

Truman City Council Minutes
April 4, 2022

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 4th day of April at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Terry Bentele, Councilor Brandon Mosloski, Councilor Patty Truax, Councilor Jake Ebert, and Councilor Brian Nickerson

Absent: None

Staff present: Utility Foreman Brent Brown, Police Chief Justin Jobe, Street Superintendent John Bosshart, City Clerk Melissa Sirovy, Utility Billing Specialist/Deputy Clerk Carol Becker, Fire Chief Dave Bentz, Wayne Wiederhoeft, and Kim Breamer.

Also Present: Jennifer Brookens Truman Tribune, Brooke Wohlrabe Fairmont Sentinel.

Mayor Terry Bentele presided over the meeting, beginning at 5:30 pm, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda/Additions or Changes

Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to approve the agenda. All ayes – motion carried.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Motion made by Truax, seconded by Ebert to approve minutes from the March 21st regular meeting, with one correction for the spelling of a last name. All ayes – motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Board of Appeal Meeting

Martin County Assessor Mike Sheplee provided information about the upcoming Board of Appeal Open Book Meeting that will be held on April 21st in Fairmont. The value of homes has increased substantially throughout the area. The state has programs available to help property owners when their property tax increase is greater than 12%, for property owners who are disabled, and for seniors. The homestead exclusion hasn't changed in 30 years, so it has less impact as home prices increase.

Sealcoat Bids

Four bids were received for the seal coat project. Bids were opened on March 31st and were as follows: Allied Blacktop \$68,562.08, \$1.84 SY; M.R. Paving \$66,698.98, \$1.79 SY; Pearson Bros. \$59,246.58, \$1.59 SY; Asphalt Preservation Co. \$81,976.40, \$2.20 SY. The budget for the work is \$50,000. Discussion included options for areas to cut out this year to bring the project to within budget, to consider spreading seal coat work over 5 years instead of 4 to reduce the annual cost, and other revenue that might be used to cover the cost overrun. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to accept the bid from Pearson Bros., with the excess cost to be covered with the use of ARPA Funds. All ayes – motion carried.**

Quarterly Department Reports

Brent Brown provided a quarterly utilities department report. The water tower project is expected to begin about mid-May. Color and design options for painting the tower were considered. Council requested paint samples rather than deciding based on samples from an email. The pool should be filled before the project begins because unfiltered water would be difficult to treat. If it gets filled earlier than usual, there was concern about the additional water loss due to expected leakage. Unfiltered water can be used to replenish the loss without concern. Council approved filling the pool prior to the start of the tower/filter project. The pump on well #3 was pulled and is only 7 horsepower. Looking at options for how to proceed. An estimate was obtained from Rubin Construction for \$6364 to bypass the filter when the tower project begins. It will be included in the cost of the project. Staff met with Bolton & Menk regarding the campground project. They will provide a design layout and plans and specs for utilities for \$4000. By providing water and sewer to campsites, a bath house wouldn't be required. Primitive sites may be located in an area close enough to the pool bath house to meet code. A retention pond might be required, or a ditch might also work to manage water runoff. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson to approve having Bolton & Menk provide a design layout and utility plans and specs for the campground project at a cost of \$4,000. All ayes – motion carried.** The department is currently working to repair a collapsed manhole, and a nearby valve and fire hydrant are being replaced as part of the work. The 2" water line to the wastewater treatment plant will also be repaired.

Police Chief Justin Jobe provided a department report. He is looking at placing an order soon for 2023 delivery of a new squad because of the delivery delays that are anticipated. A cost estimate will be obtained for consideration to replace the squad laptop with a tough book, possibly using ARPA money. Officer Schutz is expected to be on extended leave beginning in August.

The ambulance department did not have a quarterly update.

Fire Chief Dave Bentz was present with a quarterly department report. The rescue truck is scheduled for replacement in 2023 and options are being explored. The department billing schedule was last revised in 2018 so service rates may need to be updated. More information will be provided at an upcoming meeting. Three members are in training at this time and a fundraiser was just completed.

