The Carl Junction City Council met in regular session on Tuesday September 2, 2025 at 7:00 PM at City Hall. Mayor Pro-Tem Hollie LaVigne called the meeting to order with the following present: Anita Francis, Walter Hayes, Bob McAfee, David Pyle, James Shanks, Roger Spencer, and Carole Wofford. Also present were City Administrator Steve Lawver, City Attorney Mike Talley, City Clerk Alaina Wright and Assistant Crystal Winkfield.

# **AGENDA**

Roger Spencer motioned to approve the agenda as presented. David Pyle seconded. All in favor. No opposed. Walter Hayes motioned to approve the consent agenda. Roger Spencer seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Michael Moore-801 Delaney Drive-He questioned why there was no runoff election when a mayor is elected with 28% of the vote. He wanted to know why the minutes are posted so late and wanted them to be posted in a timelier manner. Hollie LaVigne asked Mike Talley if the election question was a matter of state statute and he said he would have to look into it.

Claudia Cox-301 N Arlington-She said she and multiple other residents had trouble with Atnip Construction and encouraged the council to consider these issues the next time there is a bid approval. She said there are large rocks on the easement, and it has caused her to break one lawn mower already and she will no longer be mowing the easement. She said Jay Morton was extremely helpful during the process of getting help.

Claudia said everything along Pennell is nice until you get to 318 E Pennell. She said if the city is all about accountability, then everyone needs to be held accountable.

Claudia said she appreciated David Pyle and Roger Spencer having an open mind during the impeachment hearings and said they are men of integrity.

Claudia said she feels like a forensic audit needs to be done because the citizens need transparency. She said if the city wants to be operated as a business, then the business needs to be transparent. She said Steve Lawver could call for a forensic audit and he could prove there's nothing to hide. She also said the council could ask for a forensic audit to prove there's nothing to hide.

Claudia said when she told her friends and family she was going to visit tonight she was told the city would retaliate and she wants everyone at the city to prove those people wrong and that she won't be retaliated against. She said she knows Steve has the power to make people miserable and ask employees to do things that aren't appropriate.

Richard Garrett-1021 Copper Oaks Drive-He said he was here for the hearings last week, and he has concerns about the light being repaired as you exit the building into the west parking lot. He said there's no guard fence around the hole and it is dark when the meetings are over and it's dangerous.

Richard also said something that seemed to come up as part of the hearings was who reports to whom. He asked if there was a work chart for who reports to whom and what the job titles and responsibilities are of the various organizations. He thinks there needs to be a clearer organizational chart of who reports to whom and the responsibility of performance in their job. He said if there aren't comprehensive reviews being done then there are no responsible personnel policies.

Richard Garrett also said that there are speakers in the corners of the Senior Center, but there aren't any speakers in the highest parts of the room and that caused problems during the hearings.

#### P&Z CASES

Mayor Pro-Tem Hollie LaVigne asked for discussion regarding Case# 25-06 – Annex +/- 32 acres at Highway 171 & Gum – City of Carl Junction.

The public hearing was opened at 7:19 PM.

Steve Lawver said P&Z met on this and they are recommending approval. Someone in the audience asked the purpose of the annexation. David Pyle said Mr. Dooling spoke in public forum at a previous meeting and asked if there was a conceptual design of the area to show residents what sort of barrier would be in place. Steve Lawver said that would be the next part of the process.

Roger Spencer asked if there would be a setback from the houses. Steve Lawver said there is already a standard setback set in city ordinances and there are additional barriers that they're looking to put in place.

The public hearing was closed at 7:22 PM.

### DISCUSSION OF SETTING A SPECIAL MEETING AS REQUIRED IN 115.070: VACANCIES

Mike Talley said to his recollection we haven't used this provision to appoint a mayor. He said the city code provides for filling a vacancy to any elected office, which includes the mayor but doesn't specifically deal with the mayor. He said the state statute provides for a mayor specifically. Mike Talley said the first step would be to set a special meeting and the board could either submit nominations to the mayor pro-tem or they could allow the mayor pro-tem to suggest an individual(s). David Pyle asked if it was correct that it could be any citizen that meets the qualifications and Mike Talley said that was correct. David Pyle said he would support nominations in that case. Carole Wofford asked if there was a time frame in place for when this needs to happen and Mike Talley said no. James Shanks said he agreed with David Pyle. Mike Talley said that Hollie LaVigne as Mayor Pro-Tem still has the power to vote even acting as Mayor Pro-Tem. James Shanks asked if a week was enough time to come up with names. Steve Lawver requested two weeks. Steve Lawver said we do have a form that could be filled out that has the qualifications on it just like people do when they sign up for elected office. Walter Hayes motioned for the board of aldermen to put forth nominations consistent with state statute and hold a special meeting at 6:30 pm on Tuesday September 16. All in favor. No opposed. David Pyle asked if there would be a procedure set

forth because theoretically there could be eight different nominations. Hollie LaVigne asked if the new mayor would serve until April and Mike Talley said yes, they would serve until the next municipal election.

