

**Truman City Council Minutes**  
**April 3, 2023**

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: Councilor Patty Truax.

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

Also Present: Billee Rabbe and Andy Geiger Prairieland Solid Waste, Joyce Ysker, Dani Williams, Sherry Breitbarth, Marlene Anderson, Brook Wohlrabe Fairmont Sentinel, 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

Additions and changes to the agenda; consider work session to discuss residential development and review utility service handbook were added to the agenda. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to approve the agenda with the additions. All ayes - motion carried.**

Minutes of EDA Hearing, Regular Meeting, and Work Session

**Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to approve minutes of the March 20, 2023 EDA hearing and regular council meeting, and from the March 27<sup>th</sup> council work session. All ayes - motion carried.**

Public Comment

Joyce Ysker spoke about seniors using the Community Building for socializing and card playing on a regular basis, typically 10-20 people. They use it at no charge and are concerned that policy may change. Sherry Breitbarth expressed concern about repairs and maintenance needed at the building.

Billee Rabbe Prairieland Solid Waste Update and CUP Renewal

Director Billee Rabbe reviewed information about the facility from the past year, and some of the changes that have taken place since she began there in 2013. Rabbe is retiring in May and the new director, Andy Geiger, was introduced. Annual renewal of their conditional use permit was considered. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Mosloski to approve renewal of Prairieland's conditional use permit. All ayes – motion carried.**

### Ambulance Quarterly Report

Director Joshua Kitzerow reviewed details of runs from the past quarter. There have been 127 calls for service since December, with all three rigs put in use at the same time on a few occasions. A record number of runs are expected this year. Additional EMTs are needed to fully staff the department. There is concern the State may change how primary service areas are determined which could negatively affect the department. A new ambulance is scheduled for 2026 and the lead-time is 3 years for new rigs. Planning will begin soon in that regard. Area departments have expressed interest in hiring Truman to provide rehab for them.

### Fire Department Quarterly Report

Fire Chief Dave Bentz was not present

### Street Department Quarterly Report

Street Superintendent John Bosshart reviewed projects that have been completed during the previous quarter. The street sweeper will need steering tires soon at an estimated cost of \$600. It was recommended that grass in the boulevard at the Community Building be removed and replaced with concrete to make snow removal easier. Council asked about adding rock to the parking lot. Bosshart will get an estimate to consider. MNDOT was contacted about having noise enforcement signs added along the highway. They will only do so if they perform a speed study first, and that could result in a speed increase through the city. They stipulate the regulation be enforced. The signs have to be purchased from and installed by DOT at city cost. Mayor Ebert asked Bosshart to invite the DOT representative to an upcoming council meeting to talk about the issue. The catch basin near Boekett needs to be repaired. The work will be done when weather allows. Mayor Ebert asked Bosshart to obtain an estimate to add a drive over curb in front the Community Building for further discussion. Seal Coat bids were opened on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Five bids were received as follows: Allied Blacktop \$1.96 SY, \$59,829.00; M.R. Paving \$1.74 SY, \$53,113.50; Asphalt Preservation Co. \$2.49 SY, \$76,007.25; Pearson Bros. \$1.70 SY, \$51,892.50; and The Road Guy \$3.32, \$101,343.00. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to accept the low bid from Pearson Bros. of \$51,892.50. All ayes – motion carried.**

### Utility Department Quarterly Report

Utility Foreman Brent Brown notified the council that Lukas Smith submitted his resignation, effective April 12<sup>th</sup>. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to accept the resignation. All ayes – motion carried.** Because it may be difficult to find a replacement with experience, Brown recommended lowering the minimum acceptable standards in case no one with an electrical background applies, but then have targets that need to be met within a set timeline for electric, water and wastewater utilities. Brown is working with the union to get this documented. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to approve advertising the position as proposed.** Heartland has a grant available to provide an incentive to aid in hiring. Brown recommended setting up an apprenticeship program with the union. The program was obtained through the department of labor, and in exchange for paid training, the employee would have to agree to stay with the City for a period of time. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to approve setting up an apprenticeship agreement for the position. All ayes – motion carried.** A meeting took place with City Engineer Troy Nemmers to finalize campground expansion plans. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to send the campground expansion project out for bid. All Ayes – motion carried.** A utility policy handbook was passed out to council for review. A fee schedule is included that sets a fee for new utility connections. Penalties are currently billed on residential

accounts only, at 10% of the current late bill. It was recommended late fees be assessed on all late accounts, and on the full balance overdue. Further discussion will take place at a later meeting.

### Police Department Quarterly Report

Police Chief Justin Jobe provided a department update. Ordinance violations are being pursued now that the weather has improved. No information has come in regarding the status of the squad car on order.

### Resolution 2023-10 to Accept Donations

**Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Mosloski to adopt Resolution 2023-10 to accept donations received in March, 2023. All ayes – motion carried.**

### Approval of Claims

Submitted claims totaled \$146,653.00. Checks #40894 – 40916, ACH #542e - 550e, #500871e.  
**Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to approve payment of claims. All ayes - motion carried.**

### Old Business

Community Building rental policies were briefly discussed and will be added to an upcoming work session for further consideration.

The parks and recreation manager position has been advertised for some time. One application has been received. Work typically begins in April to get the pool ready to open. The clerk was asked to reach out to Faith Clow to discuss the matter.

### New Business

There are two contractors interested in mowing for the city over the summer. For the three properties to be mowed, one estimate was for \$150 and the other was \$70. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to accept the low bid of \$70 from Terry Bentele. All ayes – motion carried.**

A revised Credit Account Policy was considered. It includes fleet cards for fuel purchases and is based on the League model policy. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to approve the Credit Account Policy as presented. All ayes – motion carried.**

An updated Computer Use Policy was considered. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Mosloski to approve the Computer Use Policy as presented. All ayes – motion carried.**

Mayor Ebert called for a special meeting/work session to be held on Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 5:00 p.m., to discuss police department business, residential development planning, Community Building policies, and regulations related to dumpsters on residential property.

**Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.**

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Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk

4/3/2023

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