

The Carl Junction City Council met in regular session on Tuesday August 21, 2007 at 7:00 PM at City Hall. Mayor Mike Moss called the meeting to order with the following present: Richard Zaccardelli, Barbara Evans, Carl Skaggs, Mark Powers, Pat Smith, Dee Lynn Davey and Wayne Smith. Alderman Walter Hayes was absent. Also present were City Clerk Maribeth Matney and City Attorney Mike Talley.

### **AGENDA**

Pat Smith motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Richard Zaccardelli seconded. All in favor. No opposed. Pat Smith motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented. Barbara Evans seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Patty Butchino, 114 E Allen, reported to the council that the Welcome Wagon is going wonderfully. She stated that she will be leaving in the near future and has found someone to take over when she leaves. She is here to ask the City to budget some money to help cover the cost of the program. She has spent her own money and has received donations also. She has had several people comment that it is so nice to be in a small town and that they do something like this. She presented a budget for the council to consider (see attached). She went over what she does to prepare the basket and assemble the list of new residents. Pat Smith has agreed to take over when she leaves. Patty feels that the City should support this program as much as possible. They get 100% of the credit for the program. So far she has delivered 60 baskets in the months of May & June. She has 40 deliverables for July through 8/10/07. She collects items from the businesses to put in the baskets but would like to see the City help pay for the baskets, tissue and possibly gas. It would cost less than \$1000 annually. She said that it promotes patronizing our local businesses and the City benefits that the businesses stay longer. She considers it a city service.

### **ORDINANCES**

Next the council reviewed the ordinance adopting a Financial Disclosure policy. Pat Smith motioned to put "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST" on 1<sup>st</sup> reading by title only. Richard Zaccardelli seconded. All in favor. No opposed. Pat Smith motioned to put it on second reading by title only with a roll call vote. Richard Zaccardelli seconded. Zaccardelli-y, Evans-y, Skaggs-y, Powers-y, P Smith-y, Davey-y, Hayes-absent, W Smith-y. Motion on Ordinance #07-30 was approved by roll call vote, signed by the Mayor, attested by the City Clerk and made a part of the permanent records of the City of Carl Junction.

### **SET TAX LEVY HEARING DATE**

Mayor Moss stated that we have to have this levy set by September 1<sup>st</sup> and that we will have to hold a special meeting. After some discussion it was decided to have the meeting Thursday, August 30, 2007 at 6:00 PM.

### **REPORTS**

Jim Whisenant went over his report. On page 2 #2 – Empire has been hampered by peak demands on their lines and they put our street lights on the back burner. They have looked at 2 locations and are making inroads on the project. They are trying to do the more hazardous places first. Pat Smith commented that the areas that already have poles would go fast. On page 3 #8 – we now have more detail on the S Main Street project. The intent is to make Main Street more visible and easily accessible. We are looking at the area West of New Aire and are trying to secure road easements. We will do a follow up shortly. On page 4 #10 – we are getting a survey and appraisal done on the 3 acres we are looking at purchasing from the RR. This will help with the north water line project. On page 5 Misc Items – there are still 5 claims pending on the sewer back ups. On page 6 #2 – Jim reported that Gary Box has been hired to continue with the business surveys. We met with Mr. Box and are getting ready to start the surveys again. Jim pointed out that if anyone wants to go to the annual MML meeting and has not signed up yet the need to do so by 8/30/07. Mark Powers asked about #9 and where we were going with our parks. Jim responded we are trying to get input from the Task Force. We received reports last week and we are looking through those for their recommendations. Mark Powers would like to see the Task Force do a presentation to the City.

Richard Zaccardelli asked Steve Lawver about the recycling. He commented that the Sr. Citizen Board would like to be involved especially with cardboard. Pat Smith commented that the highlight on Carl Junction in the Joplin Business Journal was nice.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Nuisance Committee had nothing to report.

The Public Facilities Committee had nothing to report.

The Park/Pool Committee reported that they are working on the Bluegrass Festival. Pat reported that she needed volunteers for the Bluegrass Festival. They help that date and also getting stuff ready for it. She will be working on taste testing kits soon. They plan on meeting 9/11/07 at 6:30 PM. She talked to Jimmy yesterday about the picnic tables. They talked about ordering some tables like the school has. They are expanded metal with plastic coating. Jim Whisenant said that it would be \$2500 for the tables and he would like for the Task Force to try to bring it all together and hold off on ordering tables. He would like to see us freshen up ours for this year. MIRMA also has suggested we replace all of our playground equipment. He would like to take more time to look at what we have that we can still make use of. Pat said that the boards are warped and we need to replace boards and paint them since they can't be out of treated wood. She just thought we could start replacing them this year. They look really bad and we need to start somewhere. Mark suggested we purchase some so that people could see we are doing something with the money we have collected.

Jim stated that MIRMA's recommendations are going to be quite expensive. We also need to do shelter work. It was stated that we could get the black tables in 10 days but if we order red it would take 30 days. Pat said that everyone she talked to said they should be red. Richard also commented that he has been getting complaints about no park in Ward III. We need to start looking at that also.

The Code Review had nothing to report.

The Budget/Finance Committee had nothing to report.

Human Resource Committee - Richard did not have anything but still would like to do pictures of the new equipment we bought this year.

The Citizen's for Better Life Committee - Richard reported that the Sr. Center has looked at the agreement and agrees to the ordinance. Mike Talley said that we need to look over the ordinance and decide if it should become a chapter in our code book with a section on how it will be ran. He would like to do that in house before coming to the council with it. It is still a working draft.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mike Talley sent out a memo regarding the P&Z Committee that was discussed at the last council meeting. In researching the state statute it reads a little different then our code. The state statute allows that no one be appointed where our city code makes it mandatory to appoint someone from the council. There was discussion of whether we should or should not make it mandatory. It was stated that in rotating sometimes you vote on items that you do not have the background on to make an educated vote. Steve said that the P&Z are open to whatever the council wants. He stated that they have enough members without a council members vote. After some discussion it was decided that we should have an ordinance drawn up with the option to appoint someone or not appoint someone. There may be a council member in the future that would like to participate in the P&Z meetings. Steve would like to talk to the P&Z first. Mike Talley said it really was not up to the P&Z Commission. After more discussion it was decided that Mr. Talley would draft an ordinance with the option to appoint and then the council can look at it before they take it to P&Z.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Jim reported he had success working with Mediacom on a problem last week. We also need to notify them when new developments are approved so that they can get them to their planning department.

Mayor Moss pointed out that he had been testing out his paperless packet. We also sent one out to Mark Powers. We hope that someday we might use less paper some day.

Mayor Moss then stated he wanted to discuss the waiving of the building permit fees for the school. Pat Smith heard that Joplin and Carthage waived the fees to their schools. It was stated that it is all tax payers' money and there had to be some kind of compromise. Mike Talley said that there are code provisions that cover some of it. We can waive fees for Economic Development and natural disasters. There is a difference in the building permit and utility tap fees. The Section that provides for waiving fees is 500.150 which he then read to the council. Mike Talley said that we could make waiving the fees conditional. Right now it is in their contract. Jim Whisenant then handed out what it takes to build a street. He commented that there is a lot of out of town traffic going back and forth to the school. We do a lot of things for the school to help them out. Dee Lynn commented that our growth in town is due to the school. We should do anything we can to help them. Mike Talley said that we had discussions about building code requirements. We have limited applicability over the construction of a public school building. Fees are geared toward private parties. Pat Smith stated that our inspector should be in on the inspections. Mark Powers said that we should charge the school our expense. It was noted that it takes a recommendation from the Mayor and the City Administrator to waive fees. Mayor Moss recommends that we waive the fees with the exception of our expenses. City Administrator Jim Whisenant asked that they allow him more time to research and gather more information for the council to make this decision. Mark asked what he would give them. Jim responded information on what other communities do. It was commented it was all tax payers' money. Jim stated that we do support the school but at the same time it is a complex issue and they do put a lot of pressure on our infrastructure. Richard stated that \$5000 was not worth getting the School Board mad. There was some discussion of Keeney Street. City Administrator then stated that if the council felt that they needed no further information to make this decision then he would make the recommendation to waive the fees. Mark Powers then motioned to charge the school district for actual expenses contingent upon the contract being revised so that the school benefits from the waiving of fees and not the contractor. Barbara Evans seconded. All in favor. No opposed. Pat Smith stated that although she worked for the school she was not a decision maker. Mike Talley said that does not disqualify her vote. Richard asked about their permit. Steve reported that they went through a very limited P&Z process and engineer's review.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Carl Skaggs motioned to adjourn the meeting. Barbara Evans seconded. All in favor. No opposed. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR