

Truman City Council Minutes
June 5, 2023

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 5th day of June, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None.

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

Also Present: Sam Parker Minnesota Department of Transportation, Brooke 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

Items added to the agenda; Ambulance Department, Police Department, Residential Development.

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

Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve minutes of the May 15, 2023 regular council meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

Public Comment

Josh Kitzerow requested two stop signs be added to an uncontrolled intersection at 1st Avenue and 4th Street by St. Paul's school. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to approve adding the stop signs as requested. All ayes – motion carried.**

Rural Service District Public Hearing

The Rural Service District Hearing was called to order at 5:45 p.m. to take public comment on Ordinance 2023-02 to amend Ordinance 2022-04 and an ordinance established by the Minnesota municipal Commission dated November 30, 1973 which established a Rural and Urban Service District in the City of Truman. The new tax rate will be 24%. No Comments were made by those present. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax to introduce Ordinance 2023-02 to amend the Rural and Urban Service District Ordinance. All ayes – motion carried.** The ordinance will be considered for adoption at the June 20, 2023 council meeting.

Highway 15 Sidewalk Proposal

Sam Parker with the Minnesota Department of Transportation was present to discuss the possibility of adding a sidewalk along Highway 15. Discussion included the desired location, if it would be in the State right-of-way or on private property. MNDOT is not opposed to the project. There are state highway funds available through the Local Partnership Program, with applications due by June 16th. A permit is required if local funds are used for a project within the State right-of-way. A crosswalk from Casey's to Aardvark's was also discussed. Parker agreed to investigate the location of the State right-of-way along the highway and the possibility of adding a crosswalk to the area requested. Councilor Nickerson asked about getting noise laws enforced signs installed on the highway. Parker agreed to look into the matter.

Campground Expansion Bids

Campground bids that were first considered at the May 15th council meeting were reviewed. Ideas brought forward included putting the project to a public vote and selling the campground for private development. Following discussion, the matter was tabled for further thought.

Heartland Cybersecurity Assessment Agreement

Heartland Energy is offering clients a free resource to help secure networks from cyber-attacks. The Heartland Project is a cybersecurity assessment of the City's system conducted by Madison Cyber Labs at Dakota State University in Madison, South Dakota, to identify security flaws and analyze and detect cyber threats. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to approve entering into the security assessment agreement. All ayes – motion carried.**

Utility Business

Utility Foreman Brent Brown reviewed an agreement with ITC that allows city assets to remain attached to poles that will be sold with the transmission lines. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to approve the agreement as proposed. All ayes – motion carried.** Brown reviewed a partial easement assessment to add ITC to the city's easement for the transmission line and other city utilities in that area. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to approve the easement assessment. All ayes – motion carried.** An update of the generation interconnection agreement was reviewed related to the sale of the transmission lines. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax to approve the updated agreement. All ayes – motion carried.**

Brown reviewed the planned payout of the workforce development grant, which will be spread over of a 3-year period.

Council reviewed cost estimates and mapping from the city engineer for residential development. Following discussion, it was decided to add lots to the south of the Bau property to the scope of work, and to invite Nemmers to the upcoming work session to discuss moving forward.

Council was advised that an application for grant funds was submitted to the Martin County Area Foundation for trees, shrubs and maintenance work at the campground.

Repair of the jetter truck was discussed. The new replacement pump came in MacQueen Equipment but there is concern about its condition and they are unwilling to warranty the part. It will be installed as is to test if it will work.

Pay Request #3 Rubin Construction

Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to approve pay request #3 to Rubin Construction for \$101,471.80. All ayes – motion carried.

Resolution 2023-15 to Approve Transfer of Funds

Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to adopt Resolution 2023-15 to approve a transfer of funds in the Residential Development Reserve Fund. All ayes – motion carried.

Resolution 2023-16 Authorizing a Transfer of Funds for Investment

Resolution 2023-16 to approve fund transfers from savings to certificates of deposit was tabled to negotiate the interest rate Profinium is offering for the investments.

Resolution 2023-19 to Accept Grant Funds

Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Mosloski to adopt Resolution 2023-19 to accept grant funds from Age Friendly Minnesota to be used at the Community Building. All ayes – motion carried.

