

City of Carthage, Missouri

CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 24, 2026 – 6:30 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

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. Police Chief Chad Dininger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The following Department Heads were present: Police Chief Chad Dininger, Fire Chief Jason Martin, Public Works Director Josiah Bayless, and Parks and Recreation Director Richard Bonine, and City Clerk Miranda Deal.

Mr. West made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2026 Council Meeting. Motion carried.

During Public Comments, Chris Wright was present to answer any questions there might be about the re-plat of the Blackberry Briar subdivision that he is developing.

James Hildesheim, 2061 Lakeview St, was present to discuss the new duplexes that are being built on Lakeview Street and the traffic flow issue that they are going to cause. There are no garages on the new duplexes, just a drive way and there will be overflow onto the street. With street parking on both sides of the road, it only leaves room for one lane traffic. He would like the City to look at the development and see if there is something that can be done about it. The rest of the development is single family homes.

Bill Lasley, 1403 Grand, is glad to see a code enforcement committee doing something about the neglected houses and yards around town. He gave the Council a few addresses to have checked out by the code enforcement officials. He also talked about the need to get a humane society contract worked out because of the amount of dogs running at large. He brought up overtime parking around the square and that it needs to be addressed so customers can park in front of local businesses they want to shop at instead of the employees around the square parking in all the spaces. He also brought up past wrongdoings to people from prior administration and how something needs to be done.

Sally Stuart, Co-Director of Vision Carthage, gave a quarterly update about all the things that they have done and shared the plans for the near future. The future events

include Community Clean-up day that will be the morning of the Earth Day celebrations, and another dumpster day event on May 3 at the Fair Acres parking lot.

Mr. Snow reported that the Budget Ways and Means Committee is between meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for April 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 discussed the changes to section 2-178 under the city clerk job duties and will be forwarding that council bill to the next meeting. There was also discussion on changes to section 2-160 regarding the resignation or discharge of the City Administrator. These changes will not affect Ms. Cox, as she has a contract agreement. But it will affect anyone in the future who is City Administrator. That will also be forwarded to the next council meeting for the council to discuss. The next meeting is scheduled for April 14th at 5:30 pm.

Mr. Snow reported that the Public Safety Committee met on March 19th at 5:30. The committee heard from Vision Carthage on their various events coming up. They discussed the evening soiree event in June and having alcohol in Central Park. Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to allow alcohol in Central Park on June 27 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Motion carried. They also discussed the alcohol in the park for the Food Truck Friday events for the year. Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. West to allow alcohol in Central park for the Food Truck Friday events on April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, and September 11 from 6-9 pm. Motion carried with Mr. Wells casting a no vote. They also approved the street closures for the Food Truck Friday events. Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete to close 7th Street from Garrison to Lyon, and Lyon from 7th to Chestnut from 87 am- 10 pm the dates of the events. Motion carried. Chris Goodwin and Brian Judd would like to host a Cruise for a Cause event on the 4th Saturday of every month on the square. They do not want to close the street, just have permission to back into the parking spaces. They will set up on the south side of the square on the 4th Saturday of every month beginning March 28 and ending October 31. Each month, they will choose a different non-profit or charity to donate to. Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schramm to approve the Cruise for a Cause event on the square and allow cars to back into spaces on the south side from 4-10 pm. Motion carried. Chief Martin discussed the roof repair bids for station 1. The two received were not comparable so they are going to redo the bid specs and send it back out again. Chief Martin also asked for permission to apply to the McCune Brooks Hospital Trust to purchase an autopulse machine. Chief Dinger asked the committee for permission to use some of their donation money to buy 2 rifles for the School Resource Officers to keep in their vehicles like the other police officers have. Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete to go ahead and allow the Police Department to purchase the two rifles now. Motion carried. He also asked for permission to use donation money to purchase new workout equipment. Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to allow the police department to purchase the workout equipment now. Motion carried. Mr. Snow said that there would be a formal budget adjustment for these two items in the future after it goes to the budget committee. They discussed Resolution 2118 and it is to use a grant to purchase new

car routers. He also reminded everyone that the storm spotter class is on March 26th in Council Chambers. The next meeting is scheduled for April 20th at 5:30 pm.

