

**Truman City Council Minutes**  
**April 18, 2022**

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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, Administrative Assistant Gail Ingledew, Wayne Wiederhoeft, and Kim Breamer.

Also Present: Cathy Sorenson Spruce-up Committee & Active Living, Marilyn Carrigan Truman Museum, Kathy Hendricksen, 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

Additions to the agenda: Payroll adjustments.

**Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to approve the agenda with the addition. All ayes – motion carried.**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

**Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to approve minutes from the April 4<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. All ayes – motion carried.**

Public Comment

Kathy Hendricksen asked about the alley behind her property, saying it is a closed alley open only to residents who live there. Some are piling snow there and are blocking access. Council Member Mosloski agreed to verify problem areas so letters can be sent to those property owners. Notice will also be added to the City Facebook page. Snow removal companies will also be advised not to use alleys to pile snow. Residents are responsible to trim hedges and trees in their alley as well to keep them open.

Committee Updates

Cathy Sorenson with the Spruce-up Committee and Active Living advised that five new benches have been purchased to be placed in various areas of Truman. There is a small-town grant of \$10,000 available and there is a grant writer willing to apply for the money toward the pickleball court. Council advised that project is too far into the future yet so it would be best to apply for funding for a different purpose.

Marilyn Carrigan provided an update on behalf of the Truman Museum Committee. Projects the group has been working on were reviewed. They are looking for new members and people willing to serve on the board. Those interested are encouraged to contact a committee member.

## Utility Business

Utility Foreman Brent Brown provided a bond payment schedule that proposes to generate revenue for debt service on the 2022A Bonds from a monthly infrastructure fee of \$13.84 on all utility accounts. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Mosloski to draft a resolution to consider for the fee to be added to utility bills beginning with May bills that go out in June. All ayes – motion carried.** Well #3 was pulled and the pump was tested and needs to be replaced. The estimated cost for a 300-gpm pump is \$10,517, plus the cost for new fuses. This expense is included in the bonded water projects. Paint samples were reviewed for the water tower. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Mosloski to select KC Blue, and the color scheme with blue paint on the top of the tower. All ayes – motion carried.**

## Approval of Claims

Submitted claims totaled \$226,094.48, check #39860 - #39900. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Ebert to approve payment of claims. All ayes – motion carried.**

## Approval of February Financials

February financials were reviewed. The ‘revenue guideline council’ report provided to council each month has errors in the year-to-date percentage column. The City Clerk will investigate. There are delinquent taxes receivable of about \$80,000 and council questioned how many years delinquent taxes are carried on the balance sheet. Auditor Greg Burkhardt was present and advised they remain on the books until they are paid. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Ebert to approve the February 2022 financials. All ayes – motion carried.**

## 2021 Year-end Audit Review

City Auditor Greg Burkhardt presented the 2021 year-end audit statement. The city received an unmodified opinion of financials after adjustments which is a clean audit opinion. A material weakness existed due to the magnitude of financial adjustments that were required. Other deficiencies included a lack of segregation of duties and preparation of financial statements. Those deficiencies are to be expected in small cities. There were no legal compliance concerns. Unassigned fund balance as a percentage of expenditures was 37% which is lower than both state and city policy call for. Burkhardt recommended finding ways to increase this and planning to bring it up to an acceptable level within so many years. Brent Brown asked about the budgeted \$36,000 transfer from the general fund to the sewer fund that wasn’t recorded in 2021. The money was used for debt service in the sewer fund, but the debt was paid off in 2020. Burkhardt advised he and the city clerk agreed the transfer would not be made in 2021 for that reason, and because there was an insufficient unassigned fund balance in the general fund. Burkhardt recommended the council make decisions about how to manage interfund transfers each year with the adoption of a resolution.

## Rural and Urban Service District

**Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve setting the Rural and Urban Service District Public Hearing for Monday, June 6, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. All ayes – motion carried.**

## Old Business

Kim Breamer was present to go over pool business. Wages were discussed along with the need for adult supervision when the lifeguards working are minors. Minimum wage is now \$10.33. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to advertise to hire an adult pool attendant. All ayes – motion carried.** Council was advised Josie Clow was to be paid \$11.00 per hour in 2021 but she received \$10.75. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson to approve the wages**

**proposed by Breamer, including retro pay for Clow of .25 per hour for hours worked in 2021. All ayes – motion carried.** A new backboard with straps and a head immobilizer is needed at the pool. Council approved the purchase. The testing schedule was discussed with Wayne Wiederhoeft. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to have Danielle and T. J. Williams do the weekend testing. All ayes – motion carried.**

It was decided to revisit the MN Para Transit property agreement to make sure terms are being met.

Police Chief Justin Jobe hand delivered letters to two property owners having dilapidated hazardous property, giving them 30 days from April 6<sup>th</sup> to repair or remove the hazard or to provide a plan to do so.

Council was given a brief review of the planning and zoning committee meeting held on April 11<sup>th</sup>. A resident had inquired about building a ‘shouse’ on residential property. No permit application has been received at this time. City code does not appear to address this kind of construction. Building Inspector Darold Nienhaus will be consulted regarding regulations that may apply.

#### New Business

Council was advised last year’s seasonal workers will not be returning. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to advertise for two open seasonal positions. All ayes – motion carried.**

Mayor Bentele read a proclamation declaring Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month in the City of Truman. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to adopt the proclamation. All ayes – motion carried.**

In other business, Councilor Nickerson talked about a meeting held recently with Bolton & Menk to discuss plans for the campground. He will meet with Greg in the next week to go over the design further.

Council was advised of errors in payroll that took place beginning in 2021 when deductions and benefits were incorrectly set up for appropriate tax withholding. Approval was given to issue refunds to those who overpaid FICA during that time, and to allow those owing taxes to pay over time if requested. Corrected W-2s for 2021 will be issued to those affected, and quarterly Federal and State tax returns will be corrected and refiled for the City for 2021.

Street Superintendent John Bosshart noted that the culvert in front of Carl Bosshart’s property was cleaned out and is working now. Grass will be seeded in Graf Park and the swing will be installed soon. The trailer that was declared as surplus equipment was sold at auction for \$2,102.

**Motion made by Truax, seconded by Ebert to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.**

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Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk