

Truman City Council Minutes
September 15, 2025

The regular meeting of the Truman City Council was duly held at the Municipal Building Fire Hall Meeting Room on the 15th day of September, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None

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

Also present: Brian Nickerson, Dan Espeland MN Para Transit, Troy Nemmers Bolton & Menk, Rachael Jaeger Truman Tribune, Dave Schmidt CEDA.

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 Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve the agenda. All ayes - motion carried.

Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting

Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to approve minutes of the September 2, 2025 Regular Meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

Public Comment

Dan Espeland addressed the council regarding the MN Para Transit lease. Due to business closure, he expects to provide notice to terminate the lease in the near future. After giving notice, he would like an extra month to completely move out. Superintendent Brown recommended setting a deadline to vacate. Council agreed to allow one month after notice as long as there isn't a new tenant waiting.

Brian Nickerson Donation Request

Brian Nickerson was present with an offer to donate trees for the campground. He proposed planting one tree at each new site, and a few along the creek. Council approved the proposal and asked Nickerson to work with Superintendent Brown on specifics.

Troy Nemmers Bolton and Menk, Projects and Grants

Nemmers advised the Highway 15 sidewalk project is moving along at MnDot and a cooperative agreement should be ready soon. Construction will be in 2026, with bidding in the spring.

The MN DNR has a ReLeaf Community Forestry Grant available for applications. Nemmers advised that Bolton & Menk could write the grant for \$4,000. The League of Minnesota Cities has a Grant Navigator Program that the city could apply for to cover that cost. Councilor Mosloski asked if the city is not awarded the DNR grant this year, would it cost the same amount to reapply next year? Nemmers said the cost would depend on whether the grant application remained the same or similar,

but it should be at a lesser cost next year. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to adopt Resolution 2025-41 authorizing application to the League of Minnesota Cities Grant Navigator program to request funds to pay Bolton & Menk to apply for the DNR ReLeaf Grant. All ayes – motion carried.** The City will only apply for the DNR grant if the LMC grant is approved.

Nemmers reviewed Holtmeier Construction's Pay Request #1 for \$212,722.97 for the campground project. Council was advised of excess aggregate used that was not part of the plan or the bid, costing \$9,445. The cost is not included in the pay request, but the contractor is asking the city to split the cost. A map illustrated how the aggregate work deviated from the plan. Some roads and pads are wider than planned, the pad for the dump station was not put in, and the majority of the campsites are not the approved length. Mayor Ebert stated such errors are typically the contractors responsibility, as did councilor Truax. In addition, the dirt work is unacceptable. There are depressions where water stands, it looks unprofessional and needs to be corrected. Superintendent Brown noted Bolton & Menk had a representative on site most of the time so he questioned why the errors weren't identified and prevented. Mayor Ebert affirmed the city would not pay for any of the excess aggregate. Discussion followed regarding traffic flow through the new camping area. Nemmers advised that signage be added to direct drivers. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve payment of Holtmeier Construction's Pay Request #1 for \$212,722.97. All ayes – motion carried.**

Public Works Business

Public Works Superintendent Brent Brown advised they have been unable to find a used snow truck for the \$10,000 budgeted. There is a 2015 Ford F450 with 71,000 miles on MN Bid that could replace the '93 flatbed that has ongoing problems with the brakes and starter. He questions putting more money into it. There is \$75,500 in reserve for replacement of the utility truck, and Brown believes the 2015 could be purchased for between \$40K and \$45K. The '93 could then be sold on MN Bid. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve the purchase, allowing Brown to use his best judgment as to the amount to bid. All ayes – motion carried.**

The IBEW Union contract is up for renewal at the end of the year and council was asked to set up a committee to negotiate with union representatives. Mayor Ebert and Councilor Kelley volunteered to sit on the committee. A meeting will be scheduled in November.

Truman Tavern Liquor License Applications

Council reviewed applications from Adam Cooling for on-sale, off-sale and Sunday liquor licenses, for Truman Tavern LLC, beginning October 1, 2025. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Williams to approve on-sale, off-sale and Sunday liquor licenses for Adam Cooling at Truman Tavern LLC, pending completion of successful background checks and receipt of all paperwork and payment of fees, effective October 1, 2025. All ayes – motion carried.**

Review Proposed 2026 Budget and levy

The proposed levy is \$763,532, a 12.3% increase over 2025. The levy can be decreased but not increased when finalized in December. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve a proposed levy increase of 13%. All ayes – motion carried. Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Williams to adopt Resolution 2025-39 to approve the proposed 2025 tax levy collectible in 2026 of \$768,514.00. All ayes – motion carried. Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve holding the Truth in Taxation Hearing at the regularly scheduled council meeting on Monday, December 1, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., at which time the budget and levy will be discussed and the public allowed to speak. All ayes – motion carried.**

Resolution 2025-40 to Accept August Donations

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to adopt Resolution 2025-40 to accept donations received in August 2025. All ayes – motion carried.

August Financial Statements

Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to approve the August 2025 financial statements as presented. 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 \$191,156.01. Checks #43072, #43102 - #43135, ACH #1159E - #1168E, and #501953E.

Old Business

MnDot was contacted regarding questions on the Highway 15 speed study. They offered to attend a council meeting to go over the results and how they were obtained. They will be invited to the second meeting in October.

Plans were confirmed for cleanup day on Saturday, September 20th at Prairieland from 9 a.m. to Noon.

New Business

Martin County confirmed that Sarge's has forfeited to the State of Minnesota for nonpayment of taxes. They are working with the state to have the buried fuel tanks removed from the property. An auction of tax forfeited property should be announced this fall.

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk/Treasurer