

**Truman City Council Minutes  
May 2, 2022**

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Jake Ebert, Councilor Brandon Mosloski, and Councilor Patty Truax.

Absent: Mayor Terry Bentele, Councilor Brian Nickerson.

Staff present: Utility Foreman Brent Brown, Police Chief Justin Jobe, Street Superintendent John Bosshart, City Clerk Melissa Sirovy, Utility Billing Spec./Deputy Clerk Carol Becker.

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

Mayor Pro-Tem Jake Ebert 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: Community Building, Youth Wrestling, Pickleball Court, Grocery Store, and Utility Sheds. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve the agenda with additions. All ayes – motion carried.**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

**Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to approve minutes from the April 18, 2022 regular meeting. All ayes – motion carried.**

Public Comment

None

Utility Business

Utility Foreman Brent Brown reviewed financing for water projects. Cost for the filter rehab and media replacement is undetermined and there is concern about rising costs. Plans and specs need to be developed now so the project can be bid soon, hoping to purchase material before cost goes up more. The downtown well needs to be enclosed to prevent freezing. The cost to add a recirculation line and pump will be obtained. The well could be winterized but would then be unavailable for emergency use. Council could consider using some ARPA money for the projects, or the bond issue could still be increased up to \$1.2M to cover cost overruns. The proposed infrastructure fee would need to be increased to cover the additional debt service. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve increasing the bonds to \$1,120,000. All ayes – motion carried.** The proposed infrastructure fee will be increased to \$14.84, and Resolution 2022-11 was amended as such. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to adopt Resolution 2022-11 authorizing implementation of an infrastructure fee to provide revenue for debt service, operations & maintenance in the Water Fund. All ayes – motion carried.** Notice will be sent out to account holders regarding the infrastructure fee. A draft was reviewed and approved by council.

Information was provided detailing annual fund transfers between the General Fund and the Sewer Fund. The Sewer Fund did not make a payment in 2020 and the General Fund transfer was not recorded in 2021. The transactions were to be made between the funds through 2026. It was recommended to record both missed payments in 2022, along with those in this year's budget, and to adopt a rate schedule that will provide sufficient revenue for the sewer fund going forward without having to continue the interfund transfers. A resolution will be drafted detailing the proposed changes for the council to consider. Heartland is requesting an agreement be signed regarding the interconnection process and requirements for qualifying facilities. It is a waiver for small scale renewable installations in the city, requiring Heartland to work with qualifying customers to purchase excess energy. Those customers still pay Truman's service fee. The matter was tabled to research why the agreement wasn't signed previously. Former commission members will be invited to a meeting to provide details. Council was asked to declare a John Deere riding mower and a woods mower deck as surplus equipment to be sold at auction. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to declare those items as surplus equipment. All ayes – motion carried.** Employee vacation is now accruing each payroll rather than being awarded as a lump sum in January. The policy change will cause some employees to have more vacation time accrued at the end of the year than is allowed by policy to be carried over to the following year. It was recommended those employees be allowed to carry over 1.5 times their annual accrual, so the policy change doesn't cause loss of vacation hours. Mosloski was concerned about carrying more hours into the next year that would be paid at that year's wage. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve an increase to 120 hours that may be carried over to 2023 for those employees affected. All ayes – motion carried.** Gas monitors need to be ordered and Brown asked about using ARPA funds to pay for them. It was decided to pay for them with budgeted funds.

### Police Business

Police Chief Justin Jobe advised that the Ford Explorer squad is due to be replaced in 2023, and supply problems are affecting availability. Ford and Dodge don't have state bid pricing out yet, and Chevy will be taking orders soon for a very short window. The estimated cost for a Tahoe is \$42,000, and an additional \$15,000 for equipment and installation costs. There is a USDA grant program to apply for to reimburse 15% of cost. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve ordering a 2023 Chevy Tahoe contingent on getting it in writing that the city is under no obligation to purchase the vehicle if plans change. All ayes- motion carried.** The department is replacing body armor for two officers at a cost of \$1443 each. State and federal programs will reimburse the city for a portion of the cost and those funds will be put back into the equipment reserve. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve the purchase as proposed. All ayes – motion carried.** Approval was given to install a garage door in the old police building. Officer Schutz's leave of absence later this year was briefly discussed. Jobe is working on a schedule for the department in his absence.

### Fire Department

Invoices for fire calls were reviewed to consider sending into collections. The city attorney will be contacted for an update on the Northrop fire invoice.

### Approval of Claims

Submitted claims totaled \$155,716.47, Check #39907 - #39938, ACH #297E - #318E and #500455E, #500466E. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to approve payment of claims. All ayes – motion carried.**

### Old Business

None

### New Business

The electric franchise fee was discontinued and not included in the 2022 budget. The city auditor advised the fee needs to be removed from city ordinance to allow it to be discontinued. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to rescind the electric franchise fee ordinance.** The city attorney will be contacted to provide an ordinance amendment.

The agreement between MN Para Transit and the City of Truman was briefly discussed. Office staff will continue to research the matter.

It has been necessary for some employees to refile their 2021 income taxes due to errors made in payroll that year. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to reimburse employees for the cost to refile their 2021 taxes due to the errors. All ayes – motion carried.**

Councilor Ebert advised that the bleachers at the softball field need repair. Various options were considered. Street Superintendent Bosshart agreed to check on the number of boards needed and Mosloski will order.

Office staff inquired about reducing lunch break to half an hour. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve a half hour lunch break for office staff and the office to close at 4:30 PM.**

Councilor Mosloski advised that a local group is interested in using the Community Building in March and April for youth activities. Council agreed to let them use it at no charge, but if the building is needed for another event, the group would need to find a different place to use. Mosloski stated the school is having Barga Inc. repair their parking lot and he plans to consult with them regarding a mill & overlay of the tennis court as part of the pickleball project. Mosloski asked about the cost to get electric service to the old grocery store so it can get cleaned out and listed for sale. Brown estimated it to cost about \$5,000. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to hook up electrical service, to clean it out and to list it for sale.** STS will be contacted to assist with the clean out.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ebert advised of a building permit application the city received that requires a variance based on current ordinance. The building inspector has suggested the city amend ordinances regulating utility sheds and accessory buildings. A planning and zoning meeting will be scheduled.

Street Superintendent John Bosshart advised the council the trailer vac sold at auction for \$2700. The cost estimate to seed grass at Graf Park is \$1200, or \$2,000 with seed and straw. Bosshart will be on leave beginning June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Councilor Mosloski provided a map of alleys to send out notices to property owners regarding keeping unopened alleys free of obstruction.

**Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.**

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**Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk**