

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE**  
**January 18, 2017**

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Wednesday, January 18, 2017, 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
Cartee	Councilperson
Cheek	Councilperson
Hood (Absent)	Councilperson
Merideth	Councilperson
Harmon	Councilperson
Rodgers (Absent)	Councilperson
Duckworth	Councilperson
Bullington	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 January 3, 2017 minutes. Councilperson Harmon motion to approve, second by Councilperson Merideth, which resulted in the following vote:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes

Councilperson Cartee motion to approve the December 19, 2016 closed session minutes, second by Councilperson Harmon, which resulted in the following vote:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes

Councilperson Cartee motion for approval of reports and bills, second by Councilperson Duckworth, which resulted in the following vote:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes

John Chittenden addressed the Council with his observations of the Waste Water Plant's oxidation ditch. There was an irregular replacement project done in August. Units were put in, and the

initial startup system didn't provide adequate oxygen for treatment. There was somewhat of an improvement, 125 horsepower was put in. In December the sludge steps were measured, which proved to be a lot of sludge and grit. Mr. Chittenden is working a study to analyze the capabilities of the system. The oxidation ditch is loaded, but can operate properly with the installation of two aerators at \$60,000. The alternative is to clean the oxidation ditch, which would be far more. Mr. Chittenden stated that the aerators needed to be installed as soon as possible. By summer the levels would be significantly more, and by putting in the aerators, the plant would be able to meet the permits. Councilperson Harmon stated that it was the Water & Sewer committee recommendation to purchase the aerators. Councilperson Cartee inquired of a long term plan for the Waste Water system. Chittenden stated that he was working on an engineering plan for something long term. Councilperson Harmon motion for an emergency appropriation out of Sales Tax to amend the budget for \$60,000 to purchase the aerators, second by Councilperson Duckworth, which resulted in the following vote:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes

The next item for presentation was the Livable Streets document from Dawn Jordan. The PedNet Coalition, a local nonprofit, is looking at bringing Livable Streets to Caruthersville, MO. The project also known as Complete Streets, looks at the needs of all road users. The goal is to make the streets and sidewalks accessible and safe for all people. There's a tentative meeting, February 16 or 17, 2017, please call 333-5301 ext. 228.

MODOT is executing a plan to build a portion of sidewalk along with ADA curb ramps on Highway 84, after an ordinance is passed by the City. The Missouri Municipal League issued a letter with the notification of the City to receive \$13,664.52 from a class action suit settlement with TracFone. The MML provided support for the suit and settlement plus blocked passage of two telecom industry House bills, which would have derailed the class action suit. The MML is asking for 5 percent of the proceeds to go to the MML Advocacy fund. Councilperson Duckworth motion to approve 5 percent of the proceeds to go to the MML, second by Councilperson Cartee, which resulted in the following vote:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes

Unfinished business; Councilperson Duckworth stated that he and Councilperson Bullington had been working on the personnel manual. They're looking at it piece by piece and consulting with Counselor Dorroh, and will send documentation to the appropriate committees, and bring it forth to the Council.

Mayor's report; the library's HVAC unit has been installed, and is up and running. The Mayor testified at Ameren's Public Hearing as to the effect the rate increased would have on residents with all electric in their homes, and the economic impact on our community for residential and business customers. Mitzi Dell will be here Monday, January 23, 2017 to get a more comprehensive survey of the area concerning the Marlar Loop, and then a final package will be presented. Friday, January 20, 2017 weather is forecasted to be favorable for the resident on E. 10<sup>th</sup> St. The yard needs to be taken care of

after being in disarray from the sewer hookups. As of now there's no news to report on the Wal-Mart building. The Mayor is encouraging Mr. Rosen to continue dialogue with Shopko. Councilperson Cartee mentioned that Mr. Rosen knows the City's strengths and weaknesses, and has dealt with Wal-Mart building acquisitions. Councilperson Cartee suggested that the City look at an outside source to market Caruthersville geographically and demographically. Talking to our state legislators could also prove to be worthwhile. It was also mentioned that Mr. Rosen is more interested in leasing the building for 10 years rather than selling the building. The Economic Incubator committee headed by Christy Mercer has scheduled a meeting with the Council on February 6, 2017. Councilperson Cheek stated that Grizzly Jig's upcoming event will be January 26 through January 29, 2017. They have mailed out thousands of postcards, and are expecting between 3,000 to 8,000 visitors. Last year was a great year, and they encourage the locals to come out. Republic Services trash pickups were interrupted on January 17 and 18, 2017, due to equipment breakdowns. They are back on schedule, and the normal trash pickups will occur.

Police & Fire; Nick Cartee reported that the fire department will be receiving a matching funds grant for 12 pagers. The grant is for \$4,992 and the cost share would be \$2,496, once the pagers are purchased for \$4,992. Councilperson Cartee motion to purchase the pagers, second by Councilperson Bullington, which resulted in the following vote:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Absent	Bullington	Yes

There were two fire calls from January 14 through January 18, 2017 as follows:  
01/14/17, Trash set afire on 11<sup>th</sup> and Jefferson; 01/14/17, Vehicle burned on I55/412

Chief Tony Jones reported that he and Assistant Chief Jerry Hudgens attended Governor Greitens' inauguration with the swearing in of elected officials for the state. They also honored law enforcement, fire, and the military personnel at the event.

Water & Sewer; Paul Shaw reported that \$6,000 was budgeted for air packs out of the Operations budget. There's a quote from Sentinel at \$5,300 for the air packs, and Shaw asked for approval. Councilperson Harmon motion for the approval, second by Councilperson Cartee, which resulted in the following vote:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Absent	Bullington	Yes

Mayor McGraw asked if the Catholic Church needed a new meter with the fluctuations in their water bill. Paul Shaw stated that it could possibly be their line; all three buildings are on one meter. The line has been sectioned off and a valve put in, if it doesn't work, there could be a problem in the school. The Water department is assisting with the endeavor. Shaw thanked Terry Rushing and his crew for assisting with a force main that had been hit, which had to be dug up and fixed. Paul Shaw asked for the approval to bid out the radios that were budgeted for. Councilperson Merideth motion for the approval, second by Councilperson Harmon, which resulted in the following vote:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Absent	Bullington	Yes

Terry Rushing reported that the Street department assisted with two water line repairs along with a force main. The daily routines, taking down the rest of the Christmas decorations, and repairing lights has taken place. Blown down signs were also put back up. There have been numerous complaints on the residences on the 400 block of Highland and 200 block of E. 8<sup>th</sup> St. Rushing stated that he would be starting the process of abatement. Rushing conducted an inspection on the China King building in which repairs have to be made. Councilperson Cartee stated that the boarded up house on Carroll was being dealt with by the Administrator. Cartee made mention of activity at the dealership on Highway 84. He asked if things were being moved or more being put in. Terry Rushing stated that he would check into the matter. Councilperson Cartee stated that the City may need to look at hiring an outside source for the cleanup. Counselor Dorroh stated that he was looking at legal matters concerning the dealership, and would have a report for the next session.

Councilperson Bullington received an email from Doug McDowell for transfers resulting from the audit as follows: 1. \$4,350 from Sales Tax Fund to Airport Fund. 2. \$2,500 from Asset Forfeiture to Police Fund. Adjustments were made that changed beginning fund balances as follows:

General Fund	+17,020.54
Cemetery Fund	+ 3,900.00
Airport Fund	+ 4,703.00
Econ Dev Fund	- 1,815.50
WW Bond Fund	<u>-23,808.04</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>.00</b>

Councilperson Harmon motion to approve the budget amendments, second by Councilperson Cartee which resulted in the following vote:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Absent	Bullington	Yes

Teresa Tidwell reported that the HVAC unit is up and running. They will start the movies back in February, and already have a couple of birthday parties booked for this month. The book sale will start January 27 through February 5, 2017. With the purchase of a book bag for \$5 you can stuff as many books as it can hold. Michael Santschi contributed some old records that will also be available. Ms. Tidwell contacted Linda Fitzgerald, Workforce Economic Development, about hosting a job fair, February 2, 2017. The job fair is targeted for the remainder of the Wal-Mart employees that haven't been placed. Ms. Tidwell also made Ms. Fitzgerald aware of the capabilities of the library in having job fairs at its location for future events.

Introduction to bills; Mayor McGraw introduced an ordinance enabling the City to enter into an agreement with MODOT under project JOS3017J. Councilperson Harmon motion for the first reading, second by Cartee as follows:

**BILL NO. 2017-01**

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE, MISSOURI  
ORDINANCE NO. 2017-01**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE AND THE MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION PROVIDING FOR UTILIZATION OF THE CITY RIGHT OF WAY AND FOR UTILITY RELOCATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH JOB NO. J0S3017J FOR SIDEWALK IMPROVMENTS LOCATED ON MISSOURI ROUTE 84 WITHIN THE CITY**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE, MISSOURI, as follows:

Section 1. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the City of Caruthersville, Missouri, a contract with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission relating to Commission Job No. J0S3017J consisting of sidewalk improvements and ADA compliant curb ramps along Missouri Route 84 in Caruthersville substantially in the form attached hereto.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances heretofore enacted which are in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval.

READ TWO TIMES, PASSED AND APPROVED on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lawrence Dorroh, City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike McGraw, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Takella Motton, City Clerk

Councilperson Cartee motion for the second reading of Bill No. 2017-01 by title only, second by Councilperson Harmon. The question before the Council now is shall the Bill No. 2017-01 to be known as Ordinance No. 2017-01 pass and become law, which resulted in the following vote on said question to wit:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Absent	Bullington	Yes

Councilperson Cartee motion to go into closed session for the purpose of personnel matters, second by Councilperson Cheek, which resulted in the following vote:

Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Merideth	Yes	Harmon	Yes
Duckworth	Absent	Bullington	Yes

Upon returning from closed session, and with no further business to come before the Council the meeting adjourned with all in favor.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor