

Truman City Council Minutes
March 17, 2025

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 17th day of March, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Jake Ebert, Councilors Chris Mosloski, Ron Kelley, Danielle Williams, and Chad Truax.

Absent: None.

Staff present: Public Works Superintendent Brent Brown, City Clerk/Treasurer Melissa Sirovy, Deputy Clerk/Utility Billing Specialist Carol Becker.

Also present: Greg Burkhardt Auditor, Kristin Prososki EPA Brownfields, Tasha Davis, Lon and Lee Firschau, Rachael Jaeger 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

Motion made by Williams, seconded by Truax to approve the agenda. All ayes - motion carried.

Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting

Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to approve minutes of the March 3, 2025 Regular Meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

Public Comment

Tasha Davis addressed the council regarding ongoing water infiltration in her basement. It had been determined that the basement drain was not directly connected to the storm sewer catch basin, but a contractor said it is connected to the storm sewer in an undetermined location. It was recommended the drain be capped and a sump pump added. Councilor Truax offered to look at it on his own to offer input on corrective measures.

Kristin Prososki, EPA Technical Assistance to Brownfields

Prososki provided information on assistance that is available and funded by EPA grants for property that has or might have contamination present, in relation to the former Sarge's property. The property is fine in its current state, but any changes would entail an environmental analysis, and possibly testing and cleanup measures. A market analysis can be performed to determine feasible uses for the property. Technical assistance provided does not include grant writing. An environmental assessment can take place without having a plan in place. If cleanup is needed, that grant is competitive so a sound plan is needed. Work would be done on behalf of the city. The site would enroll in the program and then the city would get a release from liability. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to move forward with an environmental assessment of the property. All ayes – motion carried.**

Greg Burkhardt 2024 Year-End Audit

Auditor Greg Burkhardt presented the 2024 audited financial statements and details of the findings from the audit. The City received an unmodified clean audit opinion. Three internal control findings were reported regarding financial statements, adjustments and segregation of duties. There were no legal compliance findings. A recommendation was made for utility inventory methods. The unreserved fund balance in the general fund increased to 50%. Cash flow was reviewed for the utility funds and the water fund saw a decrease, in part due to a loan owed to the electric fund. The water fund should be closely monitored going forward. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to accept the 2024 year-end audit statement as presented. All ayes – motion carried.**

Public Works Business

Superintendent Brent Brown reviewed 5 bids for cleanup of the Carlson property, ranging from \$25,875 to \$44,750. The low bid was from S & J Excavating and the contractor has agreed to complete the work by the May 1, 2025 deadline. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to accept the bid from S & J Excavating of \$25,875. All ayes – motion carried.** Estimates were obtained for the cost to decommission the second squad car, for \$875 and \$1200. The low estimate is from Guardian Fleet Safety and they also bid on purchasing the squad as is for \$7,800. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to sell the 2018 Ford Explorer squad car as is to Guardian Fleet Safety for \$7,800. All ayes – motion carried.** Staff will inquire if Guardian is interested in purchasing gear removed from the 2015 squad car. Council was asked if the 2015 Explorer should be listed for sale on MnBid or if it could be held for city use. It was decided to retain the vehicle for city use. In other business, council was advised that a workforce development grant of \$1,500 was approved by Heartland Energy for the administrative assistant position. The addition of sewer service to the existing campsites will cost approximately \$5,200 for parts and material. A bill from County Line was reviewed for payment. It is for a service call for a resident, not on behalf of the city. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to deny payment of the bill. All ayes – motion carried.**

February 2025 Financial Statements

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Williams to approve February financial statements as presented. All ayes – motion carried.

Resolution 2025-12 to Accept Donation

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to adopt Resolution 2025-12 to accept a donation of \$4,612.70 from Truman Fire Relief Association in reimbursement for a SuperVac 18” fan purchased from Jefferson Fire & Safety. All ayes – motion carried.

Approval of Claims

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve payment of claims. All ayes – motion carried. Approved claims totaled \$244,807.35. Checks #42708 - #42739, ACH #1042E - #1050E, and #501739E.

Old Business

Motion made by Williams, seconded by Kelley to approve ordering 12 picnic tables from RJ Thomas Mfg., 10 regular and 2 wheelchair accessible, for the new campsites. All ayes – motion carried.

New Business

Nuisance enforcement was discussed. The sheriff's department suggested using door hangers to notify residents of violations, and possibly adopting administrative fines for that purpose. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to move forward with door hangers for ordinance violations, and to write citations rather than administrative tickets when necessary. All ayes – motion carried.** Staff drafted a list of unlicensed or inoperable vehicles for the sheriff's department to work on.

Council considered setting a date for cleanup day. It is preferable to hold it on a Saturday prior to Truman Days, although fall works better for Prairieland. The clerk will contact Prairieland to see what weekends are available. Also discussed was requiring proof of residency at the event.

Council discussed adopting a rental ordinance for the safety of residents. Councilor Kelley is working with Amber Patten at CEDA and more information will follow.

Discussion took place on adding garbage services to utility bills to compel residents to use those services. No action was taken at this time.

Also discussed was sale of the Jones Subdivision lots. Creating a site plan would help interested parties see how the lots can be developed.

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk/Treasurer