

City of Carthage, Missouri

CITY COUNCIL

September 23, 2025 – 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=DbFjpAOWdwY>

The Carthage City Council met in regular session on the above date in Council Chambers at 6:30 PM with Mayor David B. Flanigan presiding. Fire Chief Jason Martin gave the invocation.

The following Council Members answered roll call: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. City Administrator Traci Cox was also present. City Attorney Jon Gold was absent.

The following Department Heads were present: Police Chief Bill Hawkins, Fire Chief Jason Martin, Public Works Director Josiah Bayless, City Clerk Miranda Deal, and IT Administrator Michael Keith.

Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2025 regular and closed session Council meeting minutes. Motion carried.

During public comments, Jennifer Shotwell with the Area Agency on Aging addressed some rumors going around about the Carthage Senior Center. One of the rumors was that the center was closing, and that is not true. The other was that they are no longer serving lunches. That is also not true, they are changing how they are doing the freshly prepared meals. All of the food will be cooked at the Lamar Senior Center and brought to Carthage the same day, similar to having outside food catered. This is a change in their operations due to financial restraints and the increasing costs of labor and other factors.

Kamy Kulow, City Clerk of Aurora, was present to recognize City Clerk Miranda Deal on receiving her Missouri Registered City Clerk certification and presented her with a certificate.

Mark Salazar told the Council that he is working with a ministry baseball group who has been playing at Carl Lewton Stadium and presented an idea to the council to allow him to manage the field and the events that happen and also partner with him to help get the

stadium back up and running for younger kids. He and a group of players and parents recently went out there and did some minor work on the field, and look forward to possibly working with the City to restore the historical field.

Eileen Sherlock, Director of the Crisis Center, was present to introduce someone who recently took advantage of some of the new programs that the Crisis Center is offering. Mark Miller is a successful graduate of the 120 program through the center, and has also completed the Jasper County Jail treatment program. He said that the center is not just a homeless shelter, they have many other things to offer those in need and is thankful for the programs that are offered to help get people on the right path. Ms. Sherlock said that residents at the center are not just those who have a substance abuse problem, there are also a lot of domestic violence residents and young adults who have aged out of the foster care system who had no where else to go. They are working on getting more educational opportunities to further help their residents get back into their communities with useful tools and knowledge.

Mr. Snow reported that the Budget Ways and Means Committee is between meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for October 13th at 5:30 pm.

Mr. Peterson reported that the Committee on Insurance, Audit and Claims met on this day and approved the claims. They approved the health insurance renewal rates, which was a 0% increase for the next calendar year. Mr. Peterson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wells, to approve the Anthem insurance renewal rates for a 0% increase. Motion carried. The next meeting will be on October 14th at 5:30.

Mr. Snow reported that the Public Safety Committee met September 22nd. Judy Moore was present to ask the committee about getting a handicap parking space by her business at the corner of 4th and Lyon. The committee decided to forward the request to the Public Works Committee. Terecia Mixon with the YMCA was present to ask for road closures for the Maple Leaf 5K event. Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to close George Phelps Blvd from Grand Avenue to Fulton St from 5:30-7:30 pm on October 17. Motion carried. They also requested police officers at the race crossings at the entrance of Fairview Christian Church and limiting access from Airport Drive to Clinton and Grand to Fairview. The committee approved and forwarded Resolution 2101; this is a donation from Backyard Discovery to the Fire Department for their help in the warehouse fire in Lamar. They also discussed a grant for the Police Department, the agenda had the acceptance of the grant, but they are just applying at this time. The Annual Sheriff's Office Night Under the Stars fundraiser is on October 4 from 4:30-7:30, they requested the south side of the square be closed on 4th Street from Main to Grant. Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. West, to close the south side of the square on October 4 from 4:30-7:30. Motion carried. Chief Hawkins reported they are hiring for a few officers with retirements and resignations that have happened recently. He also recognized two police officers who did an interview with the news for a Hispanic Heritage Month segment, it was Officer Hinojoza and Officer Azua. Mr. Snow thanked the Fire Department A Crew, Captain Brady Gertsner, Lieutenant Brett Henson, Engineers Mike Hole and Rick Williams, Firefighters Dakota Jones, Colton Gurera,

Derrick Moore, and Davis Martin along with Deputy Chief Maples, and Training Officer Calhoon, for their work in recent major accidents. The next meeting will be on October 20th at 5:30.

Ms. Schramm reported that the Public Services Committee met September 18th. She reported that the new Parks and Recreation Director Richard Bonine will start on October 6, and Tyler Markham, Golf Operations Supervisor, has put in his notice and he will be missed. The committee previously approved the Bikes, BBQ, and Toy Run to take place on the square, but that location needs to be changed to Central Park. Ms. Kang made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gilpin, to allow the use of Central Park on October 11 for the Bikes, BBQ, and Toy Run. Motion carried. The Saddle Club requested permission to apply for another grant to help increase the number of holding pins for livestock and to replace the outdated and dangerous announcer box. Ms. Schramm made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to allow the Saddle Club to apply for the grant for improvements. Motion carried. The Maple Leaf Rodeo is requesting food trucks at the park for the event. Ms. Schramm made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wells to allow food trucks in Municipal Park during the rodeo event. The Soles 4 Paws 5k will be held on November 23 starting at 4 pm in Municipal Park. Ms. Schramm made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to allow the use of Municipal Park on November 23 for the Soles 4 Paws 5k event, benefiting the Carthage Humane Society. Motion carried. They discussed the liquor sales at the golf course. There are policies and signage that will be put in place, no outside alcohol will be allowed at the golf course going forward, and tournament pricing for the alcohol will be cost plus 10%. Ms. Schramm made a motion, seconded by Mr. Perkins, to approve the sale of alcohol at the golf course. Motion carried. Jonathan Roberts provided year end numbers for the swimming pool. There were around 14,000 local visitors to the pool and she thanked Jonathan and Amy with the YMCA for their work in running the pools and hosting the swimming events. The next meeting will be on October 21st at 5:30.

Mr. Peterson reported that the Public Works Committee is between meetings. The next meeting will be on October 7th at 5:30 pm.

Special Committee and Board Liaison reports were given by Mr. Peterson for the Planning, Zoning, and Historic Preservation Commission, Mr. West for the Kellogg Lake Board, Mr. Perkins for the CW&EP Board, Mr. Wells for the Jasper County Commission, and Ms. Schramm for Vision Carthage.

Mayor Flanigan reported that there is an opening on the Planning, Zoning, and Historic Preservation Commission and that he is working on filling it. He reported on a meeting with the engineers on the second downtown sidewalk project. He recently attended the Fire Department grain bin rescue, a bridge committee meeting, the MML conference, the CEDC meeting, and met with 1st graders at Steadley elementary with Ms. Schramm. He also reported that the Eastern District Commissioner had recently resigned and that the Governor will appoint someone to fill the remainder of the term.

During Remarks from Council Members, Mr. Peterson told the council about the special Planning and Zoning meeting on September 24 and that the Walker Collaborative would be announcing the new design guidelines that they had come up with and encouraged everyone to attend if they could. Mr. West reported that one of the sessions he attended during MML was about event security and most of the things they covered, the City is already doing so he wanted to thank the public safety departments for their hard work. Mr. Perkins reported on a call he received about flags being at half-mast. Mr. Thorn received a complaint about the lack of sidewalks between River and Pearl Street heading to Fairview and that people are driving too fast in that area, he asked if that could be patrolled a little heavier for a while. Ms. Kang thanked Keith Wheat for his quick work on some complaints she had received. She thanked the departments involved in repairing a water main break in her neighborhood. She also announced that the Grand Marshalls for the Maple Leaf Parade are Jo and Jerry Ellis. Mr. Snow gave some background information about Mr. Bonine, the new Parks and Recreation Director, and asked that everyone help and support him in his new role. Ms. Schramm enjoyed going to Steadley and also enjoyed the MML Conference. Mr. Wells also attended the MML conference and one of the things he took away was that the City needs to have something that makes them unique to draw people in and that there are improvements that need to be made to other things to get a unique draw to the City.

Police Chief Bill Hawkins reported that they are applying for a grant for equipment, the personnel issues are not at critical levels, and they are working on getting officers hired. He also reported that the Citizen's Police Academy will start on October 20 and run for 8 weeks, it will be every Monday evening. He encouraged citizens and council to sign up.

Fire Chief Jason Martin reported that they have been doing a lot of training's recently, the trench rescue activity has been postponed due to all the rain, there is an upcoming First Due training that will help use the reporting software more efficiently and get more out of it. He reported that the wreck that happened last month on Fairview, there was a Joplin Captain that lives in the area and was able to extinguish the vehicle fire before the fire department got to the scene, he thanked him for his help. There will also be a Fire Chief meeting to go over radio communications.

