mice being the majority of their staple. Table scraps, dog and cat food that is left out is what attract them to certain areas. Trapping season ended in January, but with the problem the City has endured; help with the problem can be addressed. A trapper can be employed by the City with either the foothold or cable restraint method, which does not kill the animal.

Counselor Dorroh stated that the insurance packets would be released February 21, 2018, there's a HIPPA agreement that has to be signed before receiving the packet. Quotes are set up to receive bids and information from different agencies. There's also an option to reject all bids and look at the renewal rate with the current plan.

Mayor's report; Liberty Utilities had announced a rate increase of \$9.51 per month; it is now scheduled to be \$14.09 for SEMO and \$2.06 for NEMO, with the average being \$7.69. There's a hearing March 23, 2018 at 12:00 a.m. at Sikeston City Hall. Edward Reeves has heard from the state courts about the Brownsfield application process concerning McCoy's Salvage, which will likely be filed in court this week. The State Surplus prices for cars range from \$1,800 to \$14,000. Mayor McGraw asked how much the Council was willing to spend for an airport courtesy car; the recommendation was a range between \$5,000 and \$6,000. Councilperson Merideth motion for approval up to \$6,000 out of Sales Tax, second by Councilperson Grantham, which resulted in the following vote:

Merideth	Yes	Grantham	Yes
Rodgers	Yes	Duckworth	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes

Scott Lawrence with SEMO Health Network will be making an announcement in March regarding the location and services to be provided to the community. Janice Ballard with Healthy Communities in the Heartland will be making a decision about office space by the end of the month. Applications and positions that are available will be emailed to City Hall.

Police report; Chief Tony Jones reported that the department were in the process of updating the procedures for school safety in the wake of the recent shootings. Liberty Utilities will be changing out to electronic meters through a company called Nitron for the next 2 to 3 weeks.

Fire report; Chief Charlie Jones reported fire calls from February 12, 2018 through February 20, 2018 as follows: 2/12/18; Vehicle accident on Route E, 2/18/18; Fire alarm sounding due to cooking on Madison, 2/19/18; Dead tree on fire behind levee off County Rd. 542. There were 3 fire inspections conducted between February 6, 2018 and February 19, 2018. The department will be participating in the statewide tornado drill March 6, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Street & Sanitation; Terry reported on the normal picking up of limbs, debris, and junk. The department cleaned up the different job sites and removed cones. Two of the City workers along with the 2 Mers Goodwill volunteers picked up 80 bags of litter. Six alleys were repaired, and procedures are underway for the burnt house on East 5th St.

Code Enforcement; Sonya Fuller reported that 10 letters were sent to abate nuisance, and a couple were rectified by talking to the residents. Assistance has been given to the Collector's office as was requested. There have been several calls about automotive repairs at residences within the City, which is a violation of City code. Counselor Dorroh stated that a separate type of letter could be sent out or go directly to court proceedings. Chief Tony Jones made mention that upon the last check with Churchill, 193 cars were being crushed and sold. There was a question as to what happens after notice to abate nuisance was sent out. The next step would be to file a complaint with the Police department, and they will file a probable cause statement and submit it to the Court. Charges are filed and they come before the Court and they receive a fine. Each day can be a separate offense if it's not addressed, which usually don't occur unless there's non-compliance. If they can't pay the fine, then there's a show cause hearing, if it's not a good cause they will be held in contempt. This would carry a jail sentence or other penalties can be instituted. The other route is that the City cleans up the nuisance and access to their taxes. Councilperson Rodgers made mention of the thumbs down for Code Enforcement helping the City Collector with her duties, and Councilperson Rodgers didn't think it was fair with the Council instructing Code Enforcement to do so, and asked Christina Williams for a retraction.

Park & Recreation; Wes Deere reported that baseball and basketball signups are still underway. March 3, 2018 is the beginning of the adult softball tournament. The men's basketball tournament starts February 22, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Baton twirling classes will be conducted on Monday nights; contact can be made with the Recreation Center for more information.

Library report; Teresa Tidwell reported that the staff would be visiting another daycare with the ipads and board books. March 2, 2018 is Read Across America Day, and preschools will be visiting the Library.

Water & Sewer; Mayor McGraw stated that there wasn't a quorum for the Water Committee meeting and the adjustment report needed approval. Councilperson Grantham motion for approval, second by Councilperson Rittenberry, which resulted in the following vote:

Merideth	Yes	Grantham	Yes
Rodgers	Yes	Duckworth	Yes

Bullington

Yes

Rittenberry

Yes

Insurance report: Councilperson Rittenberry reported that he talked with the current provider for the City's' health insurance as to what they would have to offer with renewal regarding the bid process.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Duckworth motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Grantham with all in favor, the meeting adjourning at 6:55 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk

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