

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE  
AUGUST 3, 2015**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room in the Municipal Building on Monday, August 3, 2015, at 5:20 p.m., 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
Bullington	Councilperson
Cartee	Councilperson
Cheek	Councilperson
Fike	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Merideth	Councilperson
Harmon	Councilperson
Rodgers	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 to come before the Council was the approval of the minutes. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Hood, seconded by Councilperson Merideth, the minutes were approved unanimously. Councilperson Hood made motion to approve reports and bills, second by Councilperson Merideth, and the motion carried.

Mayor McGraw made mention of a letter from the Missouri Ethics Commission requiring adoption of the Conflict of Interest Ordinance expiring this year. The ordinance should be adopted by the next meeting of August 17, 2015.

Tony Jones reported that Megan Turner would be resigning, and going to the Police Academy, and will be employed with the County Sheriff's Department. There will be a temporary police clerk position available that need to be advertised in the newspaper. Councilperson Cartee made motion to advertise and accept application for the position, second by Councilperson Merideth, and the motion carried. Tony also recommended for Dangerous Divas to receive a donation for a dance competition their participating in Mississippi. China Fonda has been working with a group of girls for about a year, mentoring, and supporting their efforts in fundraising for their endeavors. Councilperson Harmon made motion for \$200 to be donated, second by Hood, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Councilperson Cartee reported the Fire Department had five fire calls from July 22, 2015 through August 3, 2015. On 7/22/15 vehicle fire at Swindles, 7/23/15 medical assistance on a tow boat, 7/26/15 burnout on an electrical line at Juliet, 7/30/15 alarm sounding at courthouse, and 8/2/15 an

overturn vehicle on I-55. On the new tanker truck, the chassis was not correct. Freightliner is building another one, which should be done by the second week in September. The MDA Fill the Boot Block netted \$766. There have been 113 renewals of rural fire subscriptions and 22 have not. There's a quote of \$575 for a backflow valve that needs repairing.

Paul Shaw reported from Water & Sewer a leak at the plant outside of the fence area, it needs a valve to be replaced. There have been two quotes from companies that have been used in the past, one for \$10,471 and \$9,500. Councilperson Cartee made motion for the lowest bid, second by Councilperson Rodgers, and the motion carried.

The Mayor reported that the Street/Code Enforcement have continually worked on mowing and tending to lots. Thanks were given to the Chamber, Terry and Tina, and everyone involved in participating in making the Backyard Barbecue a great event.

The Mayor reported for Park & Recreation that the Missouri State Champions were advanced \$10,000 from the City. The anticipated return from the Bambino Account is \$4,089.46, donations are at \$870, and the anticipated cost is \$5,040.54. The City spent \$4,241.00 in 2013 on the State Champions.

Teresa Tidwell reported that the library had undergone some improvements for the month. A new fax machine was acquired; new bar codes, new library cards, and bulbs were replaced. John Drake Robinson presentation went well, forty people attended. There was also a report that was submitted to the State for the library's year end financials.

Jane Lazenby reported that the Tree Board made recommendation of \$150 for trees to be planted at Veterans Park on Truman. Councilperson Cartee made motion, second by Councilperson Rodgers, and the motion carried. The trimming and cutting of trees at Reynolds Park cost \$1,250. Further improvements will be addressed at a later date.

Mayor McGraw covered the Cemetery report, stating that the meeting held on July 23, 2015 had a quorum. The recommendation was to abide by the current contract of \$450/\$150 for opening and closing of graves with no additional pay for flagging, since this was part of the process. Councilperson Harmon made motion to abide by the contract with no additional pay, second by Councilperson Hood, and the motion carried with Councilperson Fike abstaining.

Councilperson Bullington reported for the Finance Committee that the proposed budget for 2014-2015 was \$ 2,333,050.00, actual \$2,488,034.68. There is \$154,984.68 more in revenue than was projected. The additional revenue was down by \$8,236.00, but the total general fund revenue was up by \$136,748.68.

Mayor's Report, more sod is needed at Reynolds Park, visitors were very complimentary. Completion of the project should be done within a week.

John Chittenden was asked to comment on drainage. When the surveying of Adams, Belle and E.9<sup>th</sup> Street took place, they found that the systems were very old. They had been properly constructed, but undersized. This system drains from the Housing Authority to the Brown Shoe ditch. The pipes that were checked have lost capacity; the entire system would have to be done. It would cost \$20 to \$30 a

running foot to clean out pipes. In order to get a proposal for a contractor there would have to be a drainage region. The alternative would be to run lines in between the streets of the Belle system, E. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, and E. 15<sup>th</sup> Street to the North and South. This would be beneficial to all systems with shared capacities. Surveying would have to take place in order to see exactly what's going on with the systems, but in the meantime the lines need to be cleaned. Chittenden suggested looking at capital improvement sales taxes and transportation sales taxes to support the endeavor. Chittenden will be gathering data and reporting back to the Mayor.

Councilperson Merideth inquired about the Magnolia Project. Chittenden assessment is that a pump station can be put in or run a gravity line which offers an opportunity for an economic development investment. Councilperson Bullington motioned to enter a contract with Waters & Associates concerning the Magnolia Project, seconded by Councilperson Cartee, and the motion carried.


Business from the floor, residents were concerned about the differences in their water bills from month to month. Leaks were checked, Shaw stated that there were some leaks, but hadn't had a chance to get back with the residents. The Mayor suggested that the rates be checked to see if there any discrepancies. Melissa McClain stated the stones around her mother's grave were a disgrace. The Mayor stated that he told Delta Tree Service to start mowing every week and that the service does blow the stones off. He also stated it was difficult to tell where Maple and Little Prairie is located.

Introduction of Bills, Parental Responsibility Ordinance has been drafted; it needs to be voted upon. A resident contacted Councilperson Bullington about younger children driving golf carts. Counselor Dorroh stated that the Parental Responsibility Ordinance would cover any incidents of any underage children operating golf carts.

Councilperson Bullington made motion to go into close session regarding contracts, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

Bullington	Yes	Cartee	Yes
Cheek	Yes	Fike	Yes
Hood	Yes	Merideth	Yes
Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes

With no further business to bring before the Council, Councilperson Hood made motion to adjourn, second by Councilperson Bullington, and the motion carried unanimously.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk