

**Truman City Council Minutes
December 6, 2021**

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 6th day of December 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Terry Bentele, Councilor Patty Truax, Councilor Brandon Mosloski, and Councilor Jake Ebert

Absent: Councilor Brian Nickerson

Staff present: Utility Billing Spec./Deputy Clerk Carol Becker, Administrative Assistant Sherry Hansen, Utility Foreman Brent Brown, Police Chief Justin Jobe, and Street Superintendent John Bosshart

Also Present: City Attorney Derek Greiner, Curtis Hodge Ambulance Dept, Mona Weihe Ambulance Dept, Barb Kubly Ambulance Dept, Trevor Wiederhoeft, Jennifer Brookens, and Brooke Wohlrabe.

Mayor Terry Bentele presided over the meeting, beginning at 5:30, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Conditional Use Hearing

Trevor Wiederhoeft requested a conditional use permit to construct an 1,800 sq ft garage. The proposed building exceeds the max square footage allowed by code.

Approval of Resolution 2021-19

Conditional Use permit approval by roll call vote. Ebert, Truