

## **Truman City Council Minutes February 21, 2023**

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None.

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

Also Present: Brandon Mosloski, Tosha Davis, Joseph Kreiss Truman Tribune.

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

Snow removal on sidewalks was added to new business. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax to approve the agenda with the addition. All ayes - motion carried.**

### Minutes of Regular Meeting

**Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to approve minutes of the February 6, 2023 regular meeting. All ayes - motion carried.**

### Public Comment

Tosha Davis addressed the council regarding her basement drain that backs up because it is improperly connected to the storm sewer. Staff recommended sealing the drain with concrete and adding a new one that connects to the sanitary sewer. Davis also advised of a neighboring unsanitary nuisance property. Chief Jobe agreed to look into the problem.

### Fire Department Business

Chief Dave Bentz made contact with Nashville Township regarding the proposed rescue truck purchase, and they agreed to work with the department on the matter. Fire service contracts state that townships will pay half of the cost for capital equipment acquired by the city in the contract year. Contract rates were discussed, and consideration was given to increasing the rate for 2024, with the additional revenue to be added to the truck fund. The balance in the truck fund at the end of 2022 is lower than on record with the fire department because additions were not budgeted for the past three years. An additional \$36,234 is needed to bring it up to amount the department has on record. It was decided to draft a resolution to levy that amount over the next 4 years to replenish the general fund.

Council requested information regarding options to finance the portion of the rescue truck to be paid by the city. The fire department ordered and installed a generator at the Municipal Building costing \$6,346.57. Following discussion, it was decided to have the fire and ambulance departments pay 75% of the cost and the remaining 25% will be paid by other benefited departments. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to approve payment of the invoice, with the cost split between departments as proposed. All ayes – motion carried.** The proposed cost to townships for the fire rescue truck will be emailed to township officials and members of the fire department will attend their annual meetings to go over the details. Council was advised of a delinquent fire call invoice to determine if it should be sent to collections or written off. The billing address is not correct and the mail is being returned as undeliverable. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to write off the \$500 invoice from 2021. Motion carried 4-1 - with Councilor Nickerson voting Nay.**

#### Resolution 2023-05 Assignment of Equity

Council reviewed a schedule of assigned equity, as of December 31, 2022. It was decided to remove the splash pad from the schedule and to move the \$7,000 to the pool maintenance reserve. The fire department truck reserve was increased by \$36,234 to \$93,364. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to adopt Resolution 2023-05 to approve the assignment of fund balance equity with the changes noted. All ayes – motion carried.**

#### Street Department Business

Street Department Superintendent John Bosshart recommended rehiring Dani Williams in the Seasonal Street Department position. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to hire Dani Williams in the seasonal position at a wage of \$12.50 per hour. All ayes – motion carried.**

#### Utility Department

Utility Foreman Brent Brown reviewed repairs that have been completed to the space leased to MN Para Transit. The flooring has not been inspected. Pictures will be brought to the next meeting.

#### Public Hearing of the EDA

City Attorney Derrick Greiner advised that a public hearing is required on the proposed sale of the C & B property. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax to schedule a Public Hearing of the EDA for Monday, March 20, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. All ayes – motion carried.**

#### Approval of Claims

Submitted claims totaled \$231,930.41. Checks #40734 - 40736, #40782 - 40810, ACH #513e - 522e, and #500833e. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to approve payment of claims. All ayes - motion carried.**

#### Old Business

Mayor Ebert has been in touch with the school regarding the water damage claim their insurance has denied. Councilor Nickerson is contacting state legislators to ask for assistance with the claim.

Asked about utility expenses at the ballfield that were discussed at the last meeting, Mayor Ebert stated he will contact the baseball association to ask them to help pay the cost.

## New Business

Hazardous material has been removed from the nuisance property at 102 W 1<sup>st</sup> Street S. and Chief Bentz was asked to make arrangements to burn the house as part of a training exercise. Bids will be sought for cleanup of the remaining debris.

Council was asked for their goals to set priorities for the upcoming year. Residential development, expansion of the campground, sidewalks and a crosswalk on Highway 15 were agreed as the primary goals for this year. Chief Bentz was advised that the house on the Bau property will be burned once it is cleaned out to move forward with the development.

There have been requests for Wi-Fi at the Community Building from groups that rent the space. The cost will be determined for consideration.

Councilor Truax expressed concern about the ordinance that requires snow to be removed from city sidewalks that is not being enforced. Property owners have 24 hours to clear sidewalks. Discussion included how to enforce the ordinance, who would clear walks that aren't done, how to notify residents of the requirement, if tickets would be issued, and when enforcement might begin. Staff will check with area cities to find out how they manage the problem for further discussion.

Councilor Mosloski asked about trucks that are illegally parked on side streets. Chief Jobe is aware of the problem and is working with the truck's owner.

**Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.**

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**Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk**