

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE  
PUBLIC HEARING**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met for a Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 6, 2016, at 5:00 p.m., in the Council Room in the Municipal Building at which time and place the following were present:

Bob Lazenby, Jane Ellen Lazenby, Teddy Cheek, Emma Campbell, Johnny Hood, Matthew Duckworth, Mike McGraw, Paul Glass, J. J. Bullington, Johnny Harmon, Paul Shaw, Charlie Jones, Tony Jones, Nick Cartee, Terry Rushing, and Takella Motton

Mayor McGraw announced the purpose of the hearing was to receive input from the public regarding the tax rate to be set for 2016. The City has received the ceiling for the tax rate from the State Auditor's office.

The tax rates are set to produce the revenues which show to be required from the property tax. Each tax rate is determined by dividing the amount of revenue needed by the current assessed valuation. The result is multiplied by 100 so the tax will be expressed in cents per \$100 valuation.

<b>ASSESSED VALUATION</b>	<b>CURRENT TAX YEAR 2016</b>	<b>PRIOR TAX YEAR 2015</b>
Real Estate	\$30,857,483	\$31,022,630
Personal Property	<u>\$12,170,131</u>	<u>\$12,197,640</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$43,027,614</b>	<b>\$43,220,270</b>

The following tax rates were proposed:

	<b>AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUES BUDGETED</b>	<b>TAX RATE CEILING (PER \$100)</b>
General Fund	\$258,897.15	\$ .6017
Special Sewer Tax	87,819.36	.2041
Library Fund	41,607.70	.0967
Public Health	73,964.47	.1719
Cemetery Fund	<u>18,501.87</u>	<u>.0430</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$480,790.55</b>	<b>\$ 1.1174</b>

With no further input to come before the hearing, the hearing closed.

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

**CITY OF CARUTHERSVILLE**  
**September 6, 2016**

BE IT REMEMBERED the Council of the City of Caruthersville met in regular session in the Council Room in the Municipal Building on Tuesday, September 6, 2016, at 5:15 p.m., at which time and place the following were present:

Mike McGraw	Mayor
Takella Motton	City Clerk
Lawrence Dorroh (Absent)	City Counselor
Tony Jones	Sergeant at Arms
Merideth (Absent)	Councilperson
Harmon	Councilperson
Rodgers	Councilperson
Duckworth	Councilperson
Bullington	Councilperson
Cartee	Councilperson
Cheek	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 August 16, 2016 minutes. Councilperson Cartee motion for approval, second by Councilperson Harmon, which resulted in the following vote:

Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Hood	Yes		

Councilperson Cartee motion to approve the August 29, 2016 special session minutes, second by Councilperson Harmon, which resulted in the following:

Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Hood	Yes		

Councilperson Cartee motion to approve the reports and bills, second by Councilperson Hood, which resulted in the following vote:

Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Hood			

The next order of business was the Mayor’s report. The trash pickup will be a day behind because of the holiday. Horner Shifrin reviewed Buffington’s bid for \$384,000, which was below their cost estimate. The engineering cost is \$21,000, and 70 percent is due which comes to \$14,700. Councilperson Harmon motion to pay the bill out of the Capital Improvements Tax Fund, second by Councilperson Cheek, which resulted in the following vote:

Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Yes
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Hood	Yes		

The Brown Shoe ditch vegetation is estimated to cost \$2,800/day for 10 days for removal. It is possible that the Corp of Engineers will do it for free. The county’s excavator is not in working order, and they plan to either fix or trade it in to get a new one. If this occurs then the ditch shouldn’t be a problem keeping up in the future. Lincoln and E. 18<sup>th</sup> St. is anticipated to be paved by the last week of September, and the Magnolia Project is squared away except for the spreading of the dirt.

The actual cost for Lagers L1 plan for 2015-2016 was \$19,574.80; to go to L3 the anticipated cost would be \$34,822 a difference of \$15,247.20. A good retirement plan is good for morale, recruiting, and retaining good employees. The Reynolds Park ceiling and plaques will be paid out of the remaining funds for the project fund. A2h presented a proposal for the Cupples roof, and so has McGehee Nicholson Burke which is \$400,000 less. At this time the City is waiting to see what funding sources are available, or possibly getting a loan for the roof. If the grant approach was considered the application process would have had to been done in March in order for it to be done at this time. The City would have to come up with \$100,000 and Three Rivers \$100,000. Councilperson Bullington suggested that if the City has to get a loan to pay for the roof that the college could start paying rent to offset some of the cost of a possible 1.1 million dollar roof. Councilperson Bullington recommended that the Mayor, Terry, or she could talk with Michael Barrett. The Mayor stated that he had asked Three Rivers about contributing towards the roof, but it was at a nominal amount. The Council will review further for the next meeting, before making a decision on the architect.

The 2016 assessed valuation for the City declined by \$192, 656. The more houses that go on the market the values of the existing houses decline, and new or expanded businesses help expand the economy for the City. The Brownsfield Grant application has to be signed by the owner to have access to McCoy’s, or DNR can test the grounds adjacent to McCoy’s to get the process underway. Councilperson Bullington was concerned about the entrance ways to the City as far as the appearance. There seems to be a disconnect, and Councilperson Bullington wanted to know what could be done to move things along. Terry Rushing stated that he’s starting off with addressing the grass issue with Churchill, and then the cars will be addressed once the property is cleared. He is talking with the property owner on Ward Ave. to get that property up to code within the next two weeks. The property of Teroy’s is overgrown, and the property owner offered to pay the City, because his tractor was not operable. Terry Rushing asked if he could get someone else to mow the property, and the property owner hasn’t done so as of yet. B & H has to abide by the regulations set forth in the contractual agreement, and they’re not. Councilperson Bullington suggested that maybe the police could take a section of the City from time to time and issue citations. Councilperson Rodgers suggested to moving

forward in advertising for a Code Enforcement Officer. It was also suggested that the clerical part of the process be undertaken by someone else, freeing up Rushing to tend to other matters.

