

Truman Council Minutes

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building and by electronic means remotely via Zoom on the 19th day of January, 2021 at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

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

Staff present: Thea Boesch Deputy Clerk, Brent Brown Utility Foreman, Justin Jobe Police Chief, John Bosshart Streets Department , Fire Chief Dave Bentz

Also in attendance: Faith Clow

Mayor Terry Bentele presided over the meeting, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comment

None

Fire Department Quarterly Update

A quarterly update was provided by Fire Chief Dave Bentz:

The Fire Department had a total of 18 runs for last year, which is average. December 1st marks the beginning of the 2021 Fire year and thus far they have had zero runs.

The department is getting through COVID fairly well. We have only had a few test positive for COVID, however we were never short staffed.

Last year we were awarded a FEMA Grant for a new fire truck. That new truck is finished and we were going to pick it up this Friday, however they ran into an issue with the truck, so it will need to be looked at and fixed before being picked up.

Fire Department Recommendation for Truck Sale

Fire Chief Dave Bentz made the recommendation to the council to sell Tanker #7. They have two interested parties: Lewisville and Granada. They are looking to get at least \$25,000 for the tanker, which would cover most of the out-of-pocket expenses for the new truck. **Motion was made by Councilor Brandon Mosloski, seconded by Councilor Jake Ebert, and motion carried to approve selling Tanker #7, taking open bids until 5pm on February 11th.**

Credit Card Processing Company

The current company we utilize still has not gotten our account information updated from a year ago and they continue to deposit our money into our closed account. The bank continues to route our deposits to our new account, however we need to get this resolved soon. A recommendation from the auditors to look into Payment Service Network (PSN) was made. Deputy Clerk Thea Boesch made contact with them and received information on their services. They can work with Power Manager Software until we get utilities converted into the Banyon Software. The services they have to offer include: credit/debit card payments, e-check payments, electronic bill pay option, online & mobile apps, eBills, etc. This will be more user friendly for employees and residents, and residents will be able to access their account and see account information. **Motion was made by Councilor**

Jake Ebert, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson, and motion carried to approve moving forward with setting up services through PSN.

Splashpad & Pickle ball court discussion

Faith Clow was in attendance for this discussion. The time frame for using the grant that was awarded is June 1st, 2021. Faith offered to talk to the Martin County Area Foundation to see if they would grant an extension for the splashpad project since that project got delayed due to employee turnover and COVID, and won't be able to get completed by then. The tennis court project is something that we could still get finished by June 1st. Looking to put in a multi-purpose court. The hope is to get both projects back in motion and get as much completed this year as possible. The only problem would be getting materials, that seems to be the setback for a lot of things due to COVID. Some specs for the splashpad were found that were quoted from 2018. One of them was for a splashpad with less equipment and freshwater option for a smaller budget of \$20,000. A second one was drawn up with more equipment and the recirculation system for a budget of \$100,000. With the freshwater option you are going to pay for water and sewer for all gallons run through. However, the costly recirculation system would get paid back fairly quickly not running as many gallons through. Also, another issue is who is going to work on this project moving forward, as the staff at the office is already too busy. Faith offered to help, along with the pool committee, to move forward with the next steps of this project. First step would be to get updated quotes, as they most likely have gone up in cost. Jake will look into the court surface and move forward with getting bids.

Resolutions

Motion made by Councilor Jake Ebert, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson, and motion carried to approve Resolution No. 2021-1.

Resolution No. 2021-1

Resolution Accepting Donations

Motion made by Councilor Brandon Mosloski, seconded by Councilor Patty Truax, and motion carried to approve Resolution No. 2021-2.

Resolution No. 2021-2

Resolution Accepting Donations

Motion made by Councilor Brian Nickerson, seconded by Councilor Jake Ebert, and motion carried to approve Resolution No. 2021-3.

Resolution No. 2021-3

Resolution Accepting Donations

Minutes

Motion made by Councilor Jake Ebert, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson, and motion carried to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting on January 4, 2021.

Motion made by Councilor Brandon Mosloski, seconded by Councilor Patty Truax, and motion carried to approve the minutes from the Emergency Meeting on January 8, 2021.

City Claims

Check #38421 - #38465 - \$224,844.98

Motion Made by Councilor Brandon Mosloski, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson, and motion carried to approve the City Claims.

Old Business

Discussion was brought up by Faith Clow about whether the council had decided if they wanted to cover the cost of the headstone for the Jones family as a kind gesture to the family for the mix up on Curtis Jones' burial. The cost would approximately be \$800 for the stone and \$125 for shipping. The council will discuss and get back to Faith on this subject.