Public Works Director Josiah Bayless reported thanked Jason and his guys for their quick response to the wreck on 96, his family is close with the family involved and is grateful that the individual will make a full recovery. He also reported that there are two street maintenance positions open. The Hazel widening has one more layer of asphalt to be put down and then it should be reopened after that. The East Chestnut box culvert is also getting to the final stages.

City Administrator Traci Cox congratulated Ms. Deal on her achievement and said she is happy that staff are continually training to be up to date.

The Committee on Claims filed a report in the amount of \$5,041,242.36 against the following funds: General Revenue \$ \$98,066.38, Public Health \$161,573.63, Lodging \$3,392.72, Parks/Stormwater \$4,505.50, Fire Protection \$1,684.84, Golf \$8,744.24,

Capital Improvements \$11,534.29, Myers Park \$11,098.50, Use Tax \$46,179.30, Public Facilities \$163,038.04, Library \$56,000.00, Payroll \$475,424.92, and Carthage Water and Electric \$4,000,000.00. Mr. Peterson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wells, to accept the report and allow the claims. Motion carried.

Under Old Business, C.B. 25-44 -- An Ordinance to amend Section 200 -- General Employment Policies of the Personnel Policy Manual of the City of Carthage by adding Section 208 - Employment Records Policy was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 1 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. Nays: Jack Perkins. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 25-57.

C.B. 25-60 -- An Ordinance to amend the Personnel Policy Manual of the City of Carthage, Missouri was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 25-58.

C.B. 25-61 -- An Ordinance to authorize the Mayor to apply for federal financial assistance on behalf of the City of Carthage and to execute any contract(s) resulting from such application for any grants between the City of Carthage and the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission providing for capital, operating, and/or marketing assistance, comprised of federal funds to be expended for Commission-approved transit projects was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 25-59.

C.B. 25-62 -- An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Terra Foundation, to perform a Water Delineation Study on the South Economic Development Park land that consists of roughly 246 acres, for \$5,500.00, in the City of Carthage, Missouri was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 25-60.

C.B. 25-63 -- An Ordinance amending the Annual Operating and Capital budget of the City of Carthage for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Fire Sales Tax Fund was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 25-61.

C.B. 25-64 -- An Ordinance amending Chapter 17, Article VII, Section 17-257, of the Carthage City Code was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack

Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 25-62.

There was no New Business.

Under Resolutions, Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve Resolution 2101 -- A Resolution providing for the formal acceptance of a donation of \$2,000.00 from Backyard Discovery to the Carthage Fire Department by the City Council of the City of Carthage, Missouri pursuant to City Policy. Resolution 2101 was adopted after a roll call vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells.

During closing comments, Mayor Flanigan expressed his gratitude and awe for the current council and all the councils before them for getting work done for their city. Congratulations were extended by all to Ms. Deal on her certification. Ms. Schramm thanked the Crisis Center for speaking and Maple Leaf events start October 10. Mr. Peterson thanked Backyard Discovery for their donation. Mr. Cifuentes thanked the fire department and police department for their hard work and quick response during accidents. Mr. Perkins reported that he and his wife are big supporters of the crisis center. Mr. Thorn also appreciates the work the crisis center does. Ms. Kang thanked all the departments for all their work. Mr. Snow was grateful for the MML conference and the chance to talk to other council members from other cities. He also said the homecoming parade is tomorrow evening.

Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schramm, to close the meeting according to section 610.021 (2), the agenda includes the possibility of a vote to close part of the meeting to discuss leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration therefor, followed by a roll call vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. Motion carried at 8:07 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to return to the regular session of the Council Meeting at 8:30 p.m. followed by a roll-call vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. Motion carried.

Ms. Schramm made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to adjourn the regular session of the Council Meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CARTHAGE, MISSOURI
September 23, 2025

The Carthage City Council met in a closed session on the above date in the City Hall Conference Room at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor David B. Flanigan presiding.

Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schramm to close the meeting according to section 610.021 (2), the agenda includes the possibility of a vote to close part of the meeting to discuss leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration therefor, followed by a roll call vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. Motion carried at 8:07 p.m.

The following Council Members answered roll call Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells.

City Administrator Traci Cox, City Clerk Miranda Deal, and Jeff Meredith were also present.

Ms. Cox and Mr. Meredith discussed a real estate matter.

Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to adjourn the closed session Council Meeting at 8:30 p.m. followed by a roll-call vote of 10 ayes and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Kate Gilpin, Genaro Cifuentes, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Beth Kang, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. Motion carried and the Council returned to regular session.

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Deal
City Clerk