

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE
JANUARY 20, 2015**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room in the Municipal Building on Tuesday, January 20, 2015, at 5:00 P.M. at which time and place the following were present:

Sue Grantham	Mayor
Melinda Scifres	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Merideth (Baughn){Absent}	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Cartee	Councilperson
Cheek	Councilperson
Fike	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson
Merideth (B. T.)	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, bills, and reports. Councilperson Bullington reported a correction to the minutes of the last meeting on Page 144 in the discussion of regarding purchases presented to the Finance and Budget Committee. The third sentence in the paragraph should have read as follows: "She then asked the Department Heads and the committees to present request for purchases to the Finance and Budget Committee if a budget amendment will be required." After further discussion, Councilperson Fike motioned to approve the bills, reports and minutes as corrected. Councilperson B. T. Merideth seconded the motioned, and the motion was carried unanimously. The reports read as follows:

Fire Chief Charlie Jones reported \$3,100.68 in salaries for December, and six fire calls that the department had answered.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported \$9,706.54 in admissions to the recreation center during December.

Melinda Scifres, City Clerk, reported securities are pledged at the banks for deposits of the City of Caruthersville as follows: First State Bank - \$ 2,525,000.00; Focus Bank \$2,021,899.47; Bank Star of the Bootheel - \$583,400.00.

Donna Brooks, City Collector, reported \$310,909.27 in taxes collected for the City with \$73.17 in Collector's commission, and \$5,236.19 in Assessors Fund.

Ivyoka Kusning, Court Clerk, reported Clerk Fee of \$297.10; Judicial Education Fund \$27.01 Court Automation \$189.07; CVC Funds \$192.57; POST Funds \$27.01; Fines \$2452.03; Traffic fines \$785.00; Sheriff's Retirement \$81.00.

Councilperson Cartee then reported six fire call responses during the period of January 6 through January 20, 2015. Police Chief Tony Jones then reported that several other law enforcement agencies had been in Caruthersville over the weekend, trying to locate a man who had lived here in reference to a homicide in St. Louis. The department was able to identify the suspect, and he was found in Poplar Bluff. The suspect went to the Police Department in Poplar Bluff to await the St. Louis authorities.

Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager, asked the Council to approve advertising for bids for the replacement of the sewer on Magnolia. The engineer will draft the replacement, and prepare the specifications. Councilperson Bullington motioned to approve advertising for bids, with Councilperson B. T. Merideth seconding the motioned, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Shaw then reported he had received the last order of remote meters. There are approximately 2300 meters, and the latest order gives the department 1100 remote read meters.

Terry Rushing, Operations Supervisor, reported the street sweeper swept quite a bit of the City last week. He had managed to get a right-of-entry on a structure, and the crews have removed the structure. The owner will pay the dump fees on the material.

The Code Enforcement Officer had left his report with Councilperson Cartee. He was unable to attend the meeting. The report stated he had 14 notices to abate nuisances, two orders to vacate, repair or demolish structures, and he had contacted Sullivan's Auto and Tires to build a fence to place the burned cars that are in their property. He had supervised some community service workers, and was able to remove 20+ garbage bags of debris.

The Operations Supervisor reported he had received one bid on the fencing at the Public Safety Building from Montgomery Fence Company in the amount of \$36,815.00. The budgeted amount was from Asset Forfeiture in the amount of \$40,000. After discussion, Councilperson Cartee motioned to approve the bid with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and motion carried.

Councilperson B. T. Merideth then advised the Council that he had moved from Ward 2 to Ward 4. He asked Counselor Dorroh if he would need to resign from the Council. Counselor Dorroh state he had checked the State Statutes on the matter, and under third class cities he would not be required to resign. The statutes for a fourth class city clearly states that he would need to reside in the Ward he represents, but a Third class City does not have the same type of wording and does not require him to reside in the ward.

Mayor Grantham then recommended to the Council to amend the budget in sales tax in the amount of \$25,000 to improve the security at the City Hall. After discussion, Councilperson Cartee motioned to approve the recommendation, with Councilperson B. T. Merideth seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Cartee then motioned to hold closed session in regards to personnel and property. Councilperson B. T. Merideth seconded the motion, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote, as follows:

Rogers	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Bullington	Yes	Fike	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Hood	Yes
B. T. Merideth	Yes		

After reconvening into regular session, Counselor Dorroh advised the Council they could change Section 6.8 of the Personnel Manual to read as follows: "However, a person may be rehired once unless approved by the City Council." Councilperson B. T. Merideth motioned to approve the change in the personnel manual, with Councilperson Cheek seconding, and motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Cartee motioned to adjourn at 5:49 p.m., with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:



Mayor



City Clerk