



City of Carthage, Missouri **CITY COUNCIL**

November 22, 2022 - 6:30 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

The Carthage City Council met in regular session on the above date in the Council Chambers at 06:30 PM with Mayor Dan Rife presiding.

Fire Chief Ryan Huntley gave the invocation.

Police Chief Bill Hawkins led the flag salute.

The following Council Members answered roll call: Robin Harrison, Brandi Ensor, David Armstrong, Trudy Blankenship, Ceri Otero, Alan Snow, Ed Hardesty, Tiffany Cossey, Mark Elliff. Council Member Robin Blair was 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, and City Clerk Miranda Deal. Public Works Director Zeb Carney and Assistant City Administrator Traci Cox were absent.

Mr. Elliff made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hardesty, to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2022 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Rife presented a Proclamation for Small Business Saturday to Carthage Chamber President Julie Reams and Willy Waggoner, owner of Boomers BBQ and Catering and Chamber Board Member. Small Business Saturday is on November 26, 2022.

During Citizens Participation, Betty Ellifson, 1435 Dove Drive, brought up the issue of lack of Ordinance enforcement regarding Nuisances. She expressed concern that something needed to be done about properties with overgrown grass and junk in the yard. She asked the Council to look at ordinances 15-3, 15-4, 15-5, 15-7, and 15-26 and do something to enforce them. She also brought up the issue of the City not taking care of skunks, and also swimming pools that do not have a fence around them. She provided a list of addresses that she has noticed to be in violation of Chapter 15 of the City Code for Council Members who wanted it.

Mr. Snow reported that the Budget Ways & Means Committee met on November 14. They received an update on sales tax numbers, they are still coming in higher than what was expected. The Committee also heard about the Carthage Water and Electric Plant Certificates of Participation that are on the agenda as Council Bill 22-47. The next meeting is scheduled for December 12.

Mrs. Harrison reported that the Committee on Insurance, Audit & Claims did not have a quorum so they did not meet prior to Council. She also reminded everyone that tonight was the second reading of Council Bill 22-46, which changes the employee dress code. The next meeting is scheduled for December 13.

Mr. Elliff reported that the Public Safety Committee met on November 21. Chanti Beckham was present to request road closures for the annual Run Through the Lights 5K that is taking place on December 15. She requested road closures on Fairview from Wynwood to Grand from 6:15-7:30 pm. Mr. Elliff made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ensor, to close Fairview from Wynwood to Grand on December 15 from 6:15-7:30 pm. Motion carried. The committee also heard a complaint about the speed at which cars are traveling on West Macon. Chief Hawkins is going to look into this issue. The next meeting is scheduled for December 19.

Ms. Otero reported that the Public Service Committee met on this date at 5:30 pm. Resolution 1989 on the agenda is a donation from Lowes for \$2500 in materials and labor will be provided as well. They are going to replace the fence at Carter Park around the Futsal courts, which is currently in poor shape. They also discussed the new playground structures and restroom plans for all of the parks. They have \$5 million dollars from the McCune Brooks Hospital Trust and they are wanting to get as many play structures, and restrooms done and have some money left for routine maintenance. They are wanting to spend around \$2.5 million on play structures, possibly 2 larger and 3 smaller structures. They will hopefully have structures and prices to look at for the next Public Service meeting on December 20.

Mr. Armstrong reported that the Public Works Committee is between meetings with the next meeting scheduled for December 6. He stated that he will be unavailable that day and the meeting may need to be rescheduled for a different day that week.

Special Committee and Board Liaison Reports were given by Mr. Elliff for the Jasper County Commission, he also updated the Council on the change of date for the Planning, Zoning and Historic Preservation meeting. Mrs. Harrison reported on the Vision Carthage meeting and Mr. Snow reported on the Carthage Water and Electric Plant Board meeting.

Mayor Rife reported on his attendance at recent CEDC meetings and interviews for the Parks & Recreation Director. He also reported that there would be an email going out about the CMR Christmas dinner for Council and City Staff.

