

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CARTHAGE, MISSOURI
October 11, 2022

The Carthage City Council met in regular session on the above date in the Council Chambers at 6:30 P.M. with Mayor Dan Rife presiding. Fire Chief Ryan Huntley gave the invocation and Police Chief Bill Hawkins led the flag salute.

The following Council Members answered roll call: Trudy Blankenship, Ceri Otero, Robin Blair, Ed Hardesty, Tiffany Cossey, Mark Elliff, Robin Harrison, and Brandi Ensor. Council Members David Armstrong and Alan Snow were absent. City Administrator Greg Dagnan and City Attorney Nate Dally were also present.

The following Department Heads were present: Police Chief Bill Hawkins, Fire Chief Ryan Huntley, Public Works Director Zeb Carney, and City Clerk Miranda Deal. Parks and Recreation Director Mark Peterson and Assistant City Administrator Traci Cox were absent.

Mr. Elliff made a motion, seconded by Ms. Otero, to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2022 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Rife presented the Carthage Nazarene Church and Alpha Delta Kappa Proclamations.

During Citizen's Participation, Abi Almandinger with Vision Carthage presented an award that the City received from America In-Bloom. The City of Carthage won the Outstanding Achievement Award for Celebrating Heritage. Julie Reams with the Chamber of Commerce was present to thank everyone who has helped with the Maple Leaf Festival, she also provided updates on the advertisements, float entries, and vendor counts. She stated that the parade will start differently this year and begin after the Star Spangled Banner is played.

Ms. Otero reported that the Budget Ways & Means Committee met on October 11 and approved a budget amendment Council Bill that includes carry-over projects, emergency purchases, and a journal entry to correct something from the auditor's report. The next meeting will be November 14.

Mrs. Harrison reported that the Committee on Insurance, Audit and Claims met on this date and approved the claims. The health insurance renewal rates were discussed. Anthem has given us a 2% increase on our health insurance cost. The budgeted amount was for a 10% increase. Mrs. Harrison made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hardesty, to keep the same health insurance plan with a 2% increase. Motion carried. The remote work policy was also discussed, there was a motion to amend the policy to include some extra clarification under the objective section, and the amended policy was placed on everyone's desk for review. Mrs. Harrison made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hardesty, to amend Council Bill 22-42 to include the changes as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Elliff reported that the Public Safety Committee is between meetings with the next meeting scheduled for October 17.

Ms. Otero reported that the Public Services Committee is between meetings with the next meeting scheduled for October 18.

Ms. Ensor reported that the Public Works Committee met on October 4. Zeb reported to the committee that the River Street bridge was damaged in an accident, and the driver took off. They are currently looking for the person responsible. There was an update on the Case to Macon Street Stormwater Project. Republic Services will be increasing rates this fall, according to our contract; they cannot raise them more than 3%. Greg reported on the comprehensive plan being redone, and the Steadley foundation applications that are due November 1.

Special Committee and Board Liaison Reports were given by Mr. Elliff for Planning & Zoning, and the Jasper County Commission, Ms. Blair for the Carthage Tree Board, Ms. Ensor for the Library Board, and Ms. Otero gave updates on some Humane Society fundraisers that recently happened.

Mayor Rife reported on the proclamation presentations and having one last group of 2nd graders come through to tour City Hall and meet with him.

During reports from Council Members, Ms. Otero apologized on the art policy delay. There was a motion to table it until the September 27 meeting so it could be discussed at the September Public Services meeting, but that meeting had been cancelled. Ms. Otero made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hardesty, to table the art policy until the second council meeting in October. Mr. Hardesty congratulated Vision Carthage for winning awards and doing all the great work they do in the community. He also congratulated the Chamber of Commerce on all the events that they are putting on for the Maple Leaf Festival. He also mentioned that he would like everyone to think about what to do with the Rock Stadium in Municipal Park. He presented the idea of making some changes within the stadium and turning it into a dog park.

City Attorney Nate Dally reported that there would most likely be a group of boy scouts at the next council meeting so they can earn one of their badges.

Police Chief Bill Hawkins reported that there was an accident at the Central/Garrison stop light involving the mobile command bus and that the stop light was being repaired as soon as possible before this weekends events.

Fire Chief Ryan Huntley reported that they fire department started off the Maple Leaf Bike Tour on Saturday morning, then they had the safety fair at station one later that same morning. He also reported that the MACK truck will most likely run long enough to be in the parade.

