



City of Carthage, Missouri
PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

May 20, 2025 - 5:30 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Head Golf Pro Tyler Markham

STAFF PRESENT: Parks and Recreation Director Abi Almandinger, Administrative Assistant Angie Judd

Chairman Jana Schramm called the meeting to order at 05:31 PM.

2. Old Business

1. Approval of previous minutes.

Ms. Leece motioned to approve the previous minutes, motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 2.1. by Lori Leece;
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. Citizen Participation

(Citizens wishing to address the Council or Committee should notify the City in advance and provide the item they want to address in written format at least 24 hours before the meeting. Please call Angie Judd at the Parks & Recreation office at 417-237-7035, or email a.judd@carthagemo.gov.)

4. New Business

1. Consider and discuss cart fees for golf course.

Ms. Almandinger introduced Tyler Markham, Head Golf Pro, to discuss golf cart rental fees. Mr. Markham reported that the current pricing of \$8 for 9-hole cart rentals and \$13 for 18-hole cart rentals has fallen behind area market rates. He proposed increasing the rates to \$10 for 9-holes and \$15 for 18-holes, as well as an increase in push cart rentals from \$5 to \$6. He noted that these rate changes would generate an estimated \$30,000-\$35,000 of additional annual revenue. Ms. Schramm suggested \$16 for 18-holes would be a beneficial increase in revenue that would still keep rates within the median range of area courses. Mr. Perkins

motioned to approve the new cart rate fees of \$10 for 9-holes, \$16 for 18-holes, and \$6 for push carts and to forward to full council, motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.1. by Jack Perkins;
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Consider and discuss surplus of indoor hitting bay.

Ms. Almandinger introduced Mr. Markham, Head Golf Professional, to provide an update on the indoor hitting bay. Mr. Markham explained that the structure was originally installed to allow access to the driving range during inclement weather; however, it was rarely used. He reported that the building was overturned by a tornado last May and further damaged by recent windstorms. After consulting with the golf course maintenance superintendent, it was determined that the building should be declared surplus, with the use of the space to be reevaluated at a later date. Ms. Leece motioned to approve the surplus of the indoor hitting bay, motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.2. by Lori Leece;
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. Consider and discuss Red, White & Boom 5k.

Ms. Almandinger reported that the annual Red, White & Boom 5K, hosted by the high school cross country coach, will take place as part of the holiday celebrations. She noted that the event requires no road closures and that the Parks Department has no concerns. Approximately 150 participants are expected. The mayor has been invited to serve as the honorary starter. Ms. Leece motioned to approve the Red, White, & Boom 5k event and forward to full council, motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.3. by Lori Leece;
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

4. Consider and discuss Kraken Swim Meet.

Ms. Almandinger reported that the Kraken Swim Team has hosted an annual swim meet for several years and typically brings in food trucks in lieu of traditional concessions. The food trucks donate a portion of their proceeds back to the team. This year's event is scheduled for July 12th, and the team is requesting permission to allow food trucks to set up inside the park for the event. Mr. West motioned to allow food trucks to set up inside the park for the Kraken Swim meet on July 12, motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.4. by Ray West;
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

5. Consider and discuss gate fees for pool.

Ms. Almandinger introduced Jonathan Roberts, CEO of the Fair Acres YMCA, to discuss proposed changes to pool gate fees. Mr. Roberts noted that the YMCA has operated the city pools for the past ten years and is currently concluding a three-year contract. He proposed increasing daily admission to \$4 for all patrons except YMCA members, along with raising private party rental fees to \$250 for two hours at the Municipal Pool and \$100 for two hours at the Central Pool. He cited rising operational costs due to increases in minimum wage and chlorine prices and expressed a desire to avoid operating at a loss. Mr. Roberts stated the pools are scheduled to open on May 24th and requested the fee changes take effect on June 1st or upon council approval. Mr. Perkins motioned to accept the proposed gate and party fee changes and forward the recommendation to the full council. Following discussion regarding the potential for reduced rates for YMCA members and concerns about implementing fee increases during the swim season, the motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.5. by Jack Perkins;
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

6. Consider and discuss RFP for Kellogg Lake fountain.

Ms. Almandinger reported that the Kellogg Lake fountain has been out of operation for several seasons, with ongoing efforts to restore it. An RFP was issued, and two bids were received, one of which did not meet the specified criteria. The qualifying bid from Site One totaled \$23,424.70 for the purchase of a new fountain, within the allocated project budget of \$25,000. She noted that following the purchase, the next step would be to hire an electrician for installation, estimated at approximately \$1,500. Ms. Leece motioned to accept the bid from Site One for \$23,424.70, motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.6. by Lori Leece;
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

7. Consider and discuss RFP for tables and chairs at Memorial Hall.

Ms. Almandinger reported that an RFP was issued for new tables and chairs for Memorial Hall. While most vendors did not respond with sealed bids as requested, one bid was received from Carthage Hardware. She noted that the originally specified chair was discontinued, but the company was able to source a comparable replacement at a lower cost. The total bid, including folding tables, chairs, and hangers, came to \$27,794.98, resulting in a savings under the \$50,000 budgeted for the project. Ms. Leece motioned to accept the bid from Carthage Hardware in the amount of \$27,794.98, motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.7. by Lori Leece;
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

8. Consider and discuss RFP for Memorial Hall curtains.

Ms. Almandinger reported that an RFP was issued for the replacement of the backstage curtains at Memorial Hall due to their outdated and deteriorating condition, which has rendered them unsafe. A bid was received from A to Z Theatrical Supply in the amount of \$32,250 for the repair and replacement of the curtains. The committee discussed applying the savings from the Memorial Hall tables and chairs purchase toward the curtain project, which has a budget of \$20,000. Ms. Leece motioned to accept the bid from A to Z Theatrical Supply in the amount of \$32,250, motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.8. by Lori Leece;
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

9. Consider and discuss Music in the Park by Council on the Arts.

Ms. Almandinger introduced Brady Beckham, President of the Council on the Arts, who requested permission to host the annual Summer Concert Series in Central Park. Mr. Beckham stated that the series consists of three free public concerts each year and requested approval for band merchandise sales, the potential use of a slip and slide, and the inclusion of food trucks or vendors. Ms. Almandinger reported no concerns from the Parks Department and noted these events are a valuable offering to the community. Ms. Leece motioned to approve the Summer Concert Series in Central Park as outlined, motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.9. by Lori Leece;
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

5. Staff Reports

1. Staff reports.

Mr. Markham provided a comparison of golf operations from last year to the current year. In 2024, the course hosted 44 events, including a mix of recurring and one-time tournaments. To date, 33 events are scheduled for the current year, with outreach for next year's tournaments planned for December through early January. Tournament events generated approximately \$62,500 in revenue and an estimated 500 rounds played. In addition, tournaments awarded around \$12,000 in club credit for merchandise in the pro shop. The course is currently in the middle of the PGA Junior League season, with weekly matches in June and July and 24 juniors (ages 6–14) participating. Mr. Markham, serving on the Joplin Golf Foundation Board, noted that the course will host the Foundation's junior clinic in June and a Carthage High School junior camp in July, which will include a free clinic to encourage local youth participation in golf. Memberships currently total 219, with 169 annual members, 54 monthly members, and 71 junior members. Membership revenue was \$97,000 last year, and the current year is

tracking toward \$100,000. The course is awaiting approval of its liquor license from the state. Looking ahead to the next fiscal year, plans include initiating irrigation and bunker renovation planning, with improvements expected to begin in the following fiscal year. These upgrades are anticipated to reduce repair costs and maintenance time.

Ms. Almandinger provided the monthly golf maintenance, parks maintenance, and recreation report. She reported that flower plantings at Central Park have been completed, with work finishing just ahead of recent storms. She stated that Red, White, & Boom event planning is ongoing and the festivity begins with the 5K run, followed by a golf tournament, community free swim, and free Kiddieland rides. Additional activities include food trucks, vendors, karaoke, a kids' zone with bounce houses, a watermelon feed, music from 7–9 p.m., and fireworks at 9:30 p.m. VIP parking will be available at the driving range, with general parking in the field. Handicap parking will be located in the main lot. She advised that if enough volunteers are available, golf carts will shuttle attendees. She noted that a few sponsors and food trucks have already been confirmed. She reported that Lime scooters will be launched by June 2nd but will not be offering hybrid or e-bikes this year. Ms. Almandinger stated that promotional graphics, along with rules and regulations, will be posted on social media. She also noted that per Lime's own regulations, the minimum age of rental is 18 years of age. She reported that new lights have arrived for the playground and parking lot areas, and an electrician bid for installation will be issued soon. With ball season underway, she noted that Parks staff has logged 70 hours of maintenance on the ballfields. She stated that the next major project is the Carter Park futsal court, which was approved last fiscal year and is now ready to move forward. She reported that the department was able to save nearly \$1,000 on the Central Park bathroom repairs by working with ServPro to salvage restroom components instead of purchasing new. The Municipal pool has been filling for a week and is nearly full, with Burton Pool & Spa working to calibrate and prepare systems for operations. Ms. Almandinger requested that, with the decrease in vandalism and the increase in park usage, staff would like the committee to consider extending bathroom closure times to 10 p.m., with the exception of the Griggs Park restrooms to remain open until 11 p.m. She reported that since opening, the Dog Park has registered 45 households, nine of which were paid for by a donation received. The Aquatic Committee heard a presentation from Waters Edge and is awaiting finalized concept figures while discussions regarding funding are ongoing. Ms. Almandinger reported that a Pickleball league is scheduled to begin July 10 and will run for six weeks. It will include doubles, recreational doubles, and mixed categories, with a team entry fee of \$40. She stated that a free Mahjong class will begin on Friday evenings beginning June 13th at Memorial Hall and is open to the community. Ms. Leece inquired on storm damage from recent storms, to which Ms. Almandinger stated there was a sizable limb down in Central Park. Mr. Perkins asked about maintenance of the golf course bathrooms, and Ms. Almandinger confirmed that the golf course staff maintained those.

Ms. Almandinger provided Food Truck Friday and Tourism reports for the committee to review.

6. Other Business

7. Adjournment

ACTION:	Motion to Adjourn at 07:00 PM by Lori Leece
	Motion Passed with a 4:0
AYES:	Jana Schramm, Lori Leece, Jack Perkins, Ray West
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None