Resolution 2023-18 to Accept a Workforce Development Grant

Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to adopt Resolution 2023-18 to accept a Workforce Development Grant from Heartland Consumers Power District. All ayes – motion carried.

Approve Seasonal Hiring and Wages

Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Mosloski to approve seasonal hiring and wages. All ayes – motion carried.

Seasonal utility worker Colton Urban \$14.00
Baseball association Griffin Studer \$12.00, Elliot Flohrs and Carter Brudelic \$10.00
Pool managers Ashley Claeys, Tamara Payton, Stephanie Earhart \$15.00
Lifeguards Jackson Luhmann, Gavin Kester, Tyson Meinart, Britney Hanson \$9.37
Lifeguard Jackson Clow \$9.63
Head lifeguards Camryn Clow and Avery Sanders \$11.53.

Approval of Claims

Submitted claims totaled \$204,446.89. Checks #41037 – #41053, #41055 - #41092, ACH #579e - 594e, ACH #500926e, #500937e. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to approve payment of claims. All ayes - motion carried.**

Resolution 2023-17 to Contract With a City Official

Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to adopt Resolution 2023-17 to contract with a city official. All ayes – motion carried.

Old Business

An amendment was considered to City Code Chapter VII, Parking Regulations, Sections 701.06 and 701.08. Revisions include removing the 30 minute limit for overnight parking on Ciro Street, increasing the 24 hour limit for parking on any street to 48 hours, and modifying wintertime limits on overnight parking in the business district on Ciro Street to be prohibited only when 2” or more of

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snow has fallen. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to introduce Ordinance 2023-04 to amend parking regulations. All ayes – motion carried.** Adoption will be considered at the June 20th council meeting.

Three proposals for campground management systems were reviewed. It was decided to request an updated proposal from Roverpass to consider at the next meeting.

The proposal to establish a municipal liquor store will be discussed at a work session called by Mayor Ebert for Tuesday, June 13th beginning at 5:30 p.m. The campground and residential development will also be on the agenda. City Engineer Troy Nemmers will be invited to attend.

New Business

Cleanup day was briefly discussed. Councilor Truax agreed to take the lead in planning for the event to be held on Saturday, September 23rd.

Nuisance properties were reviewed by council. Hazard abatement letters will be issued for a vacant building in the 100 block of West Ciro and for a vacant house in the 600 block of West Ciro. Interim Police Chief Mike Schutz reviewed the status of another nuisance property on 4th Street. A citation has been issued but no work has been done by the property owner. Staff will explore options to abate the violations at this property.

Interim Chief Schutz provided a department report to council. Discussion followed regarding the proposed labor agreement and wage scale for Schutz, which had been discussed at a recent meeting with committee members Nickerson and Mosloski. Mayor Ebert was concerned the cost of living increases are higher than those given to union employees. The Lels union representative has agreed to draft a revised agreement to consider at the June 20th council meeting.

Council was advised of the new Juneteenth legal holiday that was adopted by the State legislature. No official city business may take place on that day, so the City office will be closed, and the council meeting scheduled for that evening will take place on Tuesday, June 20th at 5:30 p.m. Mayor Ebert questioned the addition of another holiday because the day after Thanksgiving was added to the union contract this year instead. The current IBEW contract may be reopened for renegotiation on the matter.

Ambulance Director Josh Kitzerow advised the contract with the City of Lewisville will be replaced with a joint powers agreement because Lewisville no longer has an ambulance department. It has a 5-year term. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax to approve adoption of the Joint Powers Agreement as proposed. All ayes – motion carried.**

Mayor Ebert asked about the contract with the City of Northrop to provide an average 7 hours of police coverage per week, asking Schutz if he will have enough time in his work week to provide the service. Northrop advised they didn't receive all of the contracted hours in May. Schutz said he is careful to fulfill the contracted hours, but it can vary somewhat depending on the calls for service. The City Clerk advised hours of service are tracked and will be reconciled at the end of the year. If there is a shortage in hours of coverage, the final payment can be adjusted. Ebert will confirm the plan with Northrop.

Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk

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