

CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE  
MARCH 10, 2014

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the city of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room of the Municipal Building on Monday, March 10, 2014, at 5:00 p.m., at which time and place the following were present:

Frank Morgan (Absent)	Mayor Pro Tem
Melinda Scifres	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Merideth	Councilperson
Mott	Councilperson
Pullam	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Simpson	Councilperson
Grantham	Councilperson
Hood	Councilperson

The first order of business to come before the Council was the nomination of an acting Mayor Pro Tem. Councilperson Grantham nominated Councilperson Pullam as Acting Mayor Pro Tem, with Councilperson Mott seconding, and the nomination passed unanimously.

The number of members necessary to consider a quorum being present, the Acting Mayor Pro Tem 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 and bills. Upon motion duly made by Councilperson Mott, seconded by Councilperson Simpson, the minutes and bills were unanimously approved.

The first order of business to come before the Council was the approval of the audit as presented at the last meeting. With no discussion to come before the Council, Councilperson Mott motioned to approve the audit, with Councilperson Grantham seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Rodgers then reported the fire department had answered ten fire calls since the last meeting. Also, most of the items have been removed from the old fire station in preparation for the building to be rented.

Police Chief Tony Jones thanked all the people who volunteered during the recent bad weather in assisting with vehicles that were stuck. Chief Jones reported he had checked on the state bid list and found that Turn-Key Mobile, Inc. of Jefferson City had the state bid for lap tops to be installed into police vehicles. After contacting the firm, he had a quote for \$63,249.45 for eleven lap top computers to be installed into police vehicles for the department. Chief Jones stated the vehicles would

need internet access. He has talked with the provider for the cell phones, and stated he could get internet access for approximately \$50 more each month over the current cost of the phones. The cost for the computers would be taken from the Asset Forfeiture Funds if approved. After discussion, Councilperson Rodgers motioned to approve the request, with Councilperson Merideth seconding, and motion carried.

The next item for discussion was the salary for the Chief of Police. The Committee had discussed increasing the Chief to \$56,000 a year starting in the next term. The Council was asked to consider the increase for discussion at the next meeting.

Counselor Dorroh then reported the contract for Medic One has not been finalized, but he is working on the final draft. The City will carry the insurance on the building, and maintain the lawn. Medic One will pay \$300 a month rent..

Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager, reported the replacement of the 2" galvanized water line on Collins began today. The line will be replaced with a 6" PVC line. Also, Mr. Shaw asked that penalties for water bills be delayed until the 15<sup>th</sup> instead of the 10<sup>th</sup>. This is due to City Hall closing one day, and the bad weather. Councilperson Hood motioned to approve delaying penalties until the 15<sup>th</sup>, with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and motion carried.

Councilperson Merideth reported one of the City's trucks backed into a decorative light pole at the casino. Approximate cost is \$3,000, and the estimate has been turned into the insurance. Also, an estimate for the repair of the tractor would cost additional funds to tear the tractor down to see what the problem is. The tractor is approximately fifteen years old. After further discussion, Councilperson Mott motioned to advertise for a new tractor, with Councilperson Merideth seconding, and motion carried.

Keith Davis, Parks/Recreation Director, reported basketball season is about to end. Children are signing up for baseball season through the end of the month. Children as young as 4 years of age can play in the t-ball league. He reported that Mayor Pro Tem Morgan had attempted to come to the meeting but was unable to attend.

Randall Lee, Code Enforcement, reported he had cited seven trash violations in March, with sixteen notices to abate a nuisance, twelve notices to vacate/repair/demolish structure, five notices to demolish residence, and he continues to move forward with resolving issues with the Churchill properties.

Two County Commissioners, Ben Baker and Steve Watkins, then appeared before the Council regarding the sales tax issue that will be placed on the ballot for the county. The sales tax will fund the 911 emergency services for the County, and without the additional funding, the cities in the county will have to handle their own dispatching, and jail services. The only tax that is collected on phone bills at this time is on land lines, and many people are having the land line removed. The County will be asking for .0025 cent tax for law enforcement, and another .0100 for the 911 service. If this passes, the cities in the county will not pay funds to the County for the services any longer. Commissioner Watkins stated the biggest portion of the tax funds that will be collected will be from out of town visitors. Jess Cagle, who is in charge of the 911 service at the County, reported the service the

county currently has only give a name, address, and number for someone who calls in on a land line. If someone calls in on a cell phone, it only gives a tower number, and not a location. Several of the audience asked the Commissioners to talk with other groups regarding this information. The Council thanked them for the information.

Counselor Dorroh reported the Council had approved the engineer's contract for the hangars at the airport. At this time the Council needed to authorize Acting Mayor Pro Tem Pullam to sign a notice to proceed with the design phase of the project for the engineer. Councilperson Mott motioned to authorize Acting Mayor Pro Tem Pullam to sign the notice to proceed, with Councilperson Simpson seconding, and motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Mott motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m., with Councilperson Simpson seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Acting Mayor Pro Tem

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City Clerk