

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF CARTHAGE, MISSOURI  
APRIL 7, 2020

The Carthage City Council met in Special session on the above date at 3:30 P.M. via Zoom video conference with Mayor Dan Rife presiding.

The following Council Members answered roll call via Zoom video conference: James Harrison, Ray West, David Armstrong, Mike Daugherty, Ceri Otero, Darren Collier, Alan Snow, Kirby Newport, Ed Barlow, and Juan Topete. City Administrator Tom Short and City Attorney Nate Dally were present.

The following Department Heads were present via Zoom video conference: Police Chief Greg Dagnan, Fire Chief Roger Williams, Public Works Director Zeb Carney, Parks & Recreation Director Mark Peterson and City Clerk Traci Cox.

Mr. Daugherty made a motion, seconded by Mr. Snow, to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2020 Special Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

No emails were received from citizens wishing to address the council.

Ms. Otero reported the Committee on Insurance/Audit and Claims met on this date via Zoom video conferencing. The Committee approved a contract with Guaranty Bank. It is presented in C.B. 20-17. The City's proposed COVID-19 Employee Leave Policy was reviewed. Ms. Otero discussed the classification of employees and how leave is to be handled under the Stay at Home Order and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). Ms. Otero made a motion, seconded by Mr. Armstrong to approve the policy. Motion carried.

Mr. Snow reported the Budget, Ways and Means Committee met on April 6 via Zoom video conferencing. The Committee discussed the Fiscal 2021 Budget. Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Collier to pause the budget process and carry forward the budget allocations for the current fiscal year into the 2021 fiscal year. Motion carried.

Mayor Rife reported on his participation in daily briefings and other agency updates, noting the City continues to make changes as necessary.

During Reports of the Councilmembers, Mr. Barlow stated he was proud of how City staff has reacted during this event and the work they have done. Mr. Daugherty thanked Mr. Barlow for his efforts on Facebook addressing constituents. Mr. Armstrong stated he hopes the level of communications and accessibility continue after this event. Mr. Snow thanked staff for their work on the Stay at Home Ordinance to be discussed, noting he felt it was a fair ordinance.

City Attorney Nate Dally reported on webinars he has attended in addition to daily staff meetings. He also discussed handling of exempt employees under the recently adopted COVID-19 leave policy.

Police Chief Greg Dagnan commended his Police Department staff for their hard work.

Fire Chief Roger Williams noted all Fire Department employees are healthy and gave a COVID-19 statistical update.

Public Works Director Zeb Carney reported his staff continues daily activities while dealing with the virus.

Parks & Recreation Director Mark Peterson reported on activity in the park and on the golf course. Staff continues to work in pods.

City Administrator Tom Short reported on the following: thanked staff for stepping up to continue level of services while trying to address everything going on with the virus, sales tax revenues, reduction in interest revenue, and a meeting regarding the Enhanced Enterprise Zone.

There was no old business to conduct.

Under New Business, C.B. 20-17 – An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Guaranty Bank for Banking Services was placed on first reading with no action taken.

C.B. 20-18 – An Ordinance of the City of Carthage, Missouri, issuing a Stay at Home Order designed to slow the spread of COVID-19 within the City of Carthage, Missouri, and surrounding areas was placed on first reading with no action taken.

Mr. Snow made a motion, seconded by Mr. Collier, to follow the emergency protocol and advance Council Bill 20-18 to the second reading. Motion passed.

C.B. 20-18 – An Ordinance of the City of Carthage, Missouri, issuing a Stay at Home Order designed to slow the spread of COVID-19 within the City of Carthage, Missouri, and surrounding areas was placed on second reading. Mr. West said he felt like we were deciding which businesses can stay open and he would be voting against the Ordinance. Ms. Otero noted that it was happening at the state level, and we are only allowing police the ability to enforce the Order. Mr. Armstrong reminded that following the law is not a complicated matter, doing what's right is far more complicated. This is a joint, state-wide effort to slow the spread, and we need to seek ways to make it work and protect those most vulnerable. When asked his opinion by Mr. Barlow, Chief Dagnan said he felt the Ordinance was very liberal while allowing the Police Department the ability to enforce if guidelines are not followed. Mr. Daugherty discussed the need for law firms to remain opened. Mr. Dally reminded council members that the court system is limited right now but attorneys still need to deal with the judicial system and legal process. Mr. Daugherty feels the Ordinance wasn't too limiting while protecting citizen's best interest. Mr. Daugherty and Mr. Topete felt there was a need to educate on limiting shoppers in businesses. Roll call vote for C.B. 20-18 was 9 yeas and 1 nay. Ayes: Armstrong, Barlow,

Collier, Daugherty, Harrison, Newport, Otero, Snow and Topete. Mr. West cast the nay vote. The council bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 20-14.

Mr. Daugherty made a motion, seconded by Mr. Snow, to adjourn the regular session of the Council Meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 4:25 PM.

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Dan Rife, Mayor

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Traci Cox, City Clerk