Ms. Schramm reported that the Public Services Committee met March 23rd at 5:30. They discussed the Great American Days event for 5th graders. Ms. Schramm made a motion, seconded by Mr. West to approve the use of Central Park on May 12 from 7:45 am – 2pm. Motion carried. They discussed the Vision Carthage clean-up day that is the same day as the Earth Day Celebration, Ms. Schramm made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to allow Vision Carthage to use Central Park on April 18 from 8:30 am – 10:30 am. Motion carried. The Vision Carthage Dumpster Day was discussed. Ms. Schramm made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to allow the use of the Fair Acres west parking lot for the event on May 3rd from 1-4 pm. Motion carried. The Evening Soiree event for Vision Carthage. Ms. Schramm made a motion, seconded by Mr. Snow to allow the use of Central Park on June 27 from 4-10 p.m. for the event. Motion carried. They discussed and approved the council bills for the youth softball and soccer agreements. They were presented golf revenues which are high due to the nice weather. The golf course has started selling alcohol and everything seems to be going well. The committee asked for a break down at the next meeting for the sales on it. Ms. Schramm also reported that her, Mr. Bonine, and Ms. Cox will be meeting with another pool vendor soon to discuss the current municipal pool vendor to get more ideas on how to repair or replace what the City currently has. There will be a pool meeting scheduled after the vendor meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 21st at 5:30 pm.

Mr. Peterson reported that the Public Works Committee is between meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for April 7th at 5:30 pm.

Special Committee and Board Liaison reports were given by Mr. West for the Kellogg Lake Board, Ms. Schramm for Vision Carthage, and the Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council, Mr. Wells for Code Enforcement and the Civil War Museum Board.

Mayor Flanigan reported on budget progress, meetings with the housing commission, code enforcement, CEDC, and Planning and Zoning. Work is still being done to get a contract with the Humane Society, and the traffic counters around town are from MoDOT. He also commented on Mr. Lasley's comments with the Mark Peterson case. He talked to the State Auditor's office and is still being told that it is still and active investigate with the State even though charges were dropped on Mr. Peterson.

During Remarks from Council Members, Mr. Peterson thanked Sally and Vision Carthage for their work in beautifying the Oak Street bridge. He also reported that the bridge committee will meet again April 6. Mr. Topete thanked Vision Carthage for all the work they are doing around town. He also reported that Chief Dininger has said there have only been two minor accidents with Lime scooters, and that he is ready to see the survey results about them. Mr. Perkins asked Chief Dininger about a stop sign that was on the road to the golf course. He also said that there is no way to see oncoming traffic if you are stopped by the sheriffs office on the north side of the square and asked that something be put in place to see traffic headed west. He also wants to know if it is

possible to ask the owners of the salvage yard on Oak street to paint all of their semi trailers on color that line the edge of their property. Mr. Thorn is excited about the code enforcement and beautification through the City especially since we will have lots of visitors on Route 66 this year. Mr. Snow thanked the council and the Mayor for working hard on some big issues that the City has had for awhile or knew would become issues. Ms. Schramm said that the Humane Society has a contract from the City to review, but their last meeting was cancelled. She also reported on the Kolpin Family Pavilion ribbon cutting that would be Wednesday at 2 pm. Mr. Wells wants to make sure that more people besides the 206 that filled out the survey want to scooters back and wants to make sure all the pros and cons are looked at.

Police Chief Chad Dininer reported that his officers are looking for obvious parking violations throughout the city including parking in yellow paint areas and front yard parking. This will help the public get ready for all code enforcement to be enforced.

Fire Chief Jason Martin reported that the new storm siren batteries will be replaced soon and the storm spotter class will be on March 26th. Business owners have reached out to him and asked about sirens being able to be heard at their locations and he wanted to remind everyone that sirens are for people who are outside. They are not meant to warn people who are inside. He also reminded everyone that even though there has been some rain recently, we are still in a drought and with the wind conditions, it is not safe to burn. Please call the fire department and ask if it is ok to burn before doing so.

Public Works Director Josiah Bayless reported that the final walkthrough of the Airport and Hazel expansion had been completed and thanked ATS Construction for their work on the project. The traffic counters have been put out by MoDOT to monitor traffic to help determine future projects. The Macon and Center culverts have been completed. He also reported on the code enforcement efforts and said they will start working in sections of the city and identifying code violations according to the 2018 International Building Code that the City follows. If there is a violation, letters will be sent out to the homes, and they can contact public works to get information on what needs to be done to be compliant.

