

The regular meeting of the Truman City Council was held November 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Brownlee.

Present: Councilors Ebert, Hendricksen, Mosloski

Absent: None

1. MINUTES

A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Hendricksen to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting held October 17, 2016. All yeas - carried.

A motion was made by Hendricksen, seconded by Mosloski to approve the minutes of the special meeting held October 24, 2016. All yeas - carried.

2. UTILITY RATE INCREASE PUBLIC MEETING

Gary Greenwald from Truman Public Utilities did a PowerPoint presentation on the maintenance and upgrades needed for the electric, water and wastewater departments. The total costs are \$1,117,593. Greenwald explained how they would like to convert the older 2400 system to a 7200 system to save costs. There are \$93,619 improvements planned at the power plant which includes exercising the three main generators monthly for two hours. The water department has \$421,975 worth of improvements with the biggest cost being the painting of the 17 year old watertower and the replacement of the water plant filters. The sewer department has \$218,750 worth of needed upgrades which includes a \$160,000 overhaul of the lift station on the east side of town. Greenwald talked about the new jetter/vac truck and their plans to better maintain the sanitary sewer system. Office Manager Judi Davis presented information on the proposed rate increases and explained that the rates have not been raised very much in the last ten years. They are proposing to raise the electric base rate by 75 cents for all customers which would raise \$6,000 annually for the electric department. The monthly base rates for water customers would be increased \$10 for residential, \$15 for small commercial and \$20 for large commercial. The monthly sewer base rates would be increased \$10 for residential, \$15 for small commercial and \$25.25 for large commercial. These two departments would take in over \$70,000 each annually. The total annual new revenue would be \$147,200 for the three departments.

The meeting was open for public comment. Jason Mau passed out a sheet with electric rates stating that Truman had the highest electric rates of the towns listed. He asked for accountability and asked why the public wasn't told about the rates not being raised in the other departments. He also said our technicians weren't qualified to operate the department and we had to pay other towns staff to maintain the system. Mau also stated that he does not think the water tastes good and is really hard on water heaters. He was also asked why the power was shut off for maintenance work during the recent three inches of rain. He encouraged the city council not to approve this increase. He also encouraged the city to talk to state legislators to help with the high wholesale power costs.

PUC Commissioner Brad Nickerson said the PUC has four good employees and Greenwald is training them to operate the electric system.

Carl Vogt commented on the high electrical costs too. Allen Burnham said he has seen a 700% increase in his utility bills since he moved to Truman.

Jason Mau asked if we had looked for grants. Greenwald said they have but are not eligible with a loss in both departments. Clerk Rohman stated with the increased rates that the water and sewer departments would be back in the black.

Pat Rafferty from Truman Senior Living said they are looking at changing their electric heat system to something more efficient and less expensive.

Mayor Lynn Brownlee mentioned that the MISO delivery charges are very expensive and that if everyone would use the load management system it would drop our overall demand charge and would lower overall electrical bills.

Mark Durkee commented that his electric heat bills in the winter are around \$650 per month. Travis Kettner ask if the PUC had a budget for future capital improvements.

No decisions were made on the proposed rate increase.

3. STORM WATER POND PROPOSAL

Several neighbors in the area of the proposed storm water pond were present to oppose the idea. Kirk Langvardt was concerned about mosquitos and a pit for kids. City Engineer Greg Mitchell said it would be a dry basin with short-term ponding. Mark Durkee was concerned that his basement is deeper than others and that he might have problems with the ground water from the deep pond. Carl Vogt commented that after the storm sewer pipes were jettted in the area that the water drains faster after some larger rains. He also said he would not mow the grass in that area if the pond was built. Harold Bentele thought it would lower property values and be a mosquito problem too. The long term answer to the storm water ponding would be to upgrade the storm water pipes at a cost of \$1.5 million to rebuild the five blocks of streets to connect to the new larger storm water system.

4. COMMUNITY BUILDING ROOFING

A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Hendricksen to approve a quote from Randy Wilking Construction to put steel roofing on the south entrance to the community building. All yeas - carried.

5. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 701.15, OPERATION OF MOTORIZED GOLF CARTS, SUBD. 1 TO PERMIT THE OPERATION OF MOTORIZED GOLF CARTS AFTER SUNDOWN AND BEFORE SUNRISE WHEN CARTS ARE PROPERLY EQUIPPED - ORDINANCE 2016-4

A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Ebert to offer Ordinance #2016-4 to amend the golf cart ordinance. All yeas - carried.

6. CANVASSING MEETING SET

A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Hendricksen to have the canvassing board meet on Monday, November 14, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. to canvass the local city election results. All yeas - carried.

7. CITY CLAIMS

A motion was made by Hendricksen, seconded by Mosloski to approve the city claims:

General Account	#35152-35172	\$14,562.78
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All yeas - carried.

8. COMMUNITY BUILDING RENT FOR BRESSLER FUNDRAISER

A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Ebert to not charge the Ron Bressler family rent for community building usage for a fundraiser for their son. All yeas - carried.

9. MISCELLANEOUS

Trees will be transplanted next week at the park and campgrounds.

10. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Hendricksen to adjourn. All yeas - carried. Time: 9:45 p.m.

Monte Rohman, Clerk