

The regular meeting of the Truman City Council was held on Monday, August 17, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the Truman Fire Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Brownlee.

Present: Councilors Ebert, Hendricksen, Nickerson and Mosloski
Absent: None

Also present were: J. Jobe, J. Bosshart, B. Brown, E. Belgard, and T. Bentele

1. MINUTES

Mayor Brownlee pointed out 4 grammatical errors in the regular meeting minutes, and Councilor Hendricksen pointed out one error in our special meeting minutes. A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Hendricksen to approve the regular and special meeting minutes with the correction of those grammatical errors. All ayes - carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. BAU LAND DISCUSSION

Elliot Belgard was in attendance to discuss the formal offer of the Vernon Bau Land to the City of Truman. The total land is 13.84 acres, with 3 acres being donated for the development of a new cul-de-sac. The estimated price of the 13.84 acres that the family agreed on last year was \$153,100. There is a portion of the land on the west side that is listed separately and valued at \$3,800 that would be in addition to the \$153,100. Elliot stated that the 3 acres of donated land is valued at \$24,000. So, the total purchase price offered to the city for the 10.84 acres is \$132,900. The family feels that it is best for the City of Truman to own that piece of land. It was also discussed that the county has abated taxes on all new residential houses built in the county, and the City of Truman can do the same thing. This will give people an incentive to build a new home in Truman.

The question did come up whether the property had a well on it. To Elliot's knowledge there is not, but he was not certain. The house does have city water and is hooked up to sewer also. But Elliot did say that it is something the city should look into.

4. PROPOSED 2021 BUDGET

The council was presented with the proposed 2021 budget. The department heads received their respective proposed budgets a couple weeks ago and any changes that were relayed to Thea are reflected in those documents. With the addition of the Deputy Clerk and the majority of the position being utility duties, a good portion of that salary will be directed into the utility budget. Legal expenses from 2019 were very high, so we adjusted those numbers but did not think they would be as high next year.

Police department adjustments Chief Jobe mentioned was moving the cost for the ICrime Fighter App from capital outlay into office expense as

a recurring expense. Discussion was also held about the police contract with Northrop and what the payment terms are set at. In the past this was done by Monte, so Thea will look into it further with him.

The building inspector, Darold Nienhaus, has requested a raise. He has been with the city for some time and has never had a raise.

On the budget to actual it was asked why the sanitation expenses are at \$26,296. This would reflect the purchase of the dump site in 2020.

There was previous discussion about adding money into the budget to continue the brush clean-up project at the Ridgelawn Cemetery. To complete the West side, we can budget \$1,200 for that. Then budget more in 2022 to complete the North side.

There was a motion previously to pull the \$5,000 out of the Relief Contribution for budget year 2020, however that should be put back into the budget for 2021.

Discussion was held about purchasing a new truck for the street department. This year was the first year that the truck was in capital outlay, and was set up for \$6,200 for 5 years. It may be worth looking into leasing a truck for the street department, which could save us money in the long run.

5. JONES INVESTMENT MONEY RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Nickerson, seconded by Mosloski to approve Resolution No 2020-11 memorializing the allocation of certain proceeds received by the City of Truman from Roger W. Jones. All ayes - carried.

Discussion was held about the funds set aside for the campground expansion. Some steps can be phased in; however the main portion needs to be done as soon as possible. Need to get hard numbers for the cost of the campground expansion to see where we are at for this project.

6. CALL RESOLUTION FOR THE 2007A BOND AND 2010A BOND

The electric fund will payoff the 2010A Bond and still be at a comfortable level. Then, when we go thru the budget process, we can show the payback of those funds thru 5 years using depreciation and build that back up. A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Hendricksen to approve Resolution No. 2020-09 Calling for the Redemption of the 2007A and 2010A Bonds. All ayes - carried.

A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson to approve Resolution No. 2020-12 with the payback terms from the sewer fund to the City at a 2% rate. All ayes - carried.

7. MnDOT GUIDE AND INFORMATION SIGNS

Discussion was held about purchasing 2 signs from MnDot for the Community Building. The quote for the 2 signs is \$1,939.72. Council

agreed that the price seemed very high. A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Mosloski to table the purchase of the 2 Community Building signs.

