



City of Carthage, Missouri

BUDGET WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

July 13, 2026 - 5:30 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Thorn, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Juan Topete

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ron Wells

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS: Mayor David B. Flanigan

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Traci Cox, Administrative Assistant Dorothy Weber, IT Director Michael Keith, City Clerk Miranda Deal

Chair Alan Snow called the meeting to order at: 5:30 PM

2. Old Business

1. Approve June 8, 2026 Minutes

ACTION: Motion to approve June 8, 2026 minutes by Juan Topete
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Alan Snow, Beth Kang, David Thorn, Juan Topete

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. Citizens Participation

(Citizens wishing to speak should notify Department Head or Committee Chair in advance)

4. New Business

1. Consider and discuss a budget adjustment resolution for FY 2025-2026
Ms. Cox stated that the budget adjustments were an end-of-year financial clean-up for Golf and the FD. Mrs. Deal stated that more budget adjustments may happen as the 2025-2026 FY is closed out. Mr. Snow spoke about the budget adjustments.

ACTION: Motion to forward budget adjustments to Council by Juan Topete
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Alan Snow, Beth Kang, David Thorn, Juan Topete

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Consider and discuss priority based budgeting

Mrs. Cox stated that revenues are flat compared to expenditures that keep increasing and how it's important to look at different ways of budgeting. Ms. Cox stated that instead of looking at line items, which is how the budget is currently calculated, the city would look at services and goals and the outcomes for the individual departments' needs. Priority-based budgeting is based off of goods and services and that the city would prioritize community needs and wants. Mrs. Kang asked if other local communities used this method. Ms. Cox stated that it's currently not used by many, but it's becoming increasingly more popular. Ms. Cox listed different ways to decide priorities. Mrs. Kang asked about GFOA guidance. Mrs. Deal stated that it's mostly larger cities that use priority-based budgeting. Ms. Cox and Mr. Snow discussed plugging services into priorities and how all of the services will be aligned to score and rank. Mr. Topete asked about finding out a range for services. Mrs. Kang asked about which services would be listed and Ms. Cox stated that it would be up to the Council. Mayor Flanigan spoke about the challenges of using this budgeting model. Mrs. Kang asked about the approval process for this budget and Ms. Cox stated that she didn't believe that the city was ready to implement it just yet and that she wanted to get the conversation started. The Committee discussed having a special council meeting to discuss implementation of the priority-based budgeting model. Mr. Topete and Mr. Snow asked Mrs. Deal to find a list of priorities that other cities are using. The Committee reviewed sales tax covered by state statute. Mr. Topete asked for a list of things that other cities found that worked with priority-based budgeting and things that they thought were mistakes.

3. Staff Reports

Mr. Keith spoke about getting the city ready for Marian Days. Mr. Keith then updated the committee on the cellular switch over for PD. Ms. Cox stated that sales tax for July was up 2.49% from last year and that use tax is up 28% from last year. Mrs. Cox spoke about meetings with the FOP. Mrs. Kang explained that she had been discussing possible grants for FD and PD.

5. Adjournment

ACTION:	Motion to Adjourn at 6:35 PM by Juan Topete
	Motion passed with a 4:0
AYES:	Alan Snow, Beth Kang, David Thorn, Juan Topete
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None