Rescind motion was made by Councilor Jake Ebert, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson, and motion carried to rescind motion from prior meeting to reimburse Aardvarks their on-sale liquor license due to them opening back up.

Police Chief Jobe asked for clarification on a discussion held at the previous regular meeting about carryover hours. His question was if the carryover hours that needed to be used in the 1st quarter was just office employees, or if that was for all city employees. The council said the rule covers all city employees not in a union contract.

New Business

Discussion held on how we are to handle employees that test positive or have to quarantine because of COVID and how we are going to pay them for those hours that they miss. The FFCRA mandate ended December 31st, however Councilor Brandon Mosloski said that the tax credits are still available until March 31st. This is voluntary for businesses to pay the employee and use the tax credit. So, moving forward we will continue to pay employees and use the tax credit until March 31st, and see at the end of March whether they extend that deadline. We also need to look into getting our COVID protocol updated.

Police Chief Jobe looked into the cost for the cots for the community building. The Coleman cots you can purchase at Walmart are \$30.79. The cots through Sportsman Guide at the cheapest would be \$47.00 per cot. **Motion was made by Councilor Brandon Mosloski, seconded by Councilor Jake Ebert, and motion carried to approve purchasing 10 cots through Walmart at \$30.79/cot, along with the purchase of small pillows to go with the cots.**

Councilor Brandon Mosloski went through the Community Building to verify if there is any closet space to utilize for storage. All the closets are currently being used and are full. However, Councilor Brandon Mosloski and Police Chief Jobe went into the basement and found storage space available in the old liquor storage room. Duplicate keys were made for the storage space in the basement and were given to Police Chief Jobe and Fire Chief Bentz.

Information from Mike Humpal of South Central Service Coop was provided to the council in reference to getting an interim City Clerk to help Sherry and Thea with the transition to the new Banyon software. A proposed contract with South Central Service Coop was discussed. The interim City Clerk would get \$75.00/hr and paid mileage. This would be for two days a week, for a month or two at most. It was also brought up that they could help us with recruitment for the City Clerk position. Thea will look into what specific services they offer, and the cost involved in their help with recruitment. Further discussion was held on where the position has been advertised. Councilor

Brandon Mosloski suggested that we post an ad for a few days in the Mankato Free Press to reach farther out of our area. Thea will move forward with posting the ad in the Mankato Free Press.

Councilor Patty Truax brought up an issue with jake braking on Highway 15 in Truman. Signs used to be posted, however MNDOT took those signs down. We looked into putting new signs up and they were \$1,000 per sign, and MNDOT didn't really want us to put them back up. It was mentioned that if we push the issue to much that they could do a speed survey through town and actual increase the speed limit through town.

Councilor Patty Truax asked if we have ever looked into getting one waste disposal provider in town, and adding a waste disposal fee on the residents' monthly utility bill. The thought would be that this would decrease the amount of trash just left lying around. However, not all residents use waste disposal because they have other means of getting rid of their trash, therefore we would get a lot of upset residents that are paying for a service that they aren't using.

Street Superintendent John Bosshart provided the council with a proposal for municipal lease purchase of a truck for the Street Department from Elizabeth Chevrolet. Amount financed was \$31,392 at an interest rate of 4.457% and a lease term of 5 years and an annual payment of \$6,837.45. John also checked with Matt Saxe and they were not able to get a single cab truck until 2022. Going to a lease-to-buy option may kick us out of the state bid. Discussion held about checking into the cost of Ford vs Chevy. John and Brent will look into the cost difference.

Councilor Brandon Mosloski mentioned that we need to make a decision if we are going to explore getting the City Clerk and Deputy Clerk positions into the union. If we make that decision, then we need to get the talks initiated with the union. If those positions go union then we are left with Police Chief Jobe as the lone person on the city insurance, what are the options for him and insurance. Councilor Brian Nickerson will contact the union rep to see if Police Chief Jobe would qualify under the IBEW contract as well. **Motion was made by Councilor Jake Ebert, seconded by Councilor Brandon Mosloski, and motion carried to approve taking the next steps to get City Clerk and Deputy Clerk position into the union contract.**

Councilor Brandon Mosloski also said that the council should discuss how much they want Brent to continue doing the role he has been doing. The council is in agreeance that they would like Brent to continue what he is doing, which is a mix of lineman/foreman/utility manager. The next step then is to talk with the union representative Andy about Brent's job description to get that updated. Councilor Brandon Mosloski said he would contact Andy. **Motion made by Councilor Patty Truax, seconded by Councilor Brandon Mosloski, and motion carried to approve talking to Andy about Brent's job description.**

Mayor Terry Bentele entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion made by Councilor Jake Ebert, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson, and motion carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.**

Thea Boesch, Deputy Clerk