8. UTILTIY BUSINESS

There was a 6-inch water main break between the CFS grain bin and their feedmill building, 4 feet from their leg. The options are to get a contractor to come in and dig it up and repair it. We have a structural engineer lined up to come tomorrow to see whether they can dig it up there without comprising the structure. Nothing is on file as far as an agreement when they built on top of the water main. This particular line has been a problem for years. Going back 4 years, from 2nd Ave W. to 4th Ave W. this would be the 6th break in that line. If we have a contractor repair it, it would just be a band aid on the situation based on the history of that line, and it would cost upwards of \$20,000. Or we can bore a new line (250 ft), put a valve in on the East side of the street and on the West side of the street. Then if there is a break to the East or to the West, we have the ability to isolate it and continue to feed CFS's equipment. Brent's estimate on this would be roughly \$39,700. This is a short-term fix; in the long range we have to figure out how to replace the East and the West lines. We can save money by purchasing the material ourselves, as the contractor has a markup on the material. With the lack of money in the water fund, it would have to be funded thru the electric reserve or the city. The best way to build reserves for projects such as these would be to either put it into depreciation or have a separate line item on the utility bill. Guy Beemer figures with the shoring for this project that the difference between repairing and replacing would be less than \$10,000. A motion was made by Nickerson, seconded by Hendricksen to approve the boring in of a new water line at CFS and pay out of electric reserve, and have the water fund pay back at cost. All ayes - carried.

Lukas Smith has accepted the utility worker position and will begin on August 31st.

T & R came and picked up the generator from the Dollar General and took it back to repair it.

9. UTILITY CLAIMS

Ck #2890 - 2909 - \$164,678.49

A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Ebert to approve the utility claims. All ayes - carried.

10. CITY CLAIMS

Ck #38034 - 38070 - \$98,358.54

A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Hendricksen to approve the city claims. All ayes - carried.

11. OLD BUSINESS

It was noted by Elliot that there was a Prairieland meeting Friday August 14th and they offered last call on the dirt that is there. If no one is interested the county is going to take it. Brian Rosburg has lined up the campground expansion area to be marked by Gopher One, so we should be able to move forward soon with putting in the culvert.

Mayor Brownlee received an email from Michael Stocksted, he was in charge of the hearing for John & Wayne joining the IBEW, they went with the IBEW. The union will contact the city to set up a work session to work out the details.

12. NEW BUSINESS

Brenda Nielsen accepted the City Clerk/Treasurer position and will begin on August 31st.

Updated year-to-date budget comparisons for the city (through July 31st) and utility (through June 30th) were presented to the council. A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson to approve the budget to actual. All ayes - carried.

Chief Jobe and Mayor Brownlee presented the council with a protocol for COVID-19. A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson to approve the protocol for COVID-19. All ayes - carried.

The Bevcomm IT Contract Agreement is up for renewal. They sent us the new contract for another year and all terms and prices remain the same as last year. A motion was made by Hendricksen, seconded by Nickerson to approve the renewal of the Bevcomm IT Contract Agreement for another year. All ayes - carried.

Currently we have \$2,000 in the budget for signs for this year. John got a quote for replacing more signs. The quote is for doing 25 more posts at \$1,830.35. After that we have about another \$1,000 worth of replacing to do in 2021, and then all the corner street signs will have been replaced in town. A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Hendricksen to approve the quote to replace 25 more posts. All ayes - carried.

John had an incident last week after hours when he received a phone call about two stray dogs. He was able to catch one but not the other. They were not licensed, so the one he did catch he brought to the pound in Fairmont. Afterwards John was able to find out who the owners were, so he was wondering if we can issue a citation to the owners. In the past if the city knew who the owners are, they send them the pound fee of \$50. John will talk to Sherry about this.

Lisa Shellum, from Truman Public School, contacted Thea and asked if it would be okay to move the 15-minute parking in front of the elementary school. They are adjusting where the buses will be parking during pick up and drop off times to allow social distancing for the kids, and shorter distance to walk for the younger kids. So, their plan was to park some of the buses in front of the elementary school, however this creates some space issues with the 15-minute parking.

They would like to move that one block to the West where there is more room, and then have no parking signs put up across from the buses in front of the elementary school. Council was not in favor and would like to talk with the school board about this. Ebert and Mosloski will be attending their upcoming school board meeting to address this issue.

No odor complaints for July for Prairieland.

13. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Ebert to adjourn. All eyes - carried.

Time - 7:28 p.m.

Thea Boesch, City Clerk-Treasurer