

Truman City Council Minutes
January 6, 2025

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 6th day of January, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None.

Staff present: Public Works Superintendent Brent Brown, City Clerk/Treasurer Melissa Sirovy, Deputy Clerk Carol Becker, Street Superintendent John Bosshart.

Also present: Patty Truax, Brian Nickerson, Joseph Kreiss Truman Tribune, Brooke Wohlrahe Fairmont Sentinel.

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

Resolution 2025-07 was added to the agenda. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes - motion carried.**

Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to approve minutes of the December 16, 2024 Regular Meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Recognition of Retiring Council Members

Mayor Ebert presented outgoing Councilors Brian Nickerson and Patty Truax with a Certificate of appreciation for their years of service to the City of Truman.

2025 Duty Assignments

Duty and commission assignments were announced for 2025, and the official bank and newspaper were designated. Mayor Ebert recommended assigning a supervisor for the Ambulance Department. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to have the fire department supervisor also oversee the ambulance, and to approve all other appointments as proposed. All ayes – motion carried.**

Resolution 2025-05 to Designate Authorized Signers

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to adopt Resolution 2025-05 to designate authorized signers and to authorize facsimile signatures by a public official. All ayes – motion carried.

Public Works Business

A meeting was held with IBEW Union Representative Joshua Laven to work on details for a part-time permanent administrative assistant position. It was proposed that benefits be pro-rated at 60%, to include single health insurance coverage on a 60/40 basis. An LOU will be drafted to consider at the next meeting and the position will be posted thereafter.

Superintendent Brent Brown looked into power availability to have the Truman Days street dance on Ciro. There is power available and a temporary power supply could be wired if needed. There is no power there for vendors.

Equipment for the demand program isn't functioning properly so the city is no longer getting a return on the investment. It was recommended the program be phased out, along with discontinuing the current rebate program. A new rebate program will be developed with a set amount of funds to be awarded on a first come first serve basis. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Williams to phase out the load management program and to develop a new rebate program. All ayes – motion carried.**

Bid opening for the campground expansion project will take place on January 28th at 2:00 p.m. The bids will be considered at the February 3rd council meeting. Staff is working on upgrades required for licensing. The campground reservation system is inactive for now. Updated estimates for the pickleball court will be in by the end of the month and will be brought to the February 3rd meeting for discussion.

The Pay Equity report is due by the end of January. A draft of the report was provided to council. A final draft will be considered for approval at the January 21st meeting.

The advertisement for the Jones Subdivision lots is nearing completion and will be forwarded to the city attorney for review. Staff is working with the city attorney to develop a purchase agreement for sale of the lots that includes building requirements and other conditions attached to the property. The documents will be reviewed by council at the January 21st meeting.

Council was advised that the wage paid to the generation plant employee is based on the lineman pay scale in the union agreement, therefore the employee will receive the cost of living adjustment built into the scale, effective January 1st.

Resolution 2023-04 to Approve Utility Rates for 2025

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Williams to adopt Resolution 2023-04 to approve utility rate increases as proposed, effective January 1, 2025. All ayes – motion carried.

MN Para Transit Lease Renewal

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to approve renewal of the lease with Mn Para Transit with a 4.3% increase to the charge for utilities, based on approved 2025 utility rates, and to include the cost of property taxes in the monthly lease payment. All ayes – motion carried.

Ambulance Business

Ambulance officer appointments for 2025 were provided to council as follows: Director Josh Kitzerow, Assistant Director Matt Lange, Captains Ramona Weihe, Crystal Hotzler, and Brandi Stohs, Secretary Savannah Hodge. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to approve the ambulance officer appointments for 2025. All ayes – motion carried.** Emergency ambulance aid from the State of Minnesota has been received and information was provided to council regarding approved uses for the funds and related reporting requirements. Discussion on that matter will take place during the next quarterly ambulance department report.

Ordinance to Regulate Cannabis at Retail

Martin County is working on an ordinance to regulate cannabis and they are offering cities the option to delegate cannabis retail registration authority to the county rather than having to draft their own ordinance. A copy of the ordinance was provided to council, and to the city attorney for an opinion on how the city should proceed. Council asked if the designation to the county could be changed at a later time, or possibly made annually. More information will be brought to the next meeting.

Liability Insurance Waiver

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to not waive monetary limits on municipal tort liability. All ayes – motion carried.

Resolution 2025-01 to Adopt 2025 Fees and Charges

Pool Commission member Patty Truax provided recommendations for rates at the pool for the upcoming season. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to adopt Resolution 2025-01 to approve 2025 fees and charges as proposed and the increases in pool fees as recommended. All ayes – motion carried.**

Resolution 2025-02 to Accept December Donations

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to adopt Resolution 2025-02 to accept donations received in December, 2024. All ayes – motion carried.

Resolution 2025-03 to Authorize Automated Clearing House Payments

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to adopt Resolution 2025-03 to authorize automated clearing house payments as proposed. All ayes – motion carried.

Resolution 2025-06 to Accept Grant Funds

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to adopt Resolution 2025-06 to accept grant funds from Heartland Energy for service improvements to the residential development. All ayes – motion carried.

Resolution 2025-07 to Contract with a City Official

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Williams to adopt Resolution 2025-07 to contract with a city official. Motion carried 4-0, with Councilor Chad Truax abstaining due to a conflict of interest.

Approval of Claims

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Williams to approve payment of claims. Motion carried 4-0, with Councilor Chad Truax abstaining due to a conflict of interest. Approved claims totaled \$240,083.54. Checks #42539 - #42583, ACH #993E - #1001E, #501671E and #501682E.

Old Business

Sidewalk snow removal was briefly discussed. Some sidewalks are not getting adequately cleared by property owners. Notice to the public will be amended to make it clear they must be shoveled the full width of the sidewalk.

Pool hiring and hours were briefly discussed.

New Business

Martin County received VOTER funds from the State and a small portion is payable to local governments. Due to cost of administrative processing and reporting, it is their recommendation that the funds be relinquished to the county. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to relinquish to Martin County \$319.79 in VOTER funds due to the City of Truman. All ayes – motion carried.**

Council expressed concern over the responsiveness of the city attorney. He will be invited to a meeting to discuss the matter.

The door between the council chambers and the fire hall occasionally gets locked so the deputy on duty is unable to get into the police office. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to change the lock to a keypad similar to the front door. All ayes – motion carried.**

Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk/Treasurer