

**Truman City Council Minutes**  
**October 16, 2023**

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building in the fire department meeting room on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Jake Ebert, Councilors Ron Kelley, Patty Truax, Brian Nickerson, and Chris Mosloski.

Absent: None.

Staff present: Utility Foreman Brent Brown, Street Superintendent John Bosshart, City Clerk/Treasurer Melissa Sirovy, Utility Billing Specialist/Deputy Clerk Carol Becker, Interim Police Chief Michael Schutz.

Also present: Troy Nemmers Bolton & Menk, Cathy and Dave Sorenson, Lynn Brownlee, Jill Hendrickson, Joseph Kreiss Truman Tribune, Brooke Wohlrabe Fairmont Sentinel.

Mayor Jake Ebert presided over the meeting, beginning at 5:30 p.m., opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda/Additions or Changes

Items added to the agenda; Zehnder property, fire truck purchase, Bau property. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to approve the agenda with the additions. All ayes - motion carried.**

Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting

**Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to approve minutes of the October 2, 2023 Regular Meeting. All ayes - motion carried.**

Public Comment

Lynn Brownlee asked about getting a key to the Community Building to retain for Lions Club events held throughout the year. Council explained they want to keep keyholders to a minimum to hold people accountable for use of the building. Suggestions discussed included locking the basement door and installing a programmable thermostat. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to approve issuing a key to the Lions Club and the Spruce Up Truman Committee. All ayes – motion carried.**

Jill Hendrickson was present to ask about a large sink hole on her property located a few feet behind the curb. It is deep and water drains into it so it keeps water from collecting in her yard. It was decided to contact Rural Water to have it smoke tested to determine the cause.

Bolton & Menk Amendment to Task Order

Troy Nemmers was present to review an amendment to the task order for professional services for the residential development project, subdivision design and bidding services for \$48,000. Nemmers reviewed the layout concept. The location for the retention pond hasn't been determined but the cost

to plan for it is included in this amendment. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to approve Amendment #1 as proposed. All ayes – motion carried.**

#### Utility Department

Utility Foreman Brown reviewed department business. Trees were planted at the campground and crushed concrete was added to pads, using grant funds. Hydrants have been flushed.

#### Snow Removal Notice

Council reviewed a notice to advise residents of the ordinance that requires ice and snow removal on public sidewalks and clarifies what constitutes a violation of the regulation. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to approve the notice. All ayes – motion carried.**

#### Resolution 2023-31 to Accept September Donations

**Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to adopt Resolution 2023-31 to accept September donations. All ayes – motion carried.**

#### Resolution 2023-30 to Certify Unpaid Charges to Taxes

**Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to adopt Resolution 2023-30 to certify unpaid charges to property taxes. All ayes – motion carried.**

#### September Financial Statements

**Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to approve September Financial Statements as presented. All ayes – motion carried.**

#### Resolutions 2023-32 and 2023-33 to Contract with a City Official

**Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to adopt Resolutions 2023-32 and 2023-33 to Contract with a City Official. Motion carried 4-0. Councilor Nickerson abstained due to conflict of interest.**

#### Approval of Claims

Submitted claims totaled \$262,192.16. Checks #41385, #41387 - #41436, ACH #670E - #682E, #501155E. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to approve payment of claims. All ayes - motion carried.**

#### Old Business

Interim Police Chief Schutz updated the council regarding union membership. The Lels Union advised of options for the department under the current circumstances. A contract could be drafted for the position in a non-union capacity, Schutz could be named Chief and move forward with no union membership, the city could hire a CLEO outside of the city to act in that capacity, the city could continue to operate the department with an Interim CLEO for an undefined period of time with Lels union membership to continue. It was decided to continue with Schutz as the Interim Police Chief and to maintain his Lels union membership at this time. The union agreement expired at the end of 2022. Mayor Ebert will contact the union representative to discuss renewing the agreement.

The IBEW union rep was consulted to determine how earned sick and safe time will be incorporated into the union agreement in 2024. Language will be added stating we recognize the expanded uses of sick time by earned sick and safe time as established by Minnesota Statute 181.9143. The personnel policy will require revision to provide the sick and safe time benefit to non-union employees who qualify. A policy update based on a League of Minnesota Cities template was provided to council for consideration. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to adopt the leave policy as proposed, to take effect on January 1, 2024. All ayes – motion carried.**

Council reviewed a current keyholder list for the Community Building, and new requests for a key. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to approve giving a key to the Legion and the fire department.**

The Truman Historical Association is requesting use of the Community Building at no charge for an event on July 27, 2024. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to approve the request. All ayes – motion carried.** Boy Scouts are requesting use of the building at no charge to meet twice a month on Friday nights, and on other Friday nights as needed. Council asked if they would use the entire building or just the basement. Staff was asked to clarify that and to get specific dates they want to use it before a decision is made.

### New Business

License renewals are being sent out and council was asked to consider removing the outdated requirement for music box and gaming licenses costing \$5 per year, which was discussed when licenses were renewed for 2023. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to discontinue requiring those licenses beginning in 2024. All ayes – motion carried.**

Two estimates for replacement of the automatic door opener at the Community Building were considered. Fairmont Glass bid \$3,196, and Nosbush Glass bid \$3150 with a deduction of \$145 if the current box and buttons could be reused. The opener is believed to be less than 5 years old. Mayor Ebert will contact a contractor to look at it prior to replacing it.

Doolittle's looked at the carpet in the fireplace room of the Community Building and it was decided it could be cleaned rather than replaced at this time. The estimated cost is \$200. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax to approve having the carpet cleaned. All ayes – motion carried.**

Ambulance Director Josh Kitzerow provided the quarterly department report. There are 12 active department members and 8 individuals interested in taking training. A request was made to approve hiring Tori Nava, Cade Hotzler, Jack Zoback and Sara Hix at this time. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to approve hiring those individuals as requested, pending completion of background checks. All ayes – motion carried.** The stair chair approved earlier is on order. The department is considering an open house to help attract new department members.

Mayor Ebert asked for a status update on purchase of the Zehnder property. The city attorney advised today that he is working on it.

An emergency council meeting was held yesterday to consider the purchase of a rescue truck from the City of Shakopee. Board members from Nashville and Westford Townships were also in attendance. Approval was given to offer up to \$200,000 for the truck. The old rescue truck would then be sold, with the proceeds to be put back into the truck fund. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve selling the 1991 rescue truck, pending the purchase and receipt of the new rescue truck. All ayes – motion carried.**

Discussion was held regarding cleanup of the Bau property. The bid for the project included removal of all trees, but after accepting the bid it was decided to keep some of the trees that were in good condition. The contractor indicated that made the work more difficult and costly. There was also more buried concrete on the property than was known. No change orders were officially requested or approved for the project. No action was taken on the matter.

Street Superintendent Bosshart advised council that MnDot representatives are coming tomorrow to look at Highway 15 to further consider the request to add sidewalks.

**Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.**

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**Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk**