



City of Carthage, Missouri

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

March 23, 2026 - 5:30 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jana Schramm, Jack Perkins, Ray West

MEMBERS ABSENT: Beth Kang

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor David B. Flanigan

STAFF PRESENT: Parks and Recreation Director Richard Bonine, Administrative Assistant Angie Judd, City Administrator Traci Cox, Tourism Director & Public Information Officer Melissa Little

Chair Jana Schramm called the meeting to order at 05:30 PM.

2. Old Business

1. Approval of February 17, 2026 minutes.

Mr. West made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2026 Public Services Committee meeting. Motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 2.1. by Ray West; second by None;

Motion passed with a 3:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, 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 Great American's Day in Central Park.

Debbie Herbst, representing the Great Americans Day Volunteer Committee presented a request for use of Central Park on May 12th from 7:45 am through 2:30 pm. She stated this is an annual living history event for all fifth graders in Carthage, expecting around 380 kids. Mr. Perkins motioned to approve the use of Central Park for Great Americans Day on May 12 from 7:45am-2:30pm. The motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.1. by Jack Perkins;
Motion passed with a 3:0
AYES: Jana Schramm, Jack Perkins, Ray West
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

2. Consider and discuss Vision Carthage Cleanup Day.

Sally Stuart, Co-Director of Vision Carthage, presented a request for use of Central Park for a community clean up day in conjunction with Chamber of Commerce Community Earth Day. Ms. Stuart stated there will be assigned areas all over town that volunteers will clean and pick up trash. She added that there were over 100 volunteers last year and is hoping for similar numbers this year. Mr. West motioned to approve the use of Central Park on April 18th for Clean-up Day. The motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.2. by Ray West;
Motion passed with a 3:0
AYES: Jana Schramm, Jack Perkins, Ray West
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

3. Consider and discuss Community Dumpster Day.

Sally Stuart, Co-Director of Vision Carthage, presented a request to hold Community Dumpster Day in the Fair Acres parking lot on May 3rd from 1-4 pm. She added that they will be accepting more items, including medical supplies, paper for shredding, electronics, and tires. Ms. Schramm inquired about items that will not be accepted and Ms. Stuart stated no wet paint or lawn clippings will be taken at this event. Mr. Perkins motioned to approve the use of Fair Acres parking lot for Community Dumpster Day on May 3rd. The motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.3. by Jack Perkins;
Motion passed with a 3:0
AYES: Jana Schramm, Jack Perkins, Ray West
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

4. Consider and discuss Vision Carthage Evening Soiree.

Sally Stuart, Co-Director of Vision Carthage, requested the use of Central Park for Vision Carthage's Evening Soiree scheduled for June 27th from 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm. Ms. Stuart stated this is a big fundraiser for Vision Carthage. Ms. Schramm added that it was a beautiful event last year. Mr. West motioned to allow the use of Central Park for Vision Carthage's Evening Soiree from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. The motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.4. by Ray West;
Motion passed with a 3:0
AYES: Jana Schramm, Jack Perkins, Ray West
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

5. Consider and discuss Youth Softball contract.

Mr. Bonine stated that he met with the Youth Softball organization recently to discuss their contract for use of the softball fields at Fair Acres. He stated that

this is the same contract as last year and is a non-exclusive contract with first dibs on scheduling. Mr. West motioned to approve the 2026 contract with Carthage Youth Softball for use of the softball fields for their season. The motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.5. by Ray West;
Motion passed with a 3:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

6. Consider and discuss YMCA soccer contract.

Mr. Bonine presented a contract between the City and the Fair Acres YMCA for use of the soccer fields at Fair Acres for the spring season. He stated the Parks Department is working with the YMCA to allow some fields to lay dormant this season and will be blocking off and moving fields to allow the season to continue. Mr. Perkins motioned to approve the 2026 contract between the City and Fair Acres YMCA for use of the soccer fields. The motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.6. by Jack Perkins;
Motion passed with a 3:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

7. Consider and discuss donation to Carthage Municipal Golf Course.

Mr. Bonine advised the committee that the Golf Course received a donation of \$20k to be used toward golf course. He stated that its use will be determined and that he will stay in communication with the individuals in charge of the estate to update them as it progresses. Mr. Perkins motioned to accept the donation to the Carthage Golf Course. The motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.7. by Jack Perkins;
Motion passed with a 3:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

8. Consider and discuss Boots Court Visitor's Center contract.

Ms. Cox stated presented a requested change in the agreement with Boots Court Visitors Center. She stated that this is an amendment to the current 3-year agreement after Boots Courts approached the City to request the ability to set their own operating hours in order to adjust seasonally as needed. Mr. Perkins motioned to approve the amendment to the agreement with the possibility of reviewing again at a later time. Ms. Schramm added that the Visitors Center is a beautiful facility and expressed appreciation in being able to call it the Carthage Visitor's Center. The motion passed.

ACTION: Motion to accept/approve item 4.8. by Jack Perkins;
Motion passed with a 3:0

AYES: Jana Schramm, Jack Perkins, Ray West

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

5. Staff Reports

1. Golf.

Mr. Bonine presented the Golf report, noting that revenue was up compared to the previous two years, attributing the increase to favorable weather conditions that allowed for additional rounds. He reported that operations are running smoothly and that revenue is expected to continue to increase. Ms. Schramm requested that alcohol sales be included in future reports. Mr. Bonine advised that this information will be provided in the next report.

2. Memorial Hall.

Ms. Judd presented the Memorial Hall report, noting the events held throughout the month. She reported that the Vendor's Market has concluded for the season and that staff is working to determine its structure and fees for the upcoming season.

3. Parks.

Mr. Bonine presented the Parks Maintenance report. He advised that staff accommodated an area softball tournament on short notice and that the event was successful, with the tournament director expressing interest in returning to use the fields in the future. Ms. Cox added that she received a call from the tournament director commending the department. Ms. Schramm inquired about the dog park ribbon cutting, and Mr. Bonine advised that it is scheduled for April 23rd and that staff is working to invite all parties involved in the project.

Mr. Bonine reported that planning for Red, White, and Boom 2026 is underway with a strong committee in place. He added that this year's event will include a bull-riding event.

4. Civil War Museum.

Ms. Little presented the Civil War Museum report, noting that attendance remains steady and inventory is moving quickly. She advised that she is continuing to familiarize herself with the building and will be adding a capital outlay request to bring the fire alarm system into compliance with code.

5. Tourism.

Ms. Little presented the Public Information report to the Committee. She advised that she is working with the website developer to bring the City's website into ADA compliance. She reported that usage of the City app has doubled and that positive feedback has been received. Ms. Little stated that she met with Mrs. Hill from the Carthage Technical School regarding potential unpaid student internship opportunities. Ms. Little reviewed current media campaigns for upcoming City events and reported that Carthage will serve as a host location for the Electrek American Solar Challenge, with both the start and stop planned at the Memorial Hall parking lot. She noted that she has updated the visitor's guide with current information. Ms. Little also reported that WorldAtlas.com recently published an article recognizing Carthage as having the most walkable downtown in Missouri.

6. Adjournment

Mr. West motioned to adjourn. The motion passed.

ACTION:	Motion to Adjourn at 06:37 PM by Ray West
	Motion passed with a 3:0

AYES:	Jana Schramm, Jack Perkins, Ray West
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None