

City of Carthage, Missouri

CITY COUNCIL

June 11, 2024 - 6:30 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

To hear the full comments and discussions, please refer to the recorded Youtube video of this meeting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ty15xTNI8C0>

The Carthage City Council met in regular session on the above date in Council Chambers at 06:30 PM with Mayor Dan Rife presiding. Fire Marshal Eli Maples gave the invocation. Police Chief Bill Hawkins led the flag salute.

The following Council Members answered roll call: Chris Taylor, Derek Peterson, Lori Leece, Terri Heckmaster, Dustin Edge, Tom Barlow, Tiffany Cossey, and Jana Schramm. Council Member Alan Snow was absent. Interim City Administrator Traci Cox was absent.

The following Department Heads were present: Police Chief Bill Hawkins, Fire Marshall Eli Maples, Parks & Recreation Director Abi Almandinger, and City Clerk Miranda Deal.

Ms. Deal mentioned that the minutes for May 28 had previously been approved at the June 3 meeting. The only item that needed approved was the amendment of the May 21 minutes to fix a typo.

Ms. Cossey made a motion, seconded by Ms. Heckmaster, to approve the amendment of the minutes of the May 21 council meeting. Motion carried.

During Citizen's Participation, Jack Crusa, 701 E Highland, spoke to the council about the previous times he approached them in the past year about the now former City Administrator. He also spoke about the impeachment hearing and what the council will have to decide at the end of it.

Jackie Boyer, 1184 S Main, spoke on the Kids Fishing Day event and thanked the City and all the departments who helped with it. She appreciates all the work that the city and council do.

Bill Scheerer, 422 E 13th St, spoke about the recall petition for Ms. Cossey that is currently being circulated.

Ms. Heckmaster reported that the Budget Ways and Means Committee was between meetings.

Ms. Cossey reported that the Committee on Insurance, Audit and Claims met on this day and approved the claims. There were a few claims she had questions on, including a bill for the Memorial Hall lights. She asked Ms. Almandinger if the lights had been installed and were working. Ms. Almandinger reported that they ordered the lights from a vendor, and that she is working with the manufacturer of the lights to get the correct warmth. Ms. Cossey asked about process of approving the claim since the committee approved it with the contingency of the lights being operational. It was decided to let the council decide what to do when it came time to approve the claims. The next meeting is scheduled for June 25 at 5:30.

Ms. Heckmaster reported that the Public Safety Committee was between meetings with the next meeting scheduled for June 17 at 5:30.

Mr. Edge reported the Public Services Committee was between meetings with the next meeting scheduled for June 18 at 5:30.

Mr. Taylor reported that the Public Works Committee cancelled the June meeting due to lack of city attorney.

Special Committee and Board Liaison reports were given by Mr. Barlow for the Library Board and Mr. Peterson reported on the Kids Fishing Day that the Kellogg Lake Board puts together.

Mayor Rife reported on the budget process and attending Kids Fishing Day. He thanked everyone involved in that event.

During Remarks from Council Members, Mr. Peterson asked about having a Public Works Meeting since there has not been one since the new council has taken office. Mr. Taylor said that there will be a meeting next month so everyone can get to know each other.

Mr. Taylor thanked Jeff Meredith and his wife for helping some people he knew in ward 3 get a new place to live.

Fire Marshal Eli Maples reported that the City did not qualify for the State of Emergency grant from the Governor, but there is a grant that was submitted earlier that day, if qualified, it could match up to 50% of the debris removal costs only. The Safe Haven baby box is moving forward and they have selected a contractor, but there is no install date currently. Mr. Maples has received the necessary paperwork from the Fireworks company for the 4th of July. The north tornado siren has also been repaired and is working properly.

Parks and Recreation Director Abi Almandinger reported that the Civil War Battle Reenactment is this upcoming weekend and the parks staff has been preparing for that event. She also reported that both Municipal and Central Park pools are now open.

The Committee on Claims filed a report in the amount of \$861,466.13 against the following funds: General Revenue \$110,834.34, Public Health \$906.56, Lodging \$21,001.45, Parks/Stormwater \$56,504.83, Golf \$296.99, Capital Improvements \$15,359.50, Myers Park \$8,271.50, Use Tax \$30,493.59, Public Facilities \$9,888.56, ARPA \$1,904.00, Public Library \$25,000.00, and Payroll \$581,004.81. Mr. Taylor made a motion, seconded by Ms. Leece, to accept the report and allow the claims. Motion carried by vote of 5 yeas and 3 nays. Ayes: Taylor, Leece, Heckmaster, Edge, Barlow. Nays: Peterson, Cossey, Schramm.

Ms. Cossey made a motion, seconded by Ms. Heckmaster, to approve the Mayor's appointment of Jon Gold as interim City Attorney.

Ms. Cossey made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schramm to remove everything after the first sentence in clause 4 of the contract with Mr. Gold. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the appointment with the amended contract carried with a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Taylor, Peterson, Leece, Heckmaster, Edge, Barlow, Cossey, and Schramm.

Ms. Cossey made a motion, seconded by Ms. Leece, to approve the Mayor's appointment of Nathan Gurley as interim Municipal Court Attorney. Motion carried with a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Taylor, Peterson, Leece, Heckmaster, Edge, Barlow, Cossey, and Schramm.

During Closing Comments, Mr. Edge asked about having a special budget meeting before the next council meeting. Mayor Rife and Ms. Deal stated that there would need to be, but a date has not been set.

Mr. Edge made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to adjourn the regular session of the Council Meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.