

# City of Carthage, Missouri

## CITY COUNCIL

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May 12, 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 Dinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Council Members answered roll call: Juan Topete, Robin Harrison, Ray West, David Thorn, Jack Perkins, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Ron Wells, and Susan Reddy. City Attorney Jon Gold and City Administrator Traci Cox were also present.

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

Mr. Topete made a motion, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2026 Council Meeting. Motion carried.

During Public Comments, Regina Wells, 2026 S Maple, brought up the lime scooters and expressed her concerns with them.

Sally Stuart with Vision Carthage gave an update on events that happened over the past month. They are almost complete with flower plantings, they have gotten new banners hung up, dumpster days and clean up day went smoothly, and they are now planning for Restoration Carthage.

Mr. Snow reported that the Budget Ways and Means Committee met on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. They approved the two budget adjustment resolutions for the police and fire departments, they also approved the Chamber of Commerce and Over 60 Center Contracts. They reviewed the FY 26-27 budget. There is a special meeting May 13 at 5:30 to hear the Carthage Water and Electric Plant budget and to continue with the city budget perfection. The next meeting is scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

Mr. Wells reported that the Committee on Insurance, Audit and Claims met on this day and approved the claims. They also discussed section 2-160 relating to the resignation or discharge of the City Administrator, they will further review that at their next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

Mr. Snow reported that the Public Safety Committee is between meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

Ms. Kang reported that the Public Services Committee is between meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

Mr. Topete reported that the Public Works Committee met May 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. They discussed the county road tax that is being held for the City and talked about projects to use the funds on. They also opened bids for the forklift for the recycle center. Mr. Topete made a motion, seconded by Ms. Harrison, to accept the bid from B&H Industrial for \$21,450.00 for a Unicarrier Forklift for the recycle center. Motion carried. They also got updates on the loader rebuild and the Oak Street Bridge. There will be a council bill coming forward to enter into an agreement with Union Pacific for the plan review of that bridge. The next meeting is scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 pm./ at 5:30 pm.

Special Committee and Board Liaison reports were given by Ms. Harrison for Planning, Zoning, and Historic Preservation, Mr. Thorn for the Public Library, Ms. Kang for the Downtown Business Alliance. Ms. Reddy reported that the Boots Court meeting is being moved out one week.

Mayor Flanigan reported that he attended the May 5 Cinco De Mayo event at the Kolpin Pavilion, he also visited the new Heartbeat Boxing facility. Work continues on the budget and on the historic design guidelines with planning and zoning. He also attended the National Day of Prayer event at the Courthouse. He hopes to have an answer about the pool before Memorial Day, the Humane Society rejected the agreement the City made to them. They continue to work to a solution, but there is currently no contracts to enter into. He is also looking for a resident from Ward 2 who wishes to serve on the empty City Council seat.

During Remarks from Council Members, Mr. West reported that he went door knocking in his neighborhood and most people had good things to say, there were a few complaints about speeding and some cleanup complaints that he talked to Mr. Bayless about already. Mr. Thorn said that he and his wife took their camper to the Boots Court and had a staycation. He thinks that RV parking area is really nice and will be a great place for people travelling through to stop at. He does have a few suggestions that he will be speaking to them about. Mr. Snow reported that the budget has gone very smoothly this year with a lot of the work being done during the day with the departments rather than having a week of budget meetings that last many hours. Ms. Kang recently finished the Customer Academy through CW&EP. She has also heard from citizens that they appreciate the code enforcement efforts. Mr. Wells encouraged the other council members to attend tomorrow's budget meeting to see what is being discussed. Ms. Reddy took a tour of CW&EP and encouraged others to do the same if they get the chance.

Parks and Recreation Director Richard Bonine reported that dumpster days was a huge success at the same time a large softball tournament was happening and they did not get in the way of each other. He also thanked CW&EP for helping with trying to diagnose the pool and helping with the park lights.

Public Works Director Josiah Bayless reported that the loader was received back today and it looks great. He also reported that Cochran Engineering who is doing the sidewalk extension project, will be at the next council meeting to present what they are doing and to answer any questions. He also thanked all the other departments for working together and getting things done. There has been a lot of cooperation happening through many issues and the code enforcement efforts.

Fire Chief Jason Martin reported that there was a follow up training to the active shooter training they recently did. The training was very well done and there was a lot learned they are planning the next training and it could be held in Carthage. He also reported that the department is doing hose testing this week to make sure they are properly working. The Station 1 roof repairs begin tomorrow, and the brush truck that was sent of 20 months ago has finally made it back. There are still some things that need to be completed on it before it goes into service.

Police Chief Chad Dinger reported that he attended a Missouri Police Chief's Conference recently and he is grateful to work where he does, because there are a lot of cities that have bigger issues. He is appreciative to work for the City.

City Administrator Traci Cox reported that she attended the Humane Society meeting the previous week and there is no agreement, but negotiations are still happening. As of right now, if the city takes an animal to the shelter, it will have to pay what everyone else pays which is \$200 per animal. She reported on the budget process and how things will have to be decided on in the future. The general revenue salaries make up 70% of the general revenue expenses. She also mentioned that the Public Library has a Route 66 traveling exhibition going on right now and encouraged everyone to go see it. She also mentioned the ArtCentral artwalk that is happening Friday evening.

The Committee on Claims filed a report in the amount of \$3,189,025.99, against the following funds: General Revenue \$129,227.47, Public Health \$169,052.11, Lodging \$2,048.54, Parks/Stormwater \$55,679.69, Fire Protection \$226.28, Golf \$9,159.11, Capital Improvements \$7,943.50, Use Tax \$485.47, Public Library \$25,000.00, Payroll \$290,203.82, and Carthage Water & Electric \$2,500,000.00. Mr. Wells made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete, to accept the report and allow the claims. Motion carried.

Under Old Business, C.B. 26-27 -- An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Lease Agreement with Jason and Pam Graff for continued use of the pavilion in Municipal Park as a skating rink for a one-year term commencing May 1, 2026 was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Juan Topete, Robin Harrison, Ray West, David Thorn, Jack Perkins, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Ron Wells, and Susan Reddy. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 26-27.

C. B. 26-28 -- An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Elements Construction Concepts, Inc. of Joplin, Missouri, for the Kellogg Lake Sidewalk and Pavilion in the amount of \$134,143.00, in the City of Carthage, Missouri was placed

on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Juan Topete, Robin Harrison, Ray West, David Thorn, Jack Perkins, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Ron Wells, and Susan Reddy. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 26-28.

C.B. 26-29 -- An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Vision Carthage for Specified Services in the City of Carthage, from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, in the City of Carthage, Missouri was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Juan Topete, Robin Harrison, Ray West, David Thorn, Jack Perkins, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Ron Wells, and Susan Reddy. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 26-29.

C.B. 26-30 -- An Ordinance amending Chapter 15 -- Nuisances of the Carthage City Code was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Juan Topete, Robin Harrison, Ray West, David Thorn, Jack Perkins, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Ron Wells, and Susan Reddy. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 26-30.

C.B. 26-31 -- An Ordinance to amend Section 503 – Holidays Authorized of the Personnel Policy Manual of the City of Carthage by adding Good Friday and amending the holiday observation days for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day when Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Juan Topete, Robin Harrison, Ray West, David Thorn, Jack Perkins, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Ron Wells, and Susan Reddy. The Council Bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 26-31.

Under New Business, C.B. 26-25 -- An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Carthage Chamber of Commerce for Specified Services, from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, in the City of Carthage, Missouri was placed on first reading with no action taken.

C.B. 26-26 -- An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute a Contract between the City of Carthage and the Carthage Over 60 Center for services in the amount not to exceed \$23,000.00 was placed on first reading with no action taken.

C.B. 26-34 -- An Ordinance accepting the final plat of South Rollins Creek, as submitted by J Builders LLC, generally located at the NE corner of Fairview and Buena Vista, in the City of Carthage, Missouri was placed on first reading.

Mr. Topete made a motion, seconded by Mr. Snow, to amend the council bill to include the legal description of the plat. Motion carried by a vote of 8 yeas and 1 nay. Ayes: Juan Topete, Robin Harrison, Ray West, David Thorn, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Ron Wells, and Susan Reddy. Nays: Jack Perkins.

C.B. 26-35 -- An Ordinance to amend Section 25-251 of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Carthage, Missouri, to add Subsection (19) Short-Term Rentals as a Special Use with Regulatory Standards was placed on first reading with no action taken.

A discussion was held about Lime Scooters. Everyone voiced their concerns about them, some of them expressed the importance for some people to have access to the scooters. The discussion will be held at the public services meeting on Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup> about them. The geofence being opened to the whole city was a big topic, the committee will review a possible change in the geofence to lower the amount of areas the scooters are allowed to go.

Under Mayor's Appointments, Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete, to approve the reappointments of Mark Gier and Darren Collier to the Carthage Water & Electric Plant Board until May 2030. Motion carried. Ms. Harrison made a motion, seconded by Mr. Snow, to approve the reappointment of Josh Anderson to the Planning, Zoning, and Historic Preservation Commission until May 2030. Motion carried. Ms. Kang made a motion, seconded by Mr. Snow, to approve the reappointment of Brandon Scott to the Carthage Tree Board until May 2029. Motion carried. Ms. Kang made a motion, seconded by Mr. Snow, to approve the appointment of Alicia Knell, Marilee Lasley, and Joe Lyon to the Carthage Library Board until July 2029. Motion Carried.

Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete, to approve Resolution 2121 -- A Resolution authorizing a budget adjustment to the Public Safety Fund for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 for a line-item adjustment to Capital Outlay for the purchase of two rifles and workout equipment for the Police Department. Resolution 2121 was adopted after a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes Juan Topete, Robin Harrison, Ray West, David Thorn, Jack Perkins, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Ron Wells, and Susan Reddy.

Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete, to approve Resolution 2122 -- A Resolution authorizing a budget adjustment to the Capital Improvements Fund for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 for a line-item adjustment to Capital Projects for upfitting the 2024 Ford Brush truck. Resolution 2122 was adopted after a roll call vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes Juan Topete, Robin Harrison, Ray West, David Thorn, Jack Perkins, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Ron Wells, and Susan Reddy.

During closing comments, Mayor Flanigan appreciated the good discussions had that evening. Ms. Harrison also appreciated the good discussions between the council, Mr. Thorn congratulated the Carthage High School seniors that were graduating this week. Mr. Perkins encouraged others to listen to the CW&EP budget presentation and remember that they are a very reliable service that the City has the pleasure of having. Mr. Snow talked about decorum and the special budget meeting on Wednesday.

Mr. Wells made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete, to adjourn the regular session of the Council Meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.