### **ORDINANCES**

Roger Spencer motioned to put "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CARL JUNCTION, MISSOURI AND ACE PIPE CLEANING COMPANY, INC. TO COMMENCE AND COMPLETE THE 2025-01 WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM REHABILITATION IN THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS FOR THE SUM OF THREE HUNDRED EIGHTY THOUSAND THIRTY & 35/100 DOLLARS (\$380,030.35); AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CARL JUNCTION, MISSOURI" on first reading by title only. Carole Wofford seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

Discussion: Steve Lawver said this is the I&I work that we do every year or every few years. He said there's a decent reserve in I&I so the project has been moved up and will be completed before the next budget cycle.

David Pyle motioned to put it on second reading. Walter Hayes seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

Discussion: There was no further discussion.

Walter Hayes motioned to put it on final passage. Anita Francis seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

Francis-yes, LaVigne-yes, McAfee-yes, Spencer-yes, Pyle-yes, Hayes-yes, Wofford-yes, Shanks-yes. Motion on Ordinance #25-31 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.

Roger Spencer motioned to put "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PETITION TO EXTEND THE BRIARBROOK COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR A PERIOD OF TWENTY-SEVEN (27) YEARS AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH" on first reading by title only. Bob McAfee seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

Discussion: Mike Talley said there was a public hearing held. He said Mark Powers was present for that public hearing and he felt the Board of Aldermen should know whether there were objections or discussion. Mark Powers-121 Foursome Lane-spoke and said he's on the board of the Briarbrook CID and they are asking to extend the CID for 27 years because of a law that was passed in 2021 that CIDs could be extended for 27 years. He said approximately 25 people were present to ask questions. He said it's no increased cost to the city and no increased cost to the residents. He said nobody objected to the petition. He said the public hearing lasted a little less than an hour. Mark Powers said if it's not extended, in 2030 the Briarbrook CID would be dissolved, and the golf course would be sold. David Pyle asked if the residents would have the option to vote and Mark Powers said no and that's why the public hearings were held.

Roger Spencer motioned to put it on second reading. David Pyle seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

Discussion: There was no further discussion.

David Pyle motioned to put it on final passage. Roger Spencer seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

Francis-yes, LaVigne-yes, McAfee-yes, Spencer-yes, Pyle-yes, Hayes-yes, Wofford-yes, Shanks-yes. Motion on Ordinance #25-32 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.

David Pyle motioned to put "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PETITION TO ADD REAL PROPERTY TO THE BRIARBROOK COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND CONSENTING TO THE MODIFICATION OF THE DISTRICT'S BOUNDARIES AS SET FORTH IN THE PETITION; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH" on first reading by title only. Roger Spencer seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

Discussion: Mark Powers said people were concerned that the Briarbrook CID was buying the properties, but that is not the case. He said it wasn't included originally because the property wasn't inside city limits when the CID was originally formed. He said Schuber Mitchell asked for it to be added to help sell the properties. Roger Spencer asked if it's the property at Fir and Peace Church and Mark Powers said yes.

Roger Spencer motioned to put it on second reading. Anita Francis seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

Discussion: There was no further discussion.

David Pyle motioned to put it on final passage. Bob McAfee seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

Francis-yes, LaVigne-yes, McAfee-yes, Spencer-yes, Pyle-yes, Hayes-yes, Wofford-yes, Shanks-yes. Motion on Ordinance #25-33 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. Hollie LaVigne asked if we could discuss doing the technology upgrades in house to save money. David Pyle asked if we had anyone with the expertise for that installation and Steve Lawver said no. Steve said mounting a projector isn't a big deal but running the cables would be an issue and we would still have to include our hired IT people to get everything set up the right way. Roger Spencer asked if we've gotten any bids and Steve Lawver said we've gotten several quotes, but we would have to and advertise and get bids.

Hollie LaVigne asked about the pool. She said it was her understanding the rubber mat was helping with the drainage and asked if the rubber mat would be allowed while people were using the pool and Steve Lawver said no because that's how the water

recirculates. Hollie asked what the mat showed, and Steve Lawver said it showed the leak was in the main drains and there was still leakage even with the mats. Carole Wofford said 31,289 gallons in two days sounded like a lot of water to waste. James Shanks said he spoke to Public Works and wanted to know who would run the pool if it were fixed and operational again.

Public Works report – There was no discussion. Jim Shanks asked Harvey Kitzberger if he felt we should get more bids to open the pool and Harvey said that wasn't his area of expertise.

Police Dept. report – Chief McCall was out of the office for a family emergency. He said about two weeks ago the main juvenile suspect was charged in the vandalism cases from several weeks ago and a warrant was filed for the other suspect.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

<u>Budget/Finance</u>: Walter Hayes had nothing to report. He said we'll schedule a budget meeting in November after the end of the first quarter which will be open to the public as they all are.

Code/ Nuisance: Carole Wofford had nothing to report.

Human Resources: Roger Spencer had nothing to report.

Public Facilities & Planning: David Pyle had nothing to report.

<u>Economic Development</u>: Hollie LaVigne said we are working on getting the purchased property annexed into the city and that will be voted on in the next meeting.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business before the council.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business before the council.

lain Wright

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Roger Spencer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Anita Francis seconded. All in favor. No opposed. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.