

The Carl Junction City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 7, 2004 at 7:00 at City Hall. Mayor Jim Wisdom called the meeting to order with the following present: Richard Zaccardelli, Barbara Evans, Mike Moss, Gary Stover, Mike Palmer and Pat Smith. Aldermen Walter Hayes & Wayne Smith were absent.

AGENDA

Pat Smith motioned to approve the agenda. Mike Moss seconded. All in favor. No opposed. Pat Smith motioned to approve the consent agenda. Richard Zaccardelli seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

PUBLIC FORUM

Charlie Brown, 124 Hedge Drive, addressed the council about where we are at with the ditch along West Briarbrook Lane. Joe reported that there are utilities 1" under the surface and they will need to be moved for the dirt work. We have contacted these utilities. Mr. Brown expressed concern that rock or concrete will not take care of it. Joe replied that the 1st plan was to concrete the bottom of the ditch but that we now plan to put creek gravel in the ditch in a porous material made out of plastic. The water will drain and you can mow on it. We are waiting on the utility companies right now.

DISCUSSION OF FLUORIDE ORDINANCE

Mayor Wisdom stated that they would try to give everyone a chance to speak for or against fluoride. He also asked that if something was already said please try not to repeat the information. He then asked if there was anyone against the fluoride issue.

Denise Kramme, 305 Briarbrook Drive, stated she had written a letter to the council. She asked that the council consider carefully the effect of the health of all residents. She stated that the city should only add chemicals that purify the water. She stated that we couldn't control the amount ingested in each individual, depending on their water consumption habits. She stated that most children drink soft drinks or bottled juices. There is very little water in food preparation and is not a source of fluoride. Most of the water will be used washing cars, watering lawns and bathing. She also stated that it would cost 72 cents per person with a cost of \$1800. She asked if that cost was per month or per year. There is also the initial cost of getting started. She asked that the council let the residents have a choice and to please make it a ballot issue if they do anything.

Tamara Beinlich, 6017 County Lane 276, stated that she got 100% of her information off of the internet. She stated that fluoride is not FDA approved. She also stated that only 18-32 nations have fluoride added to their water supply not 80. She also stated that an EPA scientist stated it is not a safe product and an EPA professor does not encourage adding fluoride to the water. She cited several professors and scientist on the dangers of fluoride. She also talked about the side effects of fluoride. She also stated that fluoride is a medicine but they refuse to define it as such. She asked that we give them a choice and to allow them to vote on it.

Yolander Woodburn, 10460 County Rd 284, agreed with the 2 previous speakers. She asked that they should allow the residents to vote on it and handed out a packet for each of the council.

Dr. Jack Udell, 104 Rocky Circle, then spoke for fluoride. He stated that in 2001 there was a survey that stated dental health was a primary concern. They then formed Operation Smiles. Adding fluoride to the water supply system is the single most effective way to treat dental decay. He stated that 48 out of the top 50 cities have it. He stated that in Europe they add fluoride to salt like we add iodine to salt. He stated this is to improve the health of our citizens. He then spoke again about issues they discussed at the last meeting. He encouraged the council to pass this by ordinance. He stated that FDA does not govern fluoride because it is not a drug like they do not govern calcium or iodine. Mike Palmer asked if we added it to our water would the school district discontinue the fluoride rinse program. He stated that over ½ of the children in the school district do not live inside the city limits of Carl Junction. It was stated that the school has cut that program anyway. Dr. Udell stated that the other cities have discontinued it in the schools when it was added to the water since it was unnecessary. Mike Palmer reiterated that ½ the students do not live in Carl Junction and it would impact them if it were discontinued. Dr. Udell said that they could continue the rinse at the school and it would not be harmful just not necessary.

Judd McPherson, 807 Copper Oaks, stated he did not know anything about fluoride until this issue came up. He educated himself by talking to health professionals. He stated that you could find any information for or against any issue on the internet. He said there is so much out there you need to rely upon the medical professionals. He stated that too much of anything is bad for a person and can be dangerous. He stated that you would have to drink a swimming pool for fluoride to be dangerous. He stated that the benefits outweigh it. He also stated he did not want to see the City spend unnecessary money on an election. He stated that you could buy a carbon filter at Lowe's for under \$100 that will filter it out if you don't want it. He also stated that it doesn't violate anyone's rights. The majority should speak. Mike Palmer asked about the cost of an election.

