

Truman City Council Minutes July 5, 2023

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Fire Department meeting room on the 5th day of July, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: Councilor Brian Nickerson

Staff present: Utility Foreman Brent Brown, Deputy Clerk/Utility Billing Specialist Carol Becker, Street Superintendent John Bosshart, Interim Police Chief Michael Schutz, Fire Chief Dave Bentz.

Also Present: Brooke Wohlrabe Fairmont Sentinel, Joseph Kreiss Truman Tribune. Troy Nemmers City Engineer arrived around 5:45, Tim & Lori Bartels arrived around 6:05, Josh Kitzerow around 6:25.

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: June 23rd EDA meeting, Ciro St wheelchair access request. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to approve the agenda with additions. All ayes - motion carried.**

Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting

Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to approve minutes of the June 20, 2023 regular council meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Fire Department Quarterly Update

Dave Bentz presented the quarterly report for the Fire Department. Reported the department has responded to 14 calls to date, including CO2 calls, fire calls, accidents, and nozzle leaks at the gas station.

A scheduled burn for the Bau property is tentatively set for July 29th with Minnesota West. A walk-through was completed with Bentz, MnWest, and demo contractor Duane Rosburg. There are some items that need to be removed prior to burn, including carpet and appliances. If the property is not ready for the scheduled burn, the training will likely be pushed back into September.

Engine 1 is in need of repairs. The pump packing is original, and needs to be taken to Lino Lakes for repairs, at an estimated cost of \$8,875.65. \$8,000 in repairs has already been incurred. It is still

usable but will lose more water. Bentz will determine if the repairs need to be done immediately, or if it can wait until 2024 and be able to budget for the expense. It is still a very good truck and not scheduled for replacement for another 10 years.

Justin Breitbarth stepped down from the department as he has moved out of town and is not within the 10-minute response time. Count is 26 members, remain fully staffed.

Street Department Quarterly Update

Street Department Superintendent John Bosshart presented the quarterly report for the street department. The pool is up and running, spraying weeds around curbs and sidewalks, and completing catch basin repairs; rock been hauled to the wastewater treatment plant road. Most recently painting white stripes for parking and crosswalks. A Ciro St business has requested handicap cut-out in the curb in front of the business. This is a county road, Bosshart has contacted Kevin Peyman, and he will be coming to look at it. The vac truck is back in service, being used for sewer jetting and is working. Bosshart stated that a bill has not yet been received for repairs, pending performance of the equipment after repairs.

Police Department Quarterly Update

Interim Chief Schutz presented the quarterly report for the police department. He provided an activity log and call breakdown for the quarter. Schutz has been working with residents on ordinance violations. Also continues to monitor the Campground and completes directed patrols of Northrop. Martin County Sheriff approved the use of a county owned ATV for Truman Days, and the County will also have a deputy in the area if staffing allows. Post Board Audit is August 24th. Waiting for an estimate from Nick's Body Shop for squad repair. The back-up squad has been prepped for and is in storage. A battery tender was suggested, Bosshart is going to purchase one.

Utility Department Quarterly Update

Foreman Brent Brown presented the quarterly report for the utility department. The vac/jetter truck is back in service and being used on sewer lines. It is due for maintenance, which will be completed in the next few days. Annual operation of water valves is completed, updates and maintenance has been completed at the generation plant, URGE testing will be the 2nd or 3rd week in July. Downtown water filter plant is back on-line, the main water filter plant rehab will begin next week.

Approval of Claims

Submitted claims totaled \$58,349.00. Checks #41136, 41137– 41169, 41170, ACH #605e - 611e, ACH #500993e. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve payment of claims. All ayes - motion carried.**

Residential Development Planning

Troy Nemmers with Bolton & Menk reviewed the Task Order #1 Bau Property Concept Development, to do a boundary survey and Concept Subdevelopment Layout for lots and streets at an estimated cost of \$8,000. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve Task Order 1. All ayes - motion carried.**

Discussion on tree removal at the Bua Property, and what trees need to be removed. B & M will also mark out the proposed streets, so that any trees in those areas can be removed as well.

Campground Management Software

Reviewed the campground software proposals from RoverPass & ResNexus. A grant was submitted recently with the assistance of CEDA, which included a request for funding of software, signage, and advertising for the campground. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to approve the purchase of ResNexus for the campground. All ayes - motion carried.**

School Letter

Reviewed a letter from Truman School Board Chair Mike Pfeil on behalf of the School Board. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to arrange a meeting with the school. All ayes - motion carried.** Carol Becker will reach out to those involved to arrange a meeting.

Consider Housing Ordinance

Steve Carson provided a housing ordinance from a local municipality with a recommendation that the City of Truman consider adopting a similar ordinance. This ordinance supplements state statute and provides for enforcement and abatement of various nuisance properties. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve drafting a similar ordinance for the City of Truman. All ayes - motion carried.**

117 E Ciro St

This property was gifted to the City. Initially the Fire Department was going to split the cost of demolition with available County funds. Because the property was gifted, and not tax forfeited, County funds are not available. The Fire Department is now seeking \$8,000 from the City to share the cost of demolition. Information on how much money is in the current year's budget was not available at the meeting. This information will be brought to the next meeting.

Old Grocery Store Walk-through July 12th with STS

Kyle from STS is available July 12th at 9 am for a walkthrough of the old grocery store, looking for guidance on what is to be removed. Nickerson had stated he would be available, Truax will also be available.

EDA Meeting

Truax, Kelley, Melissa Sirovy, and Carol Becker met with 2 representatives from CEDA – Amber Patten & Anna Nichols - June 23, 2023. Truax and Kelley provided information from that meeting on several programs and grants available including a housing study, housing study grant, First Look, and an upcoming grant opportunity for utility and infrastructure that would be appropriate for the Bau Property development. Truax & Kelly brought forward a recommendation to apply for the housing study grant, as the representatives at the meeting explained the importance of a Housing Study when making various applications. After discussion, **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve CEDA completing a grant application for the housing study. All ayes - motion carried.**

Tim & Lori Bartels

Request was made to block off an area at 3rd Ave & 1st St S during the Truman Days 5K race, to help ensure the participants safety. After discussion of the proper location for barriers, Bosshart stated he would take care of cones/barricades for that area and time.

Request was made to have the city assist in trimming a tree on a resident's property. The tree is on an adjacent property and hangs over the resident's property and is losing branches. The resident has the right to trim the section of the tree that is over the property line, at their own expense.

Ambulance Quarterly Update

Josh Kitzerow presented the quarterly report for the ambulance. There have been 210 calls, up 30 from the same time in 2022, including falls, transfers and assistance to the fire department. 3 ambulance members have stepped down for personal reasons, brainstorming ideas on recruitment such as posters. No equipment issues but had to re-order supplies.

Pool Managers

Councilor Truax provided a pool update. The managers are disciplining the guards. A replacement freezer was found, new hoses were purchased for cleaning, the Facebook page is being updated frequently, and the pool is going to have a float in Truman Days parade. A mandatory meeting was held with the pool employees to review the handbook, which included employee and visitor discipline procedures.

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

Carol Becker, Deputy Clerk