

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE  
July 3, 2017**

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Monday, July, 3 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
Jeremy Darnell	Sergeant at Arms
Grantham	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Duckworth	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Cartee	Councilperson
Rittenberry	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Merideth	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 June 19, 2017 regular session minutes. Councilperson Duckworth motion to approve, second by Councilperson Merideth, which resulted in the following vote:

Grantham	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes
Hood	Yes	Merideth	

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

Grantham	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes
Hood	Yes	Merideth	Yes

The next order of business was the Mayor's report. The airport courtesy car has transmission problems, and the Mayor suggested junking the car with the Casino donating a van to the City. Councilperson Cartee motion to approve junking the airport courtesy car, second by Councilperson Duckworth, which resulted in the following vote:

Grantham	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes
Hood	Yes	Merideth	Yes

Republic Services will be running a day behind this week because of the holiday. Councilperson Bullington questioned Republic’s procedure of trash pickup when there’s a problem with billing for a second tote. Mayor McGraw stated that the procedure is that if the bill is not paid for the second tote they will pick the tote up. The trash should still be picked up for the tote that’s has been issued, the resident shouldn’t be penalized in that way. Mayor McGraw made mention that Trey Cain had resigned from the Planning and Zoning Commission, and that he would be appointing someone else. Mayor McGraw spoke on behalf of Lady Luck casino at the relicensing in Kansas City, MO. The Mayor spoke on how the Commission could possibly help assure the revenue stream for the casinos, the recipient home dock communities, and the state. Mitizi Dell will be applying for an 80/20 grant for sidewalks, and will be talking with Ameren about street lights, possibly at no cost for the Marlar Loop project.

Police & Fire report; Chief Charlie Jones reported fire calls from June 19, 2017, to July 3, 2017 as follows: 6/19/17; Grass fire on East 13<sup>th</sup> due to fireworks, 6/28/17; Grass fire on 13<sup>th</sup> and Vest due to fireworks, 7/2/17; Vehicle fire on County Road 525 which was a total loss, 7/2/17; Mutual aid to Kennett structure fire on White Oak. As of to date, there has been 91 members of the Rural Fire Subscription that has paid their dues. There have been 57 fire calls this year with the same being 57 this time last year. All 4 sirens that were inspected by The Blue Valley Public Safety Company passed inspection on June 21, 2017. Rescue Repair Inc. did the annual inspection of the ladders on all 4 pumpers on June 26, 2017. Eddie Brooks gave his consent to use the Bunge property for the Fireworks Display scheduled for 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 4, 2017.

Jeremy Darnell reported the Police Department has met with the Fire Department, Sheriff Department, and Highway Patrol. They have a plan of action for any disruption that may occur over the July 4, 2017 holiday. The Police Department has budgeted \$5,500 out of the Police School Fund for a candidate to attend SEMO Police Academy. They are recommending having Kevin Hopkins to attend and upon completion join the department. Councilperson Cartee motion for approval, second by Councilperson Bullington, which resulted in the following vote:

Grantham	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes
Hood	Yes	Merideth	Yes

Code Enforcement; Sonya Fuller reported 5 additional letters have been sent out, and 11 abate and nuisances had been completed. There are also 5 property owners who would like for the City to mow the lawns and put it on their tax bill, like it has been done in the past. The Street and Sanitation Committee turned down the proposal for a commercial lawnmower. Members of the Council stated they didn’t want to give the property owners the option of the City to mow their properties. They prefer the land owners to mow their own property. If they don’t comply, follow the process of sending out abate nuisance letter, issue a citation, take it to court, which is a \$130 fine. The next step would be

to mow the property if the land owner still doesn't comply, it would be put on their tax bill. If the tax bill isn't paid, it will eventually become City property. There was also talk of giving residents that had property adjacent to such property the ability to purchase or give it to them if they've been taking care of the property.

Park & Recreation; Keith Davis reported that they will be hosting the last ball game of the season this week. The swim team has been hosting meets, and they have been very successful. The Recreation Center leaking roof will be filed on the insurance. Councilperson Rodgers stated that there was some concern of the postings at the front door of the Recreation Center of people being kicked out of the Recreation Center. The thought being there may be a better way rather than postings so that potential patrons wouldn't have a negative image of the Recreation Center.

Budget & Finance; Councilperson Bullington reported that after working on the salary ordinance the hope is to adopt at the next meeting. Everyone will have to be placed on the salary ordinance schedule, and placement will be indicative to what they're getting now in relation to said ordinance. The hourly rate could move a bit up or down, but not to a full step. The finalizing of the budget will take place after the June financials are in.

Library report; Teresa Tidwell reported that the fishing classes have been a huge success. Ms. Tidwell reiterated that the Library has been operating on the same tax rate for 95 years, and can't continue to operate with the same level of service at the current rate. Councilperson Bullington stated that the passage of a half cent tax would relieve some of the financial stress off the General Fund that supplements the Library.

Water & Sewer; Paul Shaw reported that the sewer problems on the 400 block of E. 9<sup>th</sup> St. had been resolved. There are 3 houses that are all on the same line, and a pipe had dropped, which was pulled out. It took a half a day, but the alternative would be to spend \$12,000 to contract it out. Starting this month the penalties will be enforced for late fees and pulling of meters.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Duckworth motion to go into closed session for discussion of litigation and real estate. Councilperson Cartee seconds the motion, which resulted in the following vote:

Grantham	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Rittenberry	Yes
Hood	Yes	Merideth	Yes

Upon returning from closed session, Councilperson Duckworth motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Cartee, with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

ATTEST:

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Mayor

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City Clerk

DRAFT