Dr. Helman, 5757 County Lane 274, has a dental office here in town at 615 E Pennell. He stated that the general facts are reduction of tooth decay and low cost. He said that we already have fluoride in our water at ½ part per million. The question is should we add to it to make it beneficial. He stated that under the recommended conditions it is a benefit. The 2nd issue is that the studies say it is not safe. He asks who does the studies. The ADA said that adding fluoride is a minimal risk. The 3rd issue was who is making the money. He stated it was not the dentists, but it is the right thing to do. The 4th and last issue is he would like to see the council approve the fluoride. It is an opportunity to provide a life long benefit. Mike Palmer asked his opinion on the fluoride rinse at the school. Dr. Helman stated that the rinse hardens the outside of the shell but fluoride ingested is built in the enamel and does not leach out. Mike Palmer asked what parent's options were to get fluoride. Dr. Helman stated that there is nothing quite equal to ingesting fluoride. Richard Zaccardelli asked how long they needed fluoride. Dr. Helman stated that he would speculate while the enamel is forming.

Fred Osborne, 507 Eagle Circle, and works at St. Johns. He stated that St. John's Hospital passed a resolution in support of water fluoridation. He would like to see the council pass an ordinance tonight for fluoridation.

Colleen Cameron, 930 Hampton Place, Joplin works for Freeman Health System. She stated that Freeman Hospital passed a resolution supporting fluoridation.

Bob Arnce, 112 Iron Tree, stated he is an ER physician. He is also the Chairman of the Board of Caring Communities. He stated he sees a lot of people who can't afford dental care. The dental health in this area is deplorable. He stated that misinformation is worse than no information. He questioned the credibility of the article that was discussed earlier.

Tamara Beinlich, 6017 County Lane 276, stated that 99% of what she had was from doctors, 12 of them Nobel peace prize winners that are against fluoride. She then discussed the effects it had on the parathyroid gland that caused your body to age faster than normal. She also stated that Illinois stopped adding fluoride after 40 years. She stated that there was a study done on 8/18/04 but the results were not available. It is not safe for young children or the elderly. She then discussed more of the information that she pulled up from the internet.

Kendra Ross, 6381 W Belle Center Road, has been a pediatrician in Joplin for 13 years. She stated that you should have your children start on fluoride when they are 6 months old. There is a great deal of benefit from fluoride. Dental decay in Missouri is bad. She also stated that it would help older adults. She believes that it is for the greater good of the community and they should vote for fluoride.

Mayor Wisdom stated that there is a lot of pro's and cons. Our budget is from May to May. We need to have our engineer to look at our well houses to see if they will accommodate fluoride and if it will stay in our budget. Joe reported that DNR was here and looked at our well houses and the cost will be \$25000 to add what we need to accommodate fluoride. It has to be kept separate from our chlorine. We can look to see if there are grants available to help with that cost. The cost is \$1/per year/per household. This is based on Carthage's records. Mike Palmer asked our attorney if we have the statutory ability to make this decision. Mike Talley is not aware of any prohibition for them to pass an ordinance. The drafted ordinance is modeled after Joplin's ordinance. Mike Palmer took informal polls between his Ward and the community. He stated that the elderly members are concerned about it but the younger people with children are in favor of it. It is about 50%-50%. He feels it should be on the ballot when we are having our municipal elections.

Richard Zaccardelli stated he also had talked to people and the older people with dental plates will vote against it.

Mike Moss stated that only 40 residents responded to the survey in 2001. He said that 40 people were not enough for him to make his decision. Tony Moore explained that it was a county survey and they broke it down into communities just for more information. It was an effort to see if there was any consistency. It was a random sampling. Mike Moss agreed with Mike Palmer that it should go with the vote of the people. He also commented that there were people here that are not residents of the City.

Gary Stover stated that he was elected to represent the residents and make decisions on issues. It is also his responsibility to recognize important issues that need to be placed on the ballot.

Mike Palmer asked if they did vote on the ordinance what can our citizens do that are unhappy to force a vote. Mike Talley stated that Carl Junction does not have a procedure for it and he is not sure if there is anything in the State Statutes. He does not think they can appeal it once it is passed. Richard Zaccardelli stated that the council needs to move forward with this. Mike Palmer believes that the majority should still rule and he suggests it be put on the ballot. Mike Talley then explained the difference between Joplin and Carl Junction. Joplin is a Charter City and Carl Junction is a 4th Class City. Richard Zaccardelli then asked if his Ward wants fluoride can we just fluoride his Ward. It was also explained that the water for the golf course is pulled from Center Creek.

Pat Smith stated she also had talked to people and feels it should go on the ballot.

ORDINANCES

Mike Talley stated that there was not support to pass the ordinance on fluoride. He stated that we could amend the ordinance to state that if it is approved at the election. They could also defeat this ordinance and then have another drawn up to put it on the ballot. Richard Zaccardelli stated that we should have a full council when we vote on it. Pat Smith agreed. Richard Zaccardelli motioned to table this ordinance until the next meeting 9/21/04 and encourage all council members to be there. Mike Moss seconded. Mike Palmer asked if there was a way to do a survey. He also stated that we also need to make a decision and not prolong it. All in favor of the motion on the floor. No opposed. Mike Talley asked if they wanted an alternate ordinance to place it on the ballot for the next meeting. Mike Palmer was in favor of it for discussion purposes.

