

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE**  
**July 6, 2021**

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Tuesday, July 6, 2021 in the Council room of the Municipal Building 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
Grable	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Spence	Councilperson
Rodgers (Absent)	Councilperson
Glass	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Lyons	Councilperson
Cheek	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 regular session minutes for June 21, 2021. Councilperson Bullington motion for approval, second by Councilperson Hood with all in favor.

Councilperson Bullington motion for approval of the closed session minutes of June 21, 2021, second by Councilperson Lyons, with all in favor.

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

Police report; Chief Tony Jones reported that there was a homicide that occurred in the City, and it's under investigation. There were two that were injured and one died in the altercation. Although fireworks were shot early and some later than what wasn't allowed; for the most part this holiday was the best in years. The fire department had calls, but there weren't any calls for fireworks being shot at people. There were people out in the community cleaning up Monday, which was a turn for the better. There are signs that were obtained from the Conservation Department for the riverfront stating no gathering or parking from the hours of 10:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. You will still be able to drive through the area at any time and have access to the boat ramp; Reynolds Park is a conservation area.

Fire report; Fire calls from June 24, 2021 through July 6, 2021 are as follows: 6/24/21; Trash fire set on fire on East 10<sup>th</sup> St, 6/24/21; Vehicle fire inside building on Ward, 6/29/21; Fire alarm sounding nothing detected on South Ward, 7/3/21; Structure fire with minor damage on Franklin, 7/3/21; Grass fire on Rufus, 7/4/21; Called twice to vacant lot on 10<sup>th</sup> & Belle for dead tree on fire, 7/4/21; Dumpster on fire on Truman, 7/4/21; Called twice for dumpsters on fire at Taven Apartments. The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at the Recreation Center Friday, July 9, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. The Fire department and the Police department will have the battle of the badges to see who gets the most donors. Everyone is encouraged to come out and give blood on Friday.

Public Works; Paul Shaw reported that the Third St. Water Plant was in operation. There were two minor issues with the monitoring, and levels that needed to be figured out. The samples came back good. The north part of the town is seeing yellow in their water because of the movement and stirring of water from the south end of town; it should clear up in the next couple of days. There are some drainage issues on some of the streets, and the paving will have to be redone. Work will have to be done on the floor of the antique tower to make it safe to go up and start the process of renovation. Mayor Grantham made a request for donations with there being only a few weeks to get the money in order to keep the grant for the Water Tower. The gravel was placed in French Park, and the chipper was used to even it out.

Code Enforcement; Barry Gilmore reported that the old Tiger Hut was a total loss, and will be demolished. The mowing is ongoing for the vacant lots; the house on Ward and the one on Laurant is on target to be demolished. Some of the equipment has been inoperable, but it's all operable as of now. There was a question about the building on Ward that's been blocked off for quite some time. Mr. Gilmore will follow up with the owner with securing the wall, and it's possible that it could be deemed hazardous to be demolished or repaired by ordinance.

Library report; Teresa Tidwell reported that Wednesday evening Lincoln University Cooperative Extension will be conducting their summer showcase at the Library in the auditorium. There's three more weeks left with the library's summer reading, with this week being taken off due to holiday and summer vacations. Ms. Tidwell President of the Historical Society stated that the quarterlies have been digitized and will be available on the library's web site, and they go back to the 1970's. The Caruthersville Centennial Book and the Drummer's Advertising Book from 1909 to 1913 are also available on the website.

Budget report; Councilperson Lyons reported that the Council would need to adopt the current budget with the coming of another fiscal year until all information is available, and urged the department managers to get their budgets ready. Councilperson Bullington motion for approval, second by Councilperson Cheek, which resulted in the following vote:

Grable	Yes	Hood	Yes
Spence	Yes	Glass	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Lyons	Yes
Cheek	Yes		

Business From the Floor; Councilperson Hood inquired about a dance class being able to continue to use the Armory with the changing of the operations of the Armory. Mayor Grantham stated that everything would be the same regarding the dance class, and that a key would be provided. Mr. Joe Cagle stated that the class was a community exercise program that meets on Tuesday and Wednesday. They have used the Library and Recreation Center in the past, and outgrew the spaces with the amount of participation.

Tracy Gill, Assistant Director with UMOS wanted to make the community aware of the reopening of the Migrant Seasonal Head Start, and the eligibility of migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families to get education and training to improve their job skills, and obtain good paying jobs with benefits. Information and applications can be obtained at [www.umos.org](http://www.umos.org).

Joe Cagle wanted to know if the City had in the works any plans for reaching the youth in the community to combat the violence, and indicated that there were a lot of people interested in getting involved. Mayor Grantham stated that a meeting had taken place at one of the churches, and there were a lot of ideas brought about. The Mayor suggested that Mr. Cagle give the names to Councilperson Hood or Chief Tony Jones so they could converse.

With no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Grantham entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Lyons made motion, second by Councilperson Hood second, with all in favor.

ATTEST:

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Mayor

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City Clerk

DRAFT