

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE**  
**November 1, 2021**

Be it remembered the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session Monday, November 1, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. 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 |
| Rodgers         | Councilperson    |
| Glass           | Councilperson    |
| Bullington      | Councilperson    |
| Lyons           | Councilperson    |
| Cheek           | Councilperson    |
| Grable (Absent) | Councilperson    |
| Hood            | Councilperson    |
| Spence          | 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 October 20, 2021. Councilperson Cheek motion for approval, second by Councilperson Glass with all in favor.

Councilperson Lyons motion for approval of the closed session minutes for October 20, 2021 second by Councilperson Glass, with all in favor.

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

Police report; Investigator Joshua Simmons approached the Council with a proposition for the department being proactive with targeting areas that has street crimes with search and seizure, and putting offenders in jail. This would involve 48 hours a month; there would be a pre-op and post-op plan, and each month a report showing the results. The Council was in agreement as long as overtime was within the budgeted overtime.

Fire report; Fire calls from October 20, 2021 through November 1, 2021 are as follows: 10/20/21; Fire alarm sounding at Arcosa, 10/20/21; Vehicle fire on Route U near I55, 10/22/21; Combine on fire with moderate damage on County Rd 362, 10/24/21; Grass fire on I55, 10/25/21; Cotton module on fire on County Rd 515, 10/25/21; Structure fire with minor damage on East 11<sup>th</sup> St, 10/29/21; Stove malfunction at Riverview Apt, 10/30/21; Structure fire with moderate damage for mutual aid to Steele MO, 10/31/21; Fire alarm sounding due to steam on West 10<sup>th</sup> St, 11/1/21; Gas leak at Taven Apt.

Public Works; Paul Shaw reported that the US Corps of Engineers have accepted the updated terms for the floodwall, The airport striping and painting has been delayed due to weather, lift station

improvements have started on 3<sup>rd</sup> St, An inspection is on hold for the airport insurance because of new guidelines that has put them behind, Winterizing pits and different areas are being done that need it, Crews have repaired seven copper setters and a leak and sewer, Crews have also repaired 10 trees for the River Lights with 19 left to do.

Code Enforcement; Barry Gilmore reported that the mowing would be shutting down shortly, he had talks with the architects with Cedric the Entertainer and the Casino, and things are moving along. There were also notices sent out to property owners for a special tax issued against properties for nuisance abatement.

Parks & Recreation; Lamonte Bell reported that he made a trip to Sikeston to ask about their policy for their 24 hour access program. At this time they're not participating or have a policy, but are looking towards in doing so. They do have a program in place for helping low income families with membership, and Mr. Bell will be meeting with the Director within a week to discuss their programs. Councilperson Bullington interjected perhaps if the 24 hour access was done maybe it could be done through the winter months, and the Recreation Center could shut down early to save money with the low usage.

Library report; Teresa Tidwell reported that the Secretary of State, Jay Ashcroft would be visiting the Library Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Ashcroft is very supportive of Missouri libraries; everyone is welcomed to come out for the visitation.

Collector report; Paige Gillock reported collections from October 1, 2021 through October 31, 2021 as follows: Real Estate \$583.86, Personal Property \$819.92, Miscellaneous \$690.21, Total Taxes \$1760.80, Fees \$333.19, Total Collections \$2,093.99. Ms. Gillock stated that all tax bills would be mailed out by the end of the week.

Budget report; Jimmy Lyons reported that the Finance Committee would be meeting with the department managers to go over the recommended changes that needs to take place for the financial stability of the City. Councilperson Cheek made motion to adopt the budget set forth by Councilperson Lyons, second by Councilperson Lyons, which resulted in the following vote:

|            |     |       |     |
|------------|-----|-------|-----|
| Rodgers    | Yes | Glass | Yes |
| Bullington | Yes | Lyons | Yes |
| Cheek      | Yes | Hood  | Yes |
| Spence     | Yes |       |     |

Councilperson Rodgers made motion to accept the recommendations of the Finance Committee, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

|            |     |       |     |
|------------|-----|-------|-----|
| Rodgers    | Yes | Glass | Yes |
| Bullington | Yes | Lyons | Yes |
| Cheek      | Yes | Hood  | Yes |
| Spence     | Yes |       |     |

Business From the Floor; Councilperson Bullington reminded everyone of The Funky Butt Brass Band performance at the Armory Saturday, November 6, 2021. Councilperson Spencer reminded every one of the Value- Added Ag Luncheon November 16, 2021 at the Library. Decorating of the River Lights will be November 13, 2021, and everyone is welcomed to help with the decorating.

Elaine May approached the Council about her concerns with an ordinance concerning mobile homes having a grandfather clause. Ms. May purchased a property with a mobile home which is a 1998 model, and the ordinance stipulates that mobile homes can't be older than eight years. Also, with the trailer not being occupied within a year it lost its status of being grandfathered in to be able to stay. Ms. May stated she wouldn't have purchased the property had she known she wouldn't be able to use the trailer, and that she had made repairs so that it could be occupied. Counselor Dorroh stated that she could make an appeal to the Board of Adjustments, and they would in turn give their recommendations to the Council. If the Council disagrees with their decision then they would have go before the Circuit Court. Counselor did made mention that he would review the Code Enforcement decision in the process.

Barbara Merideth reported that Wreaths Across America cutoff date is November 30, 2021 to turn in money. There are 500 wreaths, and help will be needed to put out the wreaths December 18, 2021. The Veterans Day parade will be in Steele MO at 2:00 p.m.; this is also the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Ms. Merideth also would hope to have bell ringing 21 times at different locations within the City on Veterans Day November 11, 2021 at 11.00 a.m. Councilperson Rodgers inquired about Magnolia Cemetery not being included with the cemeteries being mentioned for the wreaths, and would be getting with Ms. Merideth about the inclusion.

Councilperson Hood stated that the Salvation Army schedule will start being announced on KCRV this week, and the bell ringing will start the week after Thanksgiving. Anyone interested in bell ringing can contact the PIN office, Word Outreach Center, or Johnny Hood for a schedule to participate. The bell ringing locations will be at Hays in Caruthersville and Hayti, and as always 85 percent of the proceeds stays within Pemiscot County.

Mayor Grantham entertained a motion to go into closed session in regards to legal action. Councilperson Lyons made motion, second by Councilperson Rodgers, which resulted in the following vote:

|            |     |       |     |
|------------|-----|-------|-----|
| Rodgers    | Yes | Glass | Yes |
| Bullington | Yes | Lyons | Yes |
| Cheek      | Yes | Hood  | Yes |
| Spence     | Yes |       |     |

Upon returning from closed session, and with no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Lyons motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Hood, with all in favor.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

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