Fire Report; Chairperson Cartee reported two fire calls from August 17, 2016 through September 6, 2016. On August 17, 2016 a vacant house afire on County Road 534. On August 18, 2016 a smoke scare occurred on West 12<sup>th</sup> St. The CFD will be hosting a training course at Marquis Oil Co., Saturday, September 10, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The course is “Responding to Flammable Liquids Transported by Rail”, and 40 area firefighters have registered for the free course. On September 19, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. , the fire department will be hosting a storm spotter course at the Caruthersville Public Library, and it will be open to the public.

Tony Jones reported that the Bucking in the Bootheel Rodeo will be expecting to bring in about six to seven thousand people into town Saturday, September 10, 2016. There will be additional officers on duty covering the rodeo, and the concert at the casino.

Waste Water report; Paul Shaw reported that the hydrants will be flushed on September 26, 2016. They’re also working on the waste water side getting permits ready.

Street & Sanitation report; Terry Rushing reported that the crew assisted with a water break at the Water Plant, and with the water tap on Carroll. With attention given to the pickup of debris and junk it is taking three to four days to get it covered, taking away from getting the street breaks attended to. Right of Ways, county trustee properties, and a couple of alley ways have been completed. They are also working on the drain water shoot on Marilyn Dr. The street sweeper has been running, but will discontinue use until caps are put in and the bearings cleaned up. The mosquito truck has been running 3 days a week. The street sweeper will eventually run from 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. and the mosquito truck will run from 6:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. 4 days a week. Terry called quite a few real estate agents and property owners, and was able to get properties mowed, and sent out several notices of abate and nuisance. There was one occupancy inspection that didn’t pass code and a trailer on East 20<sup>th</sup> St. that was notified they didn’t meet city code for a manufactured home, and had to be removed. Terry Rushing will be sending out notices for 20 houses, and 30 lots for overgrown grass. He is also working on 5 dilapidated houses.

Councilperson Harmon was concerned about the time spent picking up trash throughout the City that the street department is dealing with. The roll offs are behind with the pickup from Republic. The Mayor stated the designated spring cleanup was not working, because it couldn’t be kept up with, but with a little at a time it was manageable. Instead of being throttled with every week with pickup of junk items, it was suggested to designate a specific time to be set for pickup and cite anyone that doesn’t abide. Councilperson Cartee motion to have October as the citywide cleanup, October 3, 2016 through October 14, 2016, and nothing is to be put out on the curb before or after that date. This will occur on your designated trash date. Councilperson Duckworth second the motion, which resulted in the following vote:

Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Absent
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Hood	Absent		

There will be discussion later as to a possible weekly or biweekly designated time for additional pickups. Terry Rushing stated within 3 to 4 weeks the transfer station will be opened back up in the county which will be a big help.

Business from the floor; Emma Campbell was concerned about the signage for reserved parking and handicap, wasn't for sure who the reserved parking was for and the handicap is faded out. The lines in the parking spots are also faded out. Terry Rushing stated that the City could take care of the signage and lines for parking.

Councilperson Cartee motion for the approval of the following ordinance, seconded by Councilperson Bullington, and the same was read for the first time, to wit:

**BILL NO. 2016-4**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2016-4**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION AND LEVYING THE TAXES AND DECLARING THAT PURPOSE OF WHICH THE SAME SHALL AND SHOULD BE USED FOR THE YEAR 2016.**

Councilperson Harmon motion for the second reading by title, second by Councilperson Duckworth, this resulted in the following vote on said question to wit:

Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Absent
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Hood	Absent		

Councilperson Bullington made motion to pass the bill No. 2016-4 to be known as Ordinance No. 2016-4, second by Councilperson Harmon, which resulted in the following vote on said question to wit:

Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Absent
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Hood	Absent		

Upon the Mayor declaring that Bill No. 2016-4 to be known as Ordinance No. 2016-4 is passed and approved by the Council, the Mayor did approve the bill and affix his signature and was attested and sealed by the City Clerk.

Mayor McGraw reported the highest bids for the surplus equipment as follows:

2004 Chevrolet Pickup Delta/\$1,365	2008 Ford Delta/\$535	2000 Chevrolet Dump Truck Rick Hall/\$1,526	
Vulcan Lawnmower Rick Moyers/\$10	Star Trash Pump Rick Moyers/\$50	Koshin Trash Pump Rick Moyers \$50	CH&E Pump Rick Moyers \$50

There were no bids for the exercise equipment, which will be scrapped and sold. Councilperson Cartee motion to accept the bids, second by Councilperson Bullington, which resulted in the following vote:

Harmon	Yes	Rodgers	Absent
Duckworth	Yes	Bullington	Yes
Cartee	Yes	Cheek	Yes
Hood	Absent		

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Harmon motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 p.m., with Councilperson Cartee seconding, and the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

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Mayor

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City Clerk