Public Works Director Zeb Carney reported on the following: Central/Garrison traffic signal repair, being awarded a grant for the McGregor Street bridge, his departments health fair attendance, C.B. 22-41 on tonight's agenda, an update on the Myers Park lot North of Lowe's, potential sale of remaining land in Peachtree subdivision, Maple Leaf preparations, staffing update, and change orders.

City Administrator Greg Dagnan sent his report out in the council packet. He reported that Traci reworked the Purchasing Policy Manual and raised the amounts, that will be coming to Council for approval soon. He also reported that the sales tax is still doing great, but reminded the council that there is a two-month lag in the numbers. There was also a ribbon cutting at the 6th and Main parking lot and he was glad to see many different departments come together to get that project done.

The Committee on Claims filed a report in the amount of \$900,187.54 against the following funds: General Revenue \$115,316.07, Public Health \$1,111.48, Lodging Tax \$1,102.23, Parks/Stormwater \$186,966.99, Golf \$6,402.36, Parks & Recreation \$6.18, Myers Park \$116,714.55, Public Facilities \$14,465.25, Public Library \$163,000.00, and Payroll \$295,102.43. Mrs. Harrison made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blair, to accept the report and allow the claims. Motion carried.

There was no old business.

Under new business, C.B. 22-41 – An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute a Real Estate Contract for the sale of land in the Myers Park Subdivision between the City of Carthage, Missouri and TC Garrison Properties, LLC a Missouri Limited Liability Company, Carthage, Missouri 64836 was placed on first reading.

Mr. Elliff made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hardesty to follow the emergency protocol and advance Council Bill 22-41 to second reading. Motion carried.

C.B. 22-41 – An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute a Real Estate Contract for the sale of land in the Myers Park Subdivision between the City of Carthage, Missouri and TC Garrison Properties, LLC a Missouri Limited Liability Company, Carthage, Missouri 64836 was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Blair, Blankenship, Cossey, Elliff, Ensor, Hardesty, Harrison, and Otero. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 22-42.

C.B. 22-42 – An Ordinance to amend Section 800 – Miscellaneous Policies of the Personnel Policy Manual of the City of Carthage by amending Subsection 806 – Remote Work Policy was placed on first reading with no action taken.

Ms. Otero made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Harrison, to approve Resolution 1983 – A Resolution of the Council of the City of Carthage, Missouri authorizing the approval of change order #2 to the Case to Macon Street Stormwater Improvement Project, to include the replacement of the collapsed box culvert, not to exceed the amount of \$190,000.00. Resolution 1983 was adopted after a roll call vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Blair, Blankenship, Cossey, Elliff, Ensor, Hardesty, Harrison, and Otero.

Mr. Elliff made a motion, seconded by Ms. Otero, to approve Resolution 1984 – A Resolution authorizing the City of Carthage, Missouri to submit an application to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Fund Grant – Planning and Outreach Grant – for training requirements under the Certified Local Government (CLG) Program for annual training of the Planning, Zoning and Historic Preservation Commission. Resolution 1984 was adopted after a roll call vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Blair, Blankenship, Cossey, Elliff, Ensor, Hardesty, Harrison, and Otero.

Abi Almandinger presented to the council some of the history of the Planning and Zoning Commission, as well as, what this grant was for.

During closing comments, Ms. Otero explained the emergency protocol on ordinances to the new council members, she also thanked Zeb for his good relationship with MoDOT so the traffic signal could be replaced as soon as possible. Mr. Hardesty asked what the incident was at the intersection, Chief Hawkins explained that the command bus was being transported back to the Police Department when the mast on the top of the bus took out the traffic light. Ms. Cossey thanked Ms. Otero for her knowledge in the council procedures and stated she was excited for Maple Leaf. Mr. Elliff thanked all the departments for their work on Maple Leaf and wished the Chamber luck with the events this weekend. Mrs. Harrison wished Julie Reams luck with her first Maple Leaf Festival, thanked everyone for all of their work around town, and thanked Vision Carthage for their work. Ms. Ensor thanked Abi and Vision Carthage, she stated that she is excited for Maple Leaf, she thanked Greg, the Mayor, and Ms. Deal for their Proclamation work for the Nazarene Church, she also thanked Ms. Otero for all of the information she provided the council.

Ms. Ensor made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliff, to adjourn the regular session of the Council Meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Dan Rife, Mayor

Miranda Deal, City Clerk