

Truman City Council Minutes
June 10, 2024

A Special Meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Fire Department meeting room on the 10th day of June, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None.

Staff present: City Clerk/Treasurer Melissa Sirovy, Street Superintendent John Bosshart, Interim Police Chief Mike Schutz, Utility Foreman Brent Brown.

Also present: Derrick Greiner City Attorney.

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

The special meeting was called to discuss options for the Truman Police Department. Mayor Ebert explained concerns of the council regarding difficulty in collaborating and discussing changes to departmental operations for efficiency and cost savings due to contract restrictions. Operating expenses including wages and health insurance have increased the cost per hour of coverage to in excess of \$87 per hour. The cost for a squad car adds an additional \$20,000 to the annual budget. There were five applicants for the police chief position, though there is concern about how to pay for two officers, does Truman need two officers, and would a new chief be willing to relocate to Truman. Council considered whether maintaining a police department or contracting with Martin County would be the most cost effective option. Ebert reviewed the cost if the city were to contract with Martin County. Councilor Truax asked how the county would meet the needs of the city for the cost proposed, would there be additional expenses. It was agreed there needs to be a timeline set for a decision on the direction to take. Mayor Ebert asked if the council has interest in having the city attorney draft a contract with Officer Schutz. Schutz noted the city would need to cover dues and payments to the legal defense fund. He felt the contract would mirror the union contract so it would work the same. Following lengthy discussion, the city attorney was directed to draft a contract to consider, and he will advise the union of the plan. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to have the city attorney draft a contract between the City and Officer Mike Schutz as Chief of Police. All ayes – motion carried.**

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

Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk/Treasurer