Parks and Recreation Director Richard Bonine reported that there was a softball tournament over the weekend due to the fields in Joplin not being ready to be used. They were able to contact him and get the tournament moved to Carthage with short notice. He also reminded everyone about the 4th of July event.

City Administrator Traci Cox thanked Mr. Bonine for his work on the last minute tournament. She reported on Chamber events coming up including the business expo, Shop 417, and the Earth Day celebrations. There are many organizations trying to revitalize downtown and get businesses into Carthage. There is work being done to create a business packet for those wanting to get a business started and they don't know where to start. She reported that Melissa Little, the Tourism Director, has great plans and ideas for the Food Truck Friday events this year. It will be Route 66 themed

to celebrate the centennial. She also had a meeting with the Mayor and told him that if there is any information he wants regarding the Mark Peterson case, she would turn it over.

The Committee on Claims filed a report in the amount of \$2,367,517.50 against the following funds: General Revenue \$139,478.12, Public Health \$169,865.71, Lodging \$2,795.00, Public Safety \$2,451.68, Parks/Stormwater \$152,451.00, Golf \$18,700.14, Capital Improvements \$9,829.00, Public Facilities \$14,720.00, Payroll \$257,226.85, and Carthage Water & Electric \$1,600,000.00. Mr. Peterson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wells to accept the report and allow the claims. Motion carried.

There was a public hearing held for the annexation of a 24.23 acre parcel on East Fir Road. There was a question from the audience about what the land will be used for. Public Works Director Josiah Bayless said it is the school annexing the property in and it will be used for additional parking and some of that farm land will be used for the agricultural classes at the Tech Center.

Under Old Business, C.B. 26-13 -- An Ordinance annexing certain adjacent territory which consists of a 24.23 acre parcel on East Fir Road, into the City of Carthage, Jasper County, Missouri as requested by Carthage R9 School District was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 7 yeas and 1 nay. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Juan Topete, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm. Nay: Ron Wells. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 26-15.

C.B. 26-14 --An Ordinance accepting the re-plat of Blackberry Briar Subdivision located East of Prospect Avenue between 13th Street and Budlong Street, in the City of Carthage Missouri, as requested by Wright Family Homes/Chris Wright was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Juan Topete, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 26-16.

C.B. 26-15 -- An Ordinance of the City of Carthage, Missouri authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement between the City of Carthage, Missouri and Zanevan Engineering, LLC for engineering services on the 3rd Street Bridge Replacement Project (BRO-R117002), in the City of Carthage, Missouri was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Juan Topete, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 26-17.

Under New Business, C.B. 26-19 -- An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement with Carthage Youth Softball League for non-exclusive use of the softball fields at the Fair Acres Sports Complex during the summer of 2026, in the City of Carthage, Missouri was placed on first reading with no action taken.

C.B 26-20 -- An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement with Fair Acres YMCA for non-exclusive use of the fields at the Fair Acres Sports Complex for the

YMCA's Spring Sports Program, in the City of Carthage, Missouri was placed on first reading with no action taken.

C.B. 26-21 -- An Ordinance to establish places of posting of the notices of public meetings was placed on first reading with no action taken.

Under Resolutions, Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve Resolution 2118 -- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept the Missouri Department of Public Safety Local Violent Crime Prevention Grant for the Carthage Police Department. Resolution 2118 was adopted after a roll call vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Juan Topete, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells.

Ms. Schramm made a motion, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve Resolution 2119 - A Resolution providing for the formal acceptance of a donation to the City of Carthage Municipal Golf Course by the City Council of the City of Carthage, Missouri, pursuant to City Policy. Resolution 2119 was adopted after a roll call vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Derek Peterson, Juan Topete, Ray West, Jack Perkins, David Thorn, Alan Snow, Jana Schramm, and Ron Wells.

During closing comments, the Mayor thanked all those who signed up for the election and reminded everyone to get out and vote on April 7. Mr. Snow wished Regina Wells a happy birthday and wished everyone a Happy Easter. Ms. Schramm thanked Mr. Hildesheim for his presentation. Mr. Peterson said that he would ask the Planning and Zoning Commission about the Lakeview issue. Mr. Topete asked Mr. Wells for some of the scooter information he reported on earlier in the evening. Mr. West thanked the budget committee for all the work they are about to go through with the budget process for next year. Mr. Perkins asked some other questions regarding the Lakeview subdivision. Mr. Thorn asked everyone to get out and vote and wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete, to adjourn the regular session of the Council Meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.