Street Superintendent John Bosshart provided a department report. Curb painting is planned for this summer. The 1970 Ford Truck was sold at auction for \$1497. Tree trimming and street sweeping are taking place. The brush site is open. Staff will be looking at the culvert on 5th Street North before calling Jetter Clean to have it televised.

Approval of Claims

Submitted claims totaled \$125,847.94, check #39819 - #39858. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve payment of claims. All ayes – motion carried.**

Approval of Financials

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to approve financials for January 2022 as provided. All ayes – motion carried.

Resolution 2022-10 to Accept Donations

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to adopt Resolution 2022-10 to accept donations from the first quarter of 2022. All ayes – motion carried.

Northland Securities Bond Issue

Jessica Green addressed the council to review a bond proposal for the upcoming water projects. General Obligation Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2022A in the amount of \$1,045,000 would have a 15-year term at a true interest cost of 2.76% with payments from 2023 to 2037. The pricing date is May 16th. Non-rated cities can apply for credit enhancement through the Minnesota State Credit Enhancement Program for an application fee of \$500. The proposed agreement is for \$1.2M to allow a buffer if the project goes over the anticipated cost. Truman could go through the rating process, but the cost to do so is estimated at \$12,000 and the city would be subject to annual surveillance that can take a great deal of staff time. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to adopt the Resolution relating to the issuance of General Obligation Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2022-A and to enter into an agreement with Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for the Credit Enhancement Program. Roll Call Vote: Ebert - aye, Truax - aye, Mosloski - aye, Nickerson - aye, Bentele - aye. Motion carried.** The \$500 program fee is included in the financing.

Old Business

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to adopt Resolution 2022-08 approving reassignment of equity. All ayes – motion carried.

Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to amend Resolution 2022-09 to add an hourly rate of pay for elections judges of \$10.50. All ayes – motion carried.

New Business

Two applications were received for summer help at the baseball diamond. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to approve hiring Luke Kester and Griffin Studer. All ayes – motion carried.**

Kim Breamer was present to go over pool business. Six to eight guards need to be hired. Increases to the cost of admission for the 2022 season were considered to help with the increased cost of operation. The following rate increases were proposed: Family Pass from \$140 to \$150, Daily Pass from \$3.50 to \$4.00, Swimming Lessons from \$35 to \$40. Also considered was adding a charge for use of the wading pool and perhaps keeping the gate open between that and the big pool. Council preferred the gate remain closed but not locked to allow for passage by those able to reach the latch. The cost for use of the wading pool was set at \$2.00, and if someone wants to have access to the big pool, they will pay for a regular daily pass. Signage will be put in place to explain the new rules. Job descriptions for a pool attendant and a pool manager were reviewed as the pool commission feels an adult should be present at the pool during the day. The wage for head guard was discussed along with minimum wage laws that cover employment at the pool. Additional information will be brought to the next meeting. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson to approve the pool admission and service fee increases as proposed. All ayes – motion carried.** Credit cards payments are currently not accepted at the pool, but many have asked about having this option. There is concern about the fees that come from using credit cards, but there may be apps available to save on that cost. Also discussed was how receipts get deposited now and if the funds should come to the city office to be deposited. No action was taken on either matter at this time. Early signup is planned for May 11th and opening day is set for June 4th. Breamer asked about the status the splash pad project and council advised grants are needed to move forward with it.

There has been an inquiry received from a property owner interested in constructing a shouse on their property on Main Street. Planning and Zoning Commissioner Ebert called for a commission meeting to be held on Monday, April 11th at 5:30 pm to discuss how the city zoning ordinance and state building codes regulate such construction.

Deputy Clerk Carol Becker provided a plan to reorganize the city office to provide a separate desk for utilities and for the administrative assistant to give each more workspace. The estimate for an additional desk is \$835. Also requested was an adjustable computer monitor for the city clerk's office at an estimated cost of \$250. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax to approve the reorganization plan and the purchases as proposed. All ayes – motion carried.** The cost will be split between various departments.

Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk