

The Carl Junction City Council met in regular session on Tuesday May 6, 2025 at 7:00 PM at City Hall. Mayor Mike Moss called the meeting to order with the following present: Anita Francis, Walter Hayes, Hollie LaVigne, David Pyle, James Shanks, Roger Spencer, and Carole Wofford. Bob McAfee was absent. Also present were City Administrator Steve Lawver, City Attorney Mike Talley, City Clerk Alaina Wright and City Administrator Assistant Crystal Winkfield.

AGENDA

David Pyle motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Walter Hayes seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent. Mayor Moss said there is an employee going out and buying clothing and he doesn't think she should be buying Carhartt products and we shouldn't have had to pay sales tax. Mayor Moss said it was his opinion that it shouldn't happen. David Pyle motioned to approve the consent agenda. Hollie LaVigne seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent.

PUBLIC FORUM

Rachelle Rand 905 Summerlyn-She said she lives next to a culvert which goes down approximately 15 feet and children use it as a pathway between Remington and Summerlyn. She doesn't think they should be cutting through the property. She is requesting a fence because the ground is beginning to cave in and thinks that would be the only way to keep the kids out.

Hollie LaVigne asked if it's certain kids or all the neighborhood kids and Rachelle said it's all the neighborhood kids.

Walter Hayes said he went and looked at it yesterday and he sees where the sides could be unstable and he said there are also trees growing in the ditch.

James Shanks said the banks don't appear to be that stable and it would be nice to fix it.

ORDINANCES

David Pyle motioned to put "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WASTEWATER AND STORM WATER FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025" on first reading by title only. Roger Spencer seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent.

Discussion: There was no discussion.

Hollie LaVigne motioned to put it on second reading. Roger Spencer seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent.

David Pyle motioned to put it on final passage. Carole Wofford seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent.

Francis-yes, LaVigne-yes, McAfee-absent, Spencer-yes, Pyle-yes, Hayes-yes, Wofford-yes, Shanks-yes. Motion on Ordinance #25-12 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.

REPORTS

The Council reviewed the Administration report. Steve Lawver said he was notified today that three new public works vehicles will be delivered next week. Hollie LaVigne asked if the city car would be replaced and Steve Lawver said yes because the previous city car was totaled in the tornado and MIRMA would be writing us a check for \$3,800. Alaina Wright said we already received the check.

Hollie LaVigne asked about the cameras in the interview room. Jim Stever said it would cost as much to fix it as it would be to replace the system and they are required by law to have a camera in there. Steve Lawver asked if the council wanted him to update the bid with MidCentral on technology upgrades to include interview room cameras and there was a consensus among to council for Steve to do that.

Steve Lawver said it would be around May 19 or May 20 to open bids for repairing storm damage to city facilities. Walter Hayes asked if there was a grand total on the final damage amount to see if we could submit it to SEMA or FEMA and Steve Lawver said he didn't think there would be but he wasn't sure yet.

Steve Lawver said there's a school violence prevention program that has opened up that covers surveillance, access control and required equipment. Steve Lawver said he started looking at the initial survey and there will be information we will have to get from the school district. Steve said it's a technology-based grant so it could tie video surveillance into our system so officers could see what's going on at the school.

Steve Lawver said on the Sensus AMI meter upgrade, we are down to around 35 meters that aren't reading correctly. Alaina Wright said the meters will be read for the first time on the 16th and we'll have more information then and there would be overall training on June 9th.

Walter Hayes asked about the solar panels and Steve Lawver said he's spoken to MIRMA to see what we can do and that then it will be up to the council to decide what to do.

Public Works report – Hollie LaVigne thanked Jay Morton for all the work getting the pavilion open for the farmer's market. She asked when the splashpad will be open and Steve Lawver said it was going to be this week but then it got cool and John is planning to open it next week.

Police Dept. report – No discussion.

Building Inspector report – No discussion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget/Finance: Walter Hayes said he's going to add Karma Wright to the budget committee.

Code/ Nuisance: Carole Wofford said there was a meeting at 6:30 to look at ordinances. She said they voted to recommend the ordinance for fishing at Lakeside Park and it will be presented to the council at the next meeting. She said the ordinance for overnight parking at public parks needed a wording change and then it will be presented to the council.

Human Resources: Roger Spencer got the updated evaluations and would look a meeting at 6:30 before the next council meeting. He also said that Carole Wofford was added to the committee.

Public Facilities & Planning: David Pyle said at the last meeting there was a discussion about the committee looking at providing internet service to the parks. He said that got put on hold because of the tornado but now they will look at setting a meeting.

Economic Development: Hollie LaVigne had nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Walter Hayes said he asked about the ability to broadcast our meetings better and he was curious where we were in the process. Steve Lawver said that's another quote that came in from Mid-Central that was paused, and it needs to be taken up again. He said Corey Clingan from the High School looked at it and we are trying a new streaming service and got a new camera to try.

James Shanks said he thought changing it to see people on the council would be a good idea.

Mike Talley said he was given an assignment at the last meeting to look into the powers of the mayor vs the city administrator, specifically with regard to control of the police department. He said there was no diminution of the mayor's power to control all officers of city including the police chief, but there was an insertion to allow the city administrator under the supervision of the mayor to manage city government and city employees including the chief of police. Mike Talley said in Chapter 200 of the code, it deals specifically with the mayor vs city administrator question. It says "The department shall be under the supervision of an executive officer to be known as the Chief of Police. He shall be responsible to the City Administrator and the Mayor of the City of Carl Junction for the efficient operation of the Department of Police. He shall promptly perform or cause to be performed all legal directives of the City Administrator and/or Mayor." Mike said the objective was to give city administrator the power to give orders to chief of police along with mayor, but he said there was never an attempt to overrule mayor's responsibility to supervise the city administrator. Mike Talley said listed under the powers of the city administrator under G) *Limitation* it says "At no time shall the powers of the City Administrator supersede the action by the mayor and Board of Aldermen." Mike said he spoke with the mayor, the city administrator, and the chief of police about their understanding of the code, and they all agreed that the city administrator is obligated to do what the mayor wants if there's a difference of opinion, but as long as they agree, the city administrator has the authority to give orders to the chief of police.

Steve Lawver said he tasked Allgeier Martin with checking into Fir Road improvements. He said they did an estimate for 1950 linear feet of sidewalk and the cost came in at \$1.4 million. He said there would also be several issues that would come up with that. Anita Francis said there's a lot of foot traffic and stopping at Van Hooser might be better than at Lone Elm if the city decided to do it.

Steve Lawver said in regard to Mike Talley's report on the supervision of the police department that he's always viewed the working relationship between the mayor, city administrator, and chief of police as a collaborative process.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Shanks said he and Carole were at the emergency preparedness meeting last week, and he said he got the impression the biggest problem with the tornado response was communication with the public at the time. He suggested sending notifications on the city's app about storm warnings and then once a storm has passed, send out other notifications as necessary.

Walter Hayes said he sent an email suggesting the city might consider looking at a bigger vision for Carl Junction and he thinks it might be beneficial to move from a fourth-class city to a third-class city, and he would like to see a committee put together to study that. He said the basic difference is that a fourth-class can only do what the general assembly empowers them to do, while a third-class city can do anything except what is specifically prohibited by the general assembly or federal law.

David Pyle said he thinks transportation infrastructure is something that holds the city back specifically in terms of growing. He said he spoke with Senator Jill Carter, and she indicated there might be new interest in a western bypass. Steve Lawver said it's on the JATSO list of projects to consider.

Mayor Moss said he and Steve Lawver have discussed cleaning whistles that have debris built up.

Mayor Moss said we should consider having the police station staffed on the weekends.

Alaina Wright said that Mark Powers needed to be removed from all the city bank accounts and Mike Moss needed to be added as a signer now. David Pyle motioned to remove Mark Powers and add Mike Moss as a signer on the city's bank accounts. Roger Spencer seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent.

Steve Lawver said the Community Center Facebook page had 3,500 views and the Joplin News First page had 11,800 views of the emergency management public forum.

CLOSED SESSION PER RSMO 610.021 (3): LEASING, PURCHASE OR SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A PUBLIC GOVERNMENTAL BODY WHERE PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRANSACTION MIGHT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE LEGAL CONSIDERATION THEREFOR


Hollie LaVigne motioned to go into closed session. David Pyle seconded. Roll call vote: Francis-yes, LaVigne-yes, McAfee-absent, Spencer-yes, Pyle-yes, Hayes-yes, Wofford-yes, Shanks-yes. Council went into closed session at 8:09 PM.

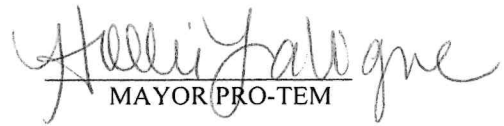
Council meeting reconvened at 8:37 PM. Mayor Moss said there no votes or action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

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Walter Hayes motioned to adjourn the meeting. David Pyle seconded. All in favor. No opposed with one absent. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.


CITY CLERK


MAYOR PRO-TEM