

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE**  
**December 6, 2021**

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Monday, December 6, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. at the Public Library at 707 W 13<sup>th</sup> St. Caruthersville, MO at which time and place the following were present:

Sue Grantham	Mayor
Takella Motton	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Hood (Absent)	Councilperson
Spence (Via Phone)	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Glass	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Lyons	Councilperson
Cheek	Councilperson
Grable (Absent)	Councilperson

Denny Callen and Lyle Randolph with Century Casino gave a presentation for the plans for the new casino. They began by buying up and clearing properties that were an eyesore in the vicinity of the Casino. Renovation of the hotel across from the pavilion has begun it will have 36 rooms and an elevator; construction should be completed by the summer of 2022. Moving the Casino to the protective side of the floodwall is a plus with not having to be threatened by flood, low stages of the river or being hit by barges. The passage of Senate Bill No. 26 is what made it possible to have the Casino on a non-floating platform. Contractors were selected from Southeast Missouri with construction beginning summer of 2022 through 2024. There's an estimate of 200 jobs being established during construction, and added tax dollars for the City and County. The project itself will cost \$45 million. The Casino will continue operation during construction of the new one. The pavilion will be connected to the new structure with a hotel being in between which will have 38 rooms with suites and balconies overlooking the river. There will be 120 games added to the casino floor, 20 ft. ceilings, and bar and grill; the restaurant will also remain and back in operation in 2022. The RV park will be maintained and the parking lot.

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 regular session minutes for November 15, 2021. Councilperson Cheek motion for approval, second by Councilperson Glass all in favor, with Councilperson Bullington abstaining.

Councilperson Cheek motion for approval of reports and bills, second by Councilperson Lyons, with all in favor.

Mayor Grantham gave notice of the General Municipal Election being held Tuesday, April 5, 2022 beginning at six o'clock a.m. and closing at seven o'clock p.m. for the following offices:

Mayor and City Marshall four year terms, City Marshall, City Collector, City Treasurer, Councilpersons Ward I, II, III, and IV all two year terms. Any person desiring to file candidacy can do so in the City Clerk's office beginning December 7, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. through December 28, 2021, to 4:00 p.m.

There will be a Public Hearing December 9, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. in the Council room of City Hall informing the public of CDBG funding for broadband.

There was a Planning & Zoning Board of Commission meeting December 1, 2021 and they recommended the adoption of an ordinance for a new zone designated as B-4 licensed gaming district to compensate for the Casino being land based. The Board also recommended updating the City's building codes to 2018 building codes and a new fire code. Counselor Dorroh stated that a Public Hearing would have to take place before passage of an ordinance. The building code books would also have to be acquired and be on file in the Clerk's office 90 days prior to adoption. Barry Gilmore stated that building code would be the 2018 and 2017 fire code.

Mayor Grantham entertained a motion to have the first meeting in January for Tuesday, January 4, 2021 in order to get the needed paperwork underway. Councilperson Rodgers made motion, second by Councilperson Glass which resulted in the following vote:

Rodgers	Yes	Glass	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes
Cheek	Yes		

Counselor Dorroh stated that a motion was in order to acquire the building and fire code books. Councilperson Bullington motion for approval, second by Councilperson Rodgers which resulted in the following vote:

Rodgers	Yes	Glass	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes
Cheek	Yes		

Fire report; Fire calls from December 4, 2021 through December 6, 2021 are as follows: 12/4/21; Pile of leaves set on fire on 15<sup>th</sup> & Zaida, 12/6/21; Fire alarm sounding on Laurant. The 1956 Ford Big Job-800 and 1971 Mack CF-600 fire engines have been listed for sale on the website [www.fentonfire.com](http://www.fentonfire.com).

Public Works; Paul Shaw reported the following items the crews have been working on as follows: Repaired water line that went to the old Chaparral, Repaired water leak at Dollar Tree, Repaired copper setter at 11<sup>th</sup> & Jefferson, Exposed leak at the old Wal Mart in which 500,000 to 750,000 gallons of water was lost, Repaired copper setting on South Ward, Fixed Xmas lights on poles, Maintenance on Vac truck, Fixed leak on the auger at Waste Water plant, Filled potholes, Replaced copper setter on Grand, Maintenance of sewer pumps, Moved desks from Port Authority to the Brown Shoe building, and Replaced 40 water meters. Work continues on the old Water plant and 20<sup>th</sup> & Lincoln lift stations. The water meter replacement program for the residential is completed. The entire meter registers in stock should be finished shortly after the first of the year. The larger meters remain to be changed out.

Code Enforcement; Barry Gilmore reported that there will be a Board of Adjustment meeting next week. The street sweeper is running every day, and three more structures will be coming down within the next week .

Library report; Teresa Tidwell reported that Christmas story was two weeks away, Parker Faulkner will be providing gingerbread men for the children to decorate to take home. There will be school groups and the Ridgley Nursing Home coming to watch movies starting next week. There have been three applicants for the Library’s Director’s position and three others that have applied.

Collector report; Paige Gillock reported collections from November 1, 2021 through November 30, 2021 are as follows: Real Estate \$84,422.34, Personal Property \$33,491.57, Drainage Districts \$873.00, Miscellaneous \$2,143.00, Total Taxes \$120,163.01 Interest and Fees \$995.48, Total Collections \$121,158.49. Tax Collections from December 1, 2021 through December 6, 2021 are as follows: Real Estate \$41,734.73, Personal Property \$28,254.40, Miscellaneous \$1,425.00 Total Taxes \$71,260.16, Interest and Fees \$153.97, Total Collections \$71,414.13. Ms. Gillock wanted clarification on the business license for contractors. Counselor Dorroh will look at the ordinance of 1973 to see exactly what it says, and in the meantime Ms. Gillock should go by past practices.

Economic Development; Mayor Grantham announced that some of Cedric the Entertainer’s people would be in the city on December 16, 2021, and will be meeting with Shad Burner, County, and Council, and a zoom with Cedric at the Library. They will be talking about incentives for the business venture with the upstart being the first of the year.

Jane Ellen Lazenby reported that the Tree Board had been offered some trees, but didn’t know how many or what kind at this time.

New Business; The contract between the school and the City for the School Resource Officer has an update from a salary of \$34,750.00 to \$40,000.00 starting in January. Councilperson Cheek motion for approval, second by Councilperson Rodgers which resulted in the following vote:

Spence	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Glass	Yes	Bullington	Abstain
Lyons	Abstain	Cheek	Yes

Mayor Grantham entertained a motion to go into closed session for personnel. Councilperson Lyons made motion, second by Councilperson Cheek which resulted in the following vote:

Rodgers	Yes	Glass	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes
Cheek	Yes		

Upon returning from closed session, Chief Tony Jones made mention that locals and donors from out of state will be making a donation towards the Shop With A Cop. Also, Rodney Jones with the NAACP will be donating uniforms and sweaters to the School.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Lyons motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Rodgers, with all in favor.

ATTEST:

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Mayor

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

DRAFT