



City of Carthage, Missouri

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

August 31, 2026 - 5:30 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

MEMBERS PRESENT: Beth Kang, Juan Topete, Jack Perkins, Mariela Telles

MEMBERS ABSENT: David Thorn

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor David B. Flanigan and Susan Reddy

STAFF PRESENT: Parks and Recreation Director Richard Bonine, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Roy Sawyer, and City Administrator Traci Cox. Tourism Director Melissa Little, Administrative Assistant Shala Cochrane was also present and took the minutes of the meeting.

Chair Beth Kang called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

2. Old Business

1. Approval of July 21, 2026 Minutes

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 Shala Cochrane at the Parks & Recreation office at 417-237-7035, or email s.cochrane@carthagemo.gov.)

4. New Business

ACTION: Motion to move item 9 to item 3.

Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Juan Topete, Beth Kang, Mariela Telles, Jack Perkins

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

1. Consider and discuss MSSU Theater presentation at Central Park
Natasha O'Brian spoke about putting on a free performance of Much Ado About Nothing in Central Park on Sept 15th. The Carthage High School is also going to be taking part in the performance. Jack Perkins asked how long the play will be and Ms. O'Brian stated about 90 minutes. Beth Kang asked if MSSU had any fliers and Ms. O'Brian stated that she did.

ACTION: Motion to approve MSSU use of Central Park on Sept 15, 2026 by Juan Topete
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Jack Perkins, Beth Kang, Juan Topete, Mariela Telles

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Consider and discuss Saddle Club grant

Judy Thomas talked about the grant for rebuilding the announcer stand at the Arena. Phase 1 has been completed. This is the beginning of Phase 2. Ms. Thomas was informed that they will need a building permit.

ACTION: Motion to forward Saddle Club grant to Council by Juan Topete

Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Juan Topete, Beth Kang, Mariela Telles, Jack Perkins

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. Consider and Discuss Pickleball Fundraiser Event. Presented by Brandon Scott. Brandon Scott discussed a fundraiser for Proving Grounds Wrestling. Pickleball Tournament, held on October 10 at noon in Griggs Park.

ACTION: Motion to forward Wrestling Fundraiser to Council for permission to use the Park and have food trucks by Juan Topete

Motion passed 4:0

AYES: Juan Topete, Beth Kang, Mariela Telles, Jack Perkins

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

4. Discuss potential Mercy Fun Run at Municipal Park

Megan Henson from Mercy Hospital talked about the 1st Color Fun Run. September 12, 2026 6am-12pm at Municipal Park. No road closures are necessary.

ACTION: Motion to let Mercy hold a Fun Run at Municipal Park on September 12, 2026, by Juan Topete

Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Juan Topete, Beth Kang, Mariela Telles, Jack Perkins

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

5. Susan Reddy would like to discuss having a street named after her brother, Steve Fierro.

Susan Reddy and James Harrison were there to discuss naming a street after her late brother and friend. Mr. Harrison spoke on behalf of the street naming. Ms. Reddy would like to have it named Steve Fierro Way. Ms. Cox stated that they needed more information about the street and location.

ACTION: Motion to table street renaming until more information is gathered by Juan Topete

Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Juan Topete, Beth Kang, Mariela Telles, Jack Perkins
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

6. Consider and discuss use of Park for Maple Leaf Festival Events

Julie Reams asked for approval for Maple Leaf 2026 events.

ACTION: Motion to forward to council as a resolution by Juan Topete
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Juan Topete, Beth Kang, Mariela Telles, Jack Perkins
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

7. Consider and discuss Kellogg Lake Advisory Committee items

Jackie Boyer talked to Missouri Conservation about planting native flowers. Debris build up on the tree in the river, Ms. Cox has asked Mr. Bonine to look into it. Kellogg Lake board would like to replace a few trees that were flooded. Ms. Boyer asked to remove some poison ivy. Mr. Bonine plans to spray in cooler weather.

8. Consider and discuss 4th of July fireworks for 2027

Mr. Bonine talked about the one-year extension for the winning bidder in 2026. The price will increase from \$25,000 to \$27,000 for 2027. The committee discussed the difficulties with getting bids.

ACTION: Motion to accept a \$2,000 price increase by Juan Topete
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Juan Topete, Beth Kang, Mariela Telles, Jack Perkins
NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

9. Consider and discuss Vision Carthage items

Sally Stuart with Vision Carthage. Clean-up day in Central Park on October 10, 2026. Mrs. Stuart spoke about putting up signs for African American heritage. No action was taken. Mrs. Stuart then asked permission to use City funds, with Vision reimbursing, for pesticides. The Committee discussed maybe needing a license to use certain pesticides. No action was taken. Mrs. Stuart asked for permission to paint the City arches in the park.

ACTION: Motion to allow Vision Carthage to paint the City arches in the parks by Juan Topete
Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: Juan Topete, Mariela Telles, Beth Kang, Jack Perkins
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Mrs. Stuart asked why the fountain in Central Park was off and Mr. Bonine stated that there was a leak and that he was working on it. Mrs. Stuart asked for permission to set up the light tunnel using City employees for fall and Christmas before Treats on the Square.

ACTION: Motion to allow Vision to use City employees to put up the light tunnel before Treats on the square by Juan Topete

Motion passed with a 4:0

AYES: None

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Mrs. Stuart concluded with informing the Committee about the skating rink grant that she is applying for. Mrs. Stuart also stated that she has volunteers moving Visions decorations out of the Parks barn and into a storage unit.

10. Staff Reports

Melissa Little spoke about Food Truck Friday being Sept 11 themed, the Solar Cars, Civil War Museum and an event at the Route 66 Drive in theater. She also spoke about preparations for the upcoming Veterans Day parade.

Roy Sawyer spoke about bids for the potential playground in Fair Acres and Municipal Park by Kiddie Land. The Committee discussed the projects and potentially only doing one as funding is limited. Mr. Sawyer asked the Committee to come up with potential themes for the playground and the Committee discussed the importance of making sure that it is ADA accessible. Mr. Sawyer stated that he has asked the bidders on the playground to assign a cost to everything.

Mr. Bonine gave an update on the pool. He stated that he was meeting with a representative from Landmark and an electrical engineer to go over the plans.

Mr. Bonine stated that golf revenue is up \$8,000.00 from this time last year. He spoke about upcoming prep for the fall sports season.

5. Adjournment

ACTION:	Motion to Adjourn by Juan Topete at 7:21 PM
	Motion passed with a 4:0
AYES:	Jack Perkins, Juan Topete, Beth Kang, Mariela Telles
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None