



City of Carthage, Missouri

BUDGET WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

January 13, 2025 - 5:30 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terri Heckmaster, Christopher Taylor, Tom Barlow

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS: Jana Schramm

STAFF PRESENT: Assistant City Administrator Traci Cox, and Admin Assistant Dorothy Weber

Chair Terri Heckmaster called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM

2. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of Dec 9, 2024 Minutes

ACTION: Motion to Approve Dec 9, 2024 Minutes by Chris Taylor
Motion Passed with a 3:0

AYES: Terri Heckmaster, Tom Barlow, Chris Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. Old Business

4. Citizens Participation

(Citizens wishing to speak should notify Department Head or Committee Chair in advance)

5. New Business

1. Consider and Discuss Budget Goals and Budget Calendar FY 25-26

Ms. Cox stated that she rewrote the budget goals for FY 25/26. Ms. Cox also stated that the minimum reserve fund balance will remain at 35%.

ACTION: Motion to Forward Budget Goals and Budget Calendar to Council by Chris Taylor

Motion Passed with a 3:0

AYES: Terri Heckmaster, Tom Barlow, Chris Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Consider and Discuss Farm Lease Agreement
The Committee discussed the industrial land that is south of Carthage and the guidelines that are in place for the 5 year contract going forward. Ms. Heckmaster asked if Mr. Boggs was the previous contract holder and Ms. Cox said that he was.
ACTION: Motion to Forward Five Year Farming Contract to Council by Tom Barlow
Motion Passed with a 3:0
AYES: Tom Barlow, Chris Taylor, Terri Heckmaster
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
3. Consider and Discuss Budget Adjustment for Network and Host Project with Stronghold Data
Ms. Cox stated that the budget adjustment in the amount of \$13,264.00 was needed to cover the City's portion of the Stronghold Project.

ACTION: Motion to Forward Budget Adjustment for Network Host Project with Stronghold Data by Chris Taylor
Motion Passed with a 3:0
AYES: Chris Taylor, Tom Barlow, Terri Heckmaster
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
4. Consider and Discuss Agreement with Stronghold Data for the Network and Host Project

ACTION: Motion to Forward the Agreement with Stronghold Data for the Network Host Project to Council by Tom Barlow
Motion Passed with a 3:0
AYES: Tom Barlow, Chris Taylor, Terri Heckmaster
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
5. Consider and Discuss Budget Amendment Council Bill for ARPA Funds for FY 23-24 and FY 24-25
Ms. Cox stated that she hasn't received the final audit report. Ms. Cox stated that the budget amendment was needed for the City to be in compliance with ARPA reporting requirements.
ACTION: Motion to Forward the Budget Amendment for ARPA funds FY 23/24 and FY 24-25 by Chris Taylor
Motion Passed with a 3:0
AYES: Tom Barlow, Terri Heckmaster, Chris Taylor
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
6. Consider and Discuss McGregor Street Bridge Agreement with MNA Railroad

The agreement with MNA railroad states that they have to approve the plans to change the McGregor St Bridge. The cost for this is \$38,000.00. Ms. Heckmaster asked if this amount was part of the 1.7 million dollar 80/20 grant. Ms. Cox stated that it is not part of the grant.

ACTION: Motion to Forward McGregor St Bridge Agreement with
MNA Railroad by Chris Taylor

Motion Passed with a 3:0

AYES: Chris Taylor, Terri Heckmaster, Tom Barlow

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

7. Consider and Discuss Accepting Federal Funds for the Taxi

The Committee discussed accepting the 2023 Taxi Grant in the amount of \$87,000.00. It is a 50/50 Federal Grant.

ACTION: Motion to Forward Accepting Federal Funds for the Taxi to
Council by Tom Barlow

Motion Passed with a 3:0

AYES: Tom Barlow, Chris Taylor, Terri Heckmaster

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

8. Consider and Discuss Updated Salary Study

Ms. Cox stated that the salary schedule has been updated. It will increase the budget by \$395,000.00 a year. Ms. Cox stated that instead of giving a two percent step increase in July, the city was going to implement it on Feb 7, 2025 pay date. The minimum is a 2% increase. Ms. Cox stated that there won't be a budget adjustment until the end of the fiscal year. Ms. Cox also stated that the salary study committee was very gracious in determining that the minimum pay for City employees will be \$15.00 and for implementing the salary study this fiscal year. Ms. Cox stated that the committee believes that a budget adjustment will not be necessary because of salaries that were budgeted for positions that have remained vacant.

ACTION: Motion to Forward Updated Salary Study to Council by
Chris Taylor

Motion Passed with a 3:0

AYES: Terri Heckmaster, Tom Barlow, Chris Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

9. Consider and Discuss Budget Adjustment for Paul Martin

The Committee discussed a budget adjustment for Paul Martin for \$25,000.00 for services rendered.

ACTION: Motion to Forward Budget Adjustment for Paul Martin to
Council by Tom Barlow

Motion Passed with a 2:1

AYES: Tom Barlow, Terri Heckmaster

NOES: Chris Taylor

ABSTAIN: None

10. Staff Reports

Ms. Cox stated that sales tax was down \$20,000 for the month of December but it was up \$25,000.00 for 2024. Ms. Cox stated that the City will no longer be reporting on marijuana tax. Ms. Cox explained that one of the PD vehicles was totaled due to no fault of the officer and needed to be replaced. The insurance company valued the replacement value at \$27,000.00. The PD solicited three quotes. The cheapest was \$44,900.00 and the vehicle was available immediately. The other two quotes were more expensive, and the vehicles wouldn't be available for another 2-3 months.

ACTION: Motion to Approve Best Bid by Tom Barlow
Motion Passed with a 3:0
AYES: Chris Taylor, Tom Barlow, Terri Heckmaster
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Ms. Cox brought up a possible partnership with the Boots Court. The agreement would have the Boots Court acting as the Carthage Visitors Center. The Boots Court is open on the weekends and evenings when everyone else is closed. They also have the Route 66 stamp. Lynn Andrews spoke briefly about the impact that the Boots Court has had on the community and their future plans. Ms. Cox listed services that they could offer, including tourism development. The Boots Court is asking for \$36,000.00 annually. Ms. Cox stated that it would not be funded by the Lodging Tax fund. Mr. Barlow spoke about the importance promoting the other hotels in the area. The Committee discussed the Boots Court possibly receiving DMO funding. Mr. Taylor asked how the Boots Court would be spending the money that the city gives them and what procedure will they use to report it to the City. Ms. Cox stated that the money would be considered under scope of services and that they would be able to provide statistics but not specifics. Mr. Andrews stated that the Boots Court and the Visitors Center will be kept separate. The Committee discussed how great of a partnership this could be.

6. Adjournment

ACTION:	Motion to Adjourn at 6:23 PM by Chris Taylor
	Motion Passed with a 3:0
AYES:	Chris Taylor, Terri Heckmaster, Tom Barlow
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None