Next the council reviewed the ordinance on weeds. Richard Zaccardelli, Wayne Smith and Barbara Evans were on the committee. Mike Talley then read his e-mail regarding the changes. Mike Moss motioned to put "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE II. PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE: CHAPTER 215: NUISANCES, ARTICLE I. ABATEMENT, AND ARTICLE III. WEEDS, BY AMENDING SECTIONS 215.030, 215.220 AND 215.230, TO CLARIFY THE WEEDS AND GRASSES THAT ARE PROHIBITED IN THE CITY OF CARL JUNCTION, TO CLARIFY WHICH ABATEMENT PROCEDURES TO USE AND TO CLARIFY THE PENALTIES FOR MAINTAINING SUCH NUISANCE" on first reading by title only. Barbara Evans seconded. Pat Smith motioned to put it on second reading by title only with a rollcall vote. Richard Zaccardelli seconded. Zaccardelli-y, Evans-y, Moss-y, Stover-y, P Smith-y, Palmer-y, Hayes-absent, W Smith-absent. Motion on Ordinance #04-64 was approved by rollcall vote, signed by the Mayor, attested by the City Clerk and made a part of the permanent records of the City of Carl Junction.

LETTER FOR LIQUOR LICENSE – LA STAZIONE

Richard Zaccardelli motioned to approve the liquor license application. Barbara Evans seconded. All in favor. No opposed. This allows the City to write a letter to the State that we will issue a license once they approve it.

DRAFT OF JUNK CAR ORDINANCE

Mike Talley read his e-mail regarding this draft. It was stated that this was easier then trying to police permits. Mike Talley explained that this ordinance is broader then any other ordinance he has read. He stated that we didn't need section 2 unless Section 1 is challenged. This way we will still be able to pursue them under Section 2. It was stated that both sections should read 72 hours. Mayor Wisdom stated that we should reference Section 405.085 regarding privacy fences. There was discussion between classics and junk cars. It was suggested they get antique tags. It was also stated they should be able to put them in their back yards. Pat and Barbara stated it was too strict. Mayor Wisdom stated it needs to be black and white to enforce. There was a lot of discussion on this subject. It was stated that the attorney should make the 2 changes suggested and have it ready for the next meeting.

BIDS – DANGEROUS TREES, SLURRY SEAL, CHIP & SEAL

We did not receive bids on any of these items. Bryan Hudson called APAC and will get a bid for the chip and seal at the park. The slurry seal people will not be back in the area this year so we will use that money for 2" asphalt. Joe is getting a list of licensed tree businesses and will contact them about getting a bid on removing the dangerous trees. Joe also reported that Chuck Surface stated that there would be some clean up money that the City can use.

REPORTS

The council read the City's Administrator's report

Memo #1 – Pending items. There was some minor discussion about some items.

Memo #2 – Water Quality tests

Memo #3 – Court fines and cost

Memo #4 – Proposed billboard sign. This will go on the billboard at the entrance of the City. It can't be used for advertising so they stated we could put up a sign. It will cost \$850, but the Chamber, Museum group and the school are all contributing \$200 a piece to offset our cost. The council liked the sign and there was discussion about putting one up at all the entrances.

Joe also pointed out the letter from the City of Joplin on the help received from our Police Department.

Joe discussed the charts on the current year to date figures on the budget. Mike Palmer suggested we add a total column.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Resource Committee reported they reviewed an employee handbook and they have asked Mike Talley to review it. They will hand it out to the council next week. They will also be meeting on wages and benefits.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Pat Smith asked for volunteers with the Bluegrass Festival. She really needs help now that it is growing. Mike Palmer, Mike Moss and Richard Zaccardelli all volunteered.

NEW BUSINESS

Richard Zaccardelli stated we should issue a proclamation to the young boy in the paper Sunday. The council agreed.

Mike Moss suggested on the entrance signs we should look at the entrance of Briarbrook and the School. He said something in brick and mortar would be nice.

Pat Smith stated she was approached about the City planting trees in Memorial Park around the play area.

Joe reported that next week is "National Assisted Living Week" and we will be issuing a proclamation to the Carl Junction Residential Care Center on Sunday.

Mayor Wisdom stated that at the next meeting we need to look at our water fund deficit. We need to make up \$61000 for the next 17 years. We need to find out what it will take. He also reported we received a letter from Robert Best and they will be going to Springfield 10/14/04 for mediation.

ADJOURNMENT

Mike Palmer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Richard Zaccardelli seconded. All in favor. No opposed. Meeting adjourned 9:45 PM.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR