

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE  
DECEMBER 23, 2014**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in special session in the Council Room of the Municipal Building on Wednesday, December 23, 2014, 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
Bullington	Councilperson
Cartee (Absent)	Councilperson
Cheek	Councilperson
Fike (Absent)	Councilperson
Hood (Absent)	Councilperson
Merideth (B. T.)	Councilperson
Merideth (Baughn)	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 purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Enhancement Grant as funded by MoDot. Counselor Dorroh reported MoDot is requiring the City extend the contract. Currently the contractor is given until December 28, 2014, to complete the project at the Riverfront. There are two ways to extend the contract. The City can liquidate damages. The engineer feels the contractor could abandon the project if the City chooses to liquidate damages. We have been working through financial problems with the contractor, and it has been working well. The other choice, and preference of the engineer, is to extend the contract until March 31, 2015, and continue to work with the contractor. After discussion, Councilperson Bullington motioned to accept a change order to extend the contract until March 31, 2015, subject to approval from MoDot. Councilperson Rodgers seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Cheek motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 P.M., and Councilperson B. T. Merideth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

  
City Clerk

  
Mayor

Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager reported the following collections for the month of November:

Water	\$ 66,088.97
Sewer Use	17,998.51
Garbage	32,519.24
Meter Serv.	751.53
Mos. Spray	527.81
Primacy Fee	16.44
Sewer Primacy	4.40
Sewer Bond	10,002.78
Bond Service	<u>541.00</u>
TOTAL	\$125,913.68

Larry Metheny and Vonda Davis of Metheny and Smith then appeared before the Council to review the 2013-2014 audit for the City of Caruthersville. Ms. Davis thanked the Mayor, City Clerk, and all the employees who worked to compile the information that was necessary to complete the audit. One of the items found during the audit was the use of the City's FEIN # for bank accounts that were not under the City's control. Examples of the accounts were the fireman's accounts, and the Tennis Association. It was suggested the FEIN be removed from the accounts, or the City be in control of the funds. It was difficult to account for all the fines since the records had been moved during the year. Overall the City was in good shape, and is current on all the bills. The City's financial reports are created on a cash basis, instead of accrual basis. Councilperson Cheek asked if keeping the records on a cash basis would hinder the City. Ms. Davis stated it would not hinder the city. The difference would be that with the accrual system, the City assets and liabilities would be shown on an accrual system. Overall the City is in good shape.

Counselor Dorroh then discussed the directive regarding personnel carrying firearms that was tabled at the last meeting. The directive was tabled so the insurance agent could be present. One of the questions was would the City have insurance coverage if the Council did not pass the directive prohibiting persons with a CCW permit to carry firearms. It is a possibility that the insurance would not cover the City if an incident happened. After further discussion, Councilperson Cheek motioned to have the Police and Fire Committee review the matter, and come back to the Council with a recommendation. Councilperson Merideth seconded the motion, and the motion passed with one no vote from Councilperson Bullington.

Chief of Police, Tony Jones, then reported to the Council that the 2010 Silverado needed repairs often. He has checked on the state bid, and found the dealership would take the truck as a trade-in for a 2015 Tahoe. The price for the Tahoe and the equipment to put it into service would be \$26,703.20. Asset Forfeiture Funds would be used to purchase the Tahoe. Councilperson Cartee motioned to approve the purchase from Asset Forfeiture and amend the budget, with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Cartee then reviewed the report from the Code Enforcement Officer. He could not be present at the meeting. There was no new business to report. He has been working on the violations that have been listed previously. He had received complaints about sewer flowing on lots in

residential areas, and had contacted the owners of the structure. He has been working closely with a business owner who wants to open a dance hall on the northwest corner of Henrietta and Truman.

Paul Shaw, Water/Wastewater Manager, reported that smoke test have been performed on several locations to ensure the sewer lines are not leaking or blocked. He asked that he be allowed to order 200 more water meters at a cost of \$35,000. This was budgeted from the Water and Sewer Operation and Maintenance Fund. Councilperson B. T. Merideth motioned to approve the purchase of the meters, with Councilperson Cartee seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

The next request from the water department was to fill the vacancy of meter reader. The Committee had met and recommended James Barnett be hired for the position. Councilperson Baughn Merideth motioned to approve employing James Barnett as Meter Reader in the Water Department, with Councilperson Fike seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Terry Rushing, Operations Supervisor, reported the crews have been cleaning streets, picking up debris, and miscellaneous other projects. The large dump truck had repairs in the amount of \$6,745.76, which involved the radiator and a wheel bearing.

Mr. Davis reported he has had the seats re-upholstered on the weight equipment. A man from Dyersburg had re-upholstered the seats, and had done a great job. Spence Royer, the Aquatics Director, reported the swim team has a meet in Memphis in January, and another one in Tunica.

The next item to come before the Council was the artist that will be displaying their work at the armory, and the insurance coverage that needs to be purchased for the event. The initial cost of the insurance is \$1,045. The insurance will only be requested for the month of April, and the insurance will refund the balance, which will make the insurance coverage only \$197, Counselor Dorroh would prepare a lease between the City and the artist, which are Penny Brantley and Gary Lucy. An alarm system would be required at the Armory at a cost of \$1046 for installation, and \$330.00 a year annually. After discussion, Councilperson Fike motioned to approve the purchase of the insurance. Councilperson Baughn Merideth seconded the motion, and the motion carried with one abstention from Councilperson Bullington.

Councilperson Cartee motioned to approve the installation of the alarm system at the Armory, with Councilperson B. T. Merideth seconding, and motion carried.

The next item of business to come before the Council was the painting of the auditorium at the Armory. A quote had been obtained for the painting in the amount of \$2,000. The Arts Council and the Chamber have agreed to pay one quarter each for the painting of the auditorium. Councilperson Cartee motioned to approve the painting, with Councilperson Rodgers seconding, and motion carried with one abstention vote from Councilperson Bullington.

Roger Johnson then appeared before the Council regarding the pool at the recreation center. Mr. Johnson stated he had been doing deep breathing exercises at the pool when the lifeguard had asked him to stop. She thought the exercise was hypoxic. The Director asked Mr. Rodgers to meet with him about alternative exercises he might do to help him. Mr. Rodgers had concerns about the pool

not having handles to hold onto, and other issues about the shower room. Mr. Davis thanked him for his concerns, and he will check into the matter.

Mayor Grantham recommended to the Council the employees be given holidays as follows: close at Noon on December 24, all day December 25 and December 26, and all day January 1 and January 2, 2015. Councilperson Bullington motioned to approve the holidays with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Cheek then motioned to hold closed session in regards to possible litigation, and roll call was asked for, which resulted in the following vote:

Fike	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Hood	Yes	Bullington	Yes
B. T. Merideth	Yes	Cartee	Yes
Baughn Merideth	Yes	Cheek	Yes

After reconvening into regular session, Mayor Grantham reminded the Council of the employee luncheon on Thursday.

Councilperson Rodgers motioned the meeting adjourn, at 6:15 p.m., with Councilperson Hood seconding, and motion carried.

ATTEST:

  
City Clerk

  
Mayor