

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CARTHAGE, MISSOURI
May 26, 2020

The Carthage City Council met in regular session on the above date at 6:30 P.M. via video conference with Mayor Dan Rife presiding.

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

The following Department Heads were present via 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. Newport made a motion, seconded by Mr. Collier, to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2020 Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Topete reported the Budget Ways & Means Committee is between meetings with the next meeting scheduled for June 8.

Ms. Otero reported the Committee on Insurance/Audit and Claims met on this date via video conference and approved the claims. It was reported that VSP employee vision insurance rates would remain unchanged through March 2023.

Mr. Collier reported the Public Safety Committee met on May 18 via video conference. Mr. Collier made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete, to close the north side of the square on June 6 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for a Carthage Square Jamboree Folk Art Festival with the Governor's pandemic guidelines being followed. Mr. Armstrong expressed concern with individuals not following social distancing guidelines at the event, creating problems for the community. Mr. Topete noted council had already opened up the City. Motion carried. The donation of a gas grill was approved and appears in Resolution 1904.

Mr. Topete reported the Public Services Committee met on May 19 via video conference. The Committee declared a 2003 Ford F-150 pickup as surplus, and that is being presented in Resolution 1905. Carthage Public Library will be hosting a Story Walk in Central Park beginning June 8. Kids Fishing Day has been cancelled for 2020 due to COVID restrictions that would enable the level of amenities that have previously been provided.

Ms. Otero reported that the Public Works Committee is between meetings with the next meeting scheduled for June 2.

Special Committee and Board Liaison reports were given by Mr. Topete for the Carthage Kellogg Lake Board and Carthage Tree Board and Mr. Collier for the Carthage Water and Electric Board.

Mayor Rife reported staff is gearing up for budget with several meetings coming up.

City Attorney Nate Dally reported on a bankruptcy notice that was received from Stage Stores.

Public Works Director Zeb Carney reported on operations at the Recycling Center.

Parks & Recreation Director Mark Peterson thanked Chief Dagnan for the Police Department's efforts in solving the vandalism case that occurred at the golf course and park.

City Administrator Tom Short reported on the following: the last COVID-19 staff briefing will be May 27, a meeting with the City of Joplin regarding CARES funding, a Region M meeting, a Chamber of Commerce meeting, discussions with Wendi Douglas regarding Resolution 1906, a teleconference with McGrath regarding the salary study, an upcoming TAC meeting, and an upcoming meeting with Spencer Fane.

The Committee on Claims filed a report in the amount of \$9,747,845.32 against the following funds: General Revenue \$8,069,044.75, Public Health \$141,283.97, Closed Landfill \$5,227.00, Public Safety \$4,124.77, Parks/Stormwater \$3,966.00, Golf \$11,573.87, Parks & Recreation \$87.71, Public Facilities \$24,542.00, Payroll \$303,369.83 and CWEP \$1,171,682.26. Ms. Otero made a motion, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, to accept the report and allow the claims. Motion carried.

Under Old Business, C.B. 20-24 – An Ordinance authorizing a special use permit for the operation of a carnival to be located at the Fair Acres Sports Complex (East George Phelps Blvd.) in conjunction with the 2020 Carthage Maple Leaf Parade in the City of Carthage, Jasper County, Missouri was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Armstrong, Barlow, Collier, Newport, Otero, Topete, and West. The council bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 20-22.

C.B. 20-25 – An Ordinance vacating portions of 5th Street, from Lincoln Street east approximately 432 feet toward Fulton Street and of Clinton Street, from 5th Street south, approximately 100 feet toward 6th Street, as further described below, in original town of Carthage, in the City of Carthage, Missouri was placed on second reading followed by a roll call vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Armstrong, Barlow, Collier, Newport, Otero, Topete, and West. The council bill was approved and numbered Ordinance 20-23.

There was no New Business to conduct.

Mr. Armstrong made a motion, seconded by Mr. Collier, to approve the Mayor's re-appointment of Peggy Ralston to the Appeals Board until June 2025. Motion carried.

Mr. Armstrong made a motion, seconded by Mr. Newport, to approve Resolution 1904 – A Resolution providing for the formal acceptance of a donation by the City Council of the City of Carthage pursuant to City policy passed by a roll call vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Armstrong, Barlow, Collier, Newport, Otero, Topete, and West.

Mr. Newport made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete, to approve Resolution 1905 – A Resolution approving the declaration as surplus to the City's needs and authorizing the disposition of a 2003 Ford F-150 Parks Department Pick-up Truck (VIN #1FTRF17WX3NB25830, Asset Tag #511) passed by a roll call vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Armstrong, Barlow, Collier, Newport, Otero, Topete, and West.

Mr. Armstrong made a motion, seconded by Mr. Newport, to approve Resolution 1906 – A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Grant Agreement, and any other relevant documents resulting from such Agreement, between the City of Carthage, Missouri and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to organize and host a Historic Preservation based Flooring Restoration Educational Program for local property owners, residents, business, institutions, prospective owners and the public. Wendi Douglas discussed the program stating it would take place at the Phelps House. Resolution passed by a roll call vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Ayes: Armstrong, Barlow, Collier, Newport, Otero, Topete, and West.

During closing remarks, Mr. Barlow stated he supported council opinions and appreciated the discussion by the committees. Ms. Otero commented that she appreciated Mr. Armstrong's opinion regarding closing the square and hopes citizens will exercise good judgement, but she will be setting an example by continuing to stay home. Mr. Collier thanked Chief Williams for the severe weather emails.

Mr. Collier made a motion, seconded by Mr. Topete, to adjourn the regular session of the Council Meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Dan Rife, Mayor

Traci Cox, City Clerk