During reports from Council Members, Mr. Elliff reported on his attendance at the November 2 Hall of Heroes ceremony at the YMCA. Mayor Rife was unable to attend the event, but Mr. Elliff said it was a well attended ceremony.

Police Chief Bill Hawkins reported on the Police Car Take Home Project. They needed 6 more cars to complete the project and they have recently found two 2022 models in St. Louis to purchase. He stated that three Police Department employees would be going to St. Louis on Wednesday to retrieve the vehicles. It is unknown when they will be able to get the remaining vehicles, but since they purchased 2022 models instead of 2023, they are saving about \$5,000 on each vehicle. He also mentioned that one of the patrol vehicles has a blown motor, but it is still covered under the warranty.

Fire Chief Ryan Huntley reported that one of his long time engineers has put in his notice. He has interviewed four individuals and they are all certified and ready to start. He expects to have the position filled by December 15.

Mayor Rife also welcomed back Assistant City Administrator Traci Cox, who attended the meeting as an audience member.

City Administrator Greg Dagnan gave out his report prior to the Council Meeting. He reported that most of the committees have heard from the department heads on their 5 year personnel

plan requests. He also mentioned that a planning session will be scheduled after the new year to discuss budget and the personnel requests. There has been an offer made to fill the Economic Director position, once the person has accepted, Mr. Dagnan will bring them to Council to introduce them. He reminded Council that the director will be paid for by the City and Carthage Water & Electric. There have been interviews for the Parks & Recreation Director, the hiring committee was chosen by the Mayor, and at the next Council meeting there will be an announcement on the individual that was chosen. He also mentioned that the City had received the last DMO payment from the CVB.

There was no report of the Claims due to lack of quorum at the Committee on Insurance, Audit & Claims meeting.

C.B. 22-46 -- An Ordinance to amend Section 600 -- City Rules & Regulations of the Personnel Policy Manual of the City of Carthage by amending subsection 605 - Dress Code was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Robin Harrison, Brandi Ensor, David Armstrong, Trudy Blankenship, Ceri Otero, Alan Snow, Ed Hardesty, Tiffany Cossey, Mark Elliff. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 22-46.

C.B. 22-47 -- An Ordinance authorizing the City of Carthage, Missouri Certificates of Participation (Carthage Water and Electric Plant), Series 2022, and certain other documents and actions by the City was placed on first reading.

Sarah Granath with Gilmore & Bell was present to answer any questions about the Certificates. Mr. Snow thanked Sarah for explaining the Certificates of Participation at the Carthage Water & Electric Plant Board meeting. Mr. Bryant explained what this Ordinance was for and that they are paying off the 2012 COP's early before receiving the 2022 Series.

Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Ms. Otero, to follow emergency protocol and advance Council Bill 22-47 to the second reading.

C.B. 22-47 -- An Ordinance authorizing the City of Carthage, Missouri Certificates of Participation (Carthage Water and Electric Plant), Series 2022, and certain other documents and action by the City was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Robin Harrison, Brandi Ensor, David Armstrong, Trudy Blankenship, Ceri Otero, Alan Snow, Ed Hardesty, Tiffany Cossey, Mark Elliff. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 22-47.

Ms. Otero made a motion, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, to approve Resolution 1989 -- A Resolution providing for the formal acceptance of a donation by the City Council of the City of Carthage, Missouri pursuant to City Policy. Resolution 1989 was adopted after a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Robin Harrison, Brandi Ensor, David Armstrong, Trudy Blankenship, Ceri Otero, Alan Snow, Ed Hardesty, Tiffany Cossey, Mark Elliff.

During closing comments, Mr. Snow mentioned that the Run Through the Lights 5K can also be walked for those who don't run. He also wished the Carthage Tiger football team good luck at the State Semifinal game this Saturday in Carthage. Ms. Cossey wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Mr. Elliff wished the tigers good luck and a Happy Thanksgiving to all, Ms. Blankenship also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ms. Otero made a motion, seconded by Mr. Snow, to adjourn the regular session of the Council Meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.