

**Truman City Council Minutes**  
**March 6, 2023**

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None.

Staff present: Police Chief Justin Jobe, City Clerk/Treasurer Melissa Sirovy, Deputy Clerk/Utility Billing Specialist Carol Becker, Street Superintendent John Bosshart, Fire Chief Dave Bentz.

Also Present: Brook 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

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting

**Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to approve minutes of the February 21, 2023 regular meeting. All ayes - motion carried.**

Public Comment

None.

Utility Department

Street Superintendent John Bosshart reviewed a memo that details the plan to manage the drain problem at 601 W Ciro Street, giving the property owner permission to install a lift pump for a new drain connected to the sanitary sewer. The proposal will be signed by the city and the property owner.

Resolution 2023-08 Levy for Fire Truck Fund Reserve

**Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to adopt Resolution 2023-08 to add \$36,234 to the fire truck fund to make up for additions that were not made in prior years, and further to levy \$9,060 in years 2024 through 2027 to replenish the general fund balance for those funds. All ayes – motion carried.**

Resolutions 2023-06 and 2023-07 to Accept Donations

**Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to adopt Resolutions 2023-06 and 2023-07 to accept donations received. All ayes – motion carried.**

January 2023 Financial Statements

**Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax to approve January 2023 financial statements as presented. All ayes – motion carried.**

Approval of Claims

Submitted claims totaled \$89,696.99. Checks #40813 - 40829, #40831 - 40853, ACH #523e - 530e, and #500844e. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to approve payment of claims. All ayes - motion carried.**

Old Business

Northland Securities provided a preliminary debt service schedule to finance the city portion of the proposed fire rescue truck. Financing \$90,000 would cost an estimated \$36,726 in interest and fees over 10 years. Other financing options will be explored.

Police Chief Jobe provided information for how Fairmont enforces snow removal on sidewalks. They have an enforcement officer and snow removal is required as part of their snow emergency policy. Enforcement is complaint based. Property owners are notified of need to clear the sidewalk, and if it isn't completed in timely manner, the city has it done and bills for the cost. Sidewalk snow removal is required as part of Truman's nuisance ordinance. Jobe stated the police department could enforce the ordinance in the same manner as Fairmont. Factors that need to be considered prior to beginning enforcement next season include how to carry out enforcement when property owners are out of town, establishing the location of all sidewalks to assist with enforcement when they are covered with snow, finding contractors interested in doing the work, establishing a charge for the service, and determining how to make residents aware of the plan to enforce the ordinance.

The cost to add wi-fi to the community building was considered, along with ideas to recoup that cost from rentals. It was decided to gather information from renters regarding their need for wi-fi and if they would be willing to pay more to have it made available to them. There are a number of groups using the building at no charge and discussion included setting a policy for who may do so, or if everyone should pay something for use of the building to help with operations and maintenance costs. Further discussion will take place at a later date.

A bid sheet was reviewed for cleanup and restoration work at 102 W 1<sup>st</sup> Street S. Items to be added include capping a well and compacting the fill. A completion date for the work will be added once a burn date is set. Council contemplated if it would be more economical to demolish the house instead of burning it. The cost to the city will be assessed to the property.

New Business

Council was advised that a transfer from savings is needed to replenish cash in checking in the residential development reserve fund. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to approve a transfer of \$15,000 from savings to checking in the Residential Development Fund 408. All Ayes – motion carried.**

There have been complaints received regarding dumpsters on residential property and it was asked if there is a policy for where they can be placed and for how long. Chief Jobe agreed to look into the issue. Nuisance vehicles are also of concern. The police department will work on those this spring.

One of the state permits for the campground has been received, with one remaining to be approved before the project can move forward. Councilor Nickerson endorsed proceeding with the full expansion plan rather than starting with 10 sites as had been discussed at prior meetings. There are funds set aside for other projects that haven't been used that could be moved to the campground project to cover the full cost. Councilor Kelley stated his opposition to spending additional money on the campground. Mayor Ebert recommended that further discussion take place at a work session to look at the plan and cost estimates.

**Motion made by Truax, seconded by Mosloski to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.**

---

**Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk**