

**CARAWAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**THURSDAY**  
**March 11, 2021**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING ROOM**  
**Meeting opened: 6:00 p.m.**  
**7:15 P.M.**

**ROLL CALL:**

MEMBERS:	PRESENT	ABSENT
MAYOR: BO JAMES	X	
RECORDER: RICK STEVENS	X	
ALDERMAN: JEFF REA	X	
ALDERMAN: MITCHELL TIPTON	X	
ALDERMAN: CHRIS KELEMS	X	
ALDERMAN: JERRY VAUGHN	X	
ALDERMAN: MARVIN BROWNING	X	
ALDERMAN: JERRY MARTIN	X	

The group said the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Prayer was led by Rick Stevens.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Bo James.

The roll was called with the mayor, recorder and all alderman present.

Minutes of the February 11th, 2021 meeting was presented.

Marvin Browning made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Chris Kelems.

Vote: Jerry Vaughn- Yes

Vote: Mitchell Tipton- Yes

Vote: Jerry Martin- Yes

Vote: Jeff Rea - Yes

Vote: Marvin Browning- Yes

Vote: Chris Kelems - Yes

Motion carries on vote of 6-0.

February Financial Statements for Water & Sewer, Street and General Fund were presented.

Mitchell Tipton made a motion to approve the financial statements, second by Jerry Vaughn.

Vote: Jerry Vaughn- Yes

Vote: Mitchell Tipton- Yes

Vote: Jerry Martin- Yes

Vote: Jeff Rea - Yes

Vote: Marvin Browning- Yes

Vote: Chris Kelems - Yes

Motion carries on vote of 6-0.

Chris Kelems made a motion to advertise for bids to mow the city cemetery in the Jonesboro Sun. The ad will run in print for thirty days. The bids will be opened at next months council meeting.

Second by Jerry Martin.

Vote: Jerry Vaughn- Yes

Vote: Mitchell Tipton- Yes

Vote: Jerry Martin- Yes

Vote: Jeff Rea - Yes

Vote: Marvin Browning- Yes

Vote: Chris Kelems - Yes

Motion carries on vote of 6-0.

Fire Chief Curtis Taylor and fireman Wayne addressed the council about going to the E-Dispatch system for the Fire department and the advantages of the new system.

Jeff Rea made a motion to pay the bill for the service for one year at a cost of \$948.00 plus a one time setup fee of \$199.00, second by Chris Kelems.

Vote: Jerry Vaughn- Yes

Vote: Mitchell Tipton- Yes

Vote: Jerry Martin- Yes

Vote: Jeff Rea - Yes

Vote: Marvin Browning- Yes

Vote: Chris Kelems - Yes

Motion carries on vote of 6-0.

Mayor James informed the council that Krey Jeffers has left the police department.

Jerry Martin made a motion to run an ad in the paper to advertise for the position with the pay dependent on experience. The council will make a decision at next month's council meeting. Second by Jeff Rea.

Vote: Jerry Vaughn- Yes

Vote: Mitchell Tipton- Yes

Vote: Jerry Martin- Yes

Vote: Jeff Rea - Yes

Vote: Marvin Browning- Yes

Vote: Chris Kelems - Yes

Motion carries on vote of 6-0.

Chris Kelems made a motion that if a customer of the city purchased a second meter for hookup, the city would charge the current water tap fee (\$250.00) to connect to the main water line, second by Marvin Browning.

Vote: Jerry Vaughn- Yes

Vote: Mitchell Tipton- Yes

Vote: Jerry Martin- Yes

Vote: Jeff Rea - Yes

Vote: Marvin Browning- Yes

Vote: Chris Kelems - Yes

Motion carries on vote of 6-0.

Chris Kelems made a motion to accept bids for the city uniform and rug cleaning services, second by Jerry Vaughn.

Vote: Jerry Vaughn- Yes

Vote: Mitchell Tipton- Yes

Vote: Jerry Martin- Yes

Vote: Jeff Rea - Yes

Vote: Marvin Browning- Yes

Vote: Chris Kelems - Yes

Motion carries on vote of 6-0.

Fire Chief Curtis Taylor informed the council of the need for six turnout suits of clothing for the fire department with an cost of \$12-14,000.00.

Jeff Rea made a motion for the purchase the items with a \$15,000.00 cap on cost, second by Chris Kelems. The purchase will be paid out of the Act 833 funds.

Vote: Jerry Vaughn- Yes

Vote: Mitchell Tipton- Yes

Vote: Jerry Martin- Yes

Vote: Jeff Rea - Yes

Vote: Marvin Browning- Yes

Vote: Chris Kelems - Yes

Motion carries on vote of 6-0.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor James informed the council he had sent back the farm animal ordinance to the city attorney for revision.

Mayor James also stated his desire to see a special events committee formed to help plan and coordinate city events like July 4th, Fall Harvest Fest and Christmas in the park. The committee would be composed of a Chair person, Co-Chair person and three others.

The mayor also said he would like to see a city wide trash cleanup on Saturday, March 20th. The event will start at city hall at 9:00 a.m. Any citizen that would like to help would be welcomed.

Caraway Easter Egg Hunt is be at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 3rd.

The Caraway city FEMA flood maps will be reviewed to see if there are changes in the city's status. The last flood maps were evaluated in 1969.

A low bid of \$126,800.00 was accepted from Utility Services Co.,INC. of West Memphis to provide maintenance and painting on the city water tower. The city received a grant for \$183,000.00 to pay for this work. The start of this work is expected to be soon.

March 18th is the date for the signing of the paper work to start the new well work.

Travis Emery addressed the council concerning the recent purchase of the Caraway Hardware building for the purpose of putting in a chemical/seed business. The owner is Wade Castleberry.

Park Commissioner Clay informed the council of the lack of sign ups for the baseball & softball program. He also said plans would be made for movies in the park, Easter egg hunt and a fishing rodeo this spring. Plans are being made to apply for a grant to buy new playground equipment. The possibility of moving some the playground equipment behind the ball park to the main park area.

Travis Emery ask the city council about the possibility of purchasing some land in the area behind the old Dollar Store.

Appreciation concerning the city employees good work during the recent snow event the city had were given by the mayor and council.

Mayor James explained the reason for the water pressure drop the city had during the snow and cold weather in the city recently. Equipment failure resulted in city employees working diligently to fix the problem and after the loss of quite a bit of water, was repaired.

Mayor James explained that the city had problems with trash pickup during the recent snow and ice. A trailer was placed at city hall to collect trash during this time. Mayor James said he was looking at the numbers concerning the city starting to pickup up trash.

The needed repair of a pothole on Waco Street was discussed.

Mitchell Tipton made a motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Chris Kelems.  
Motion carries on vote of 6-0.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

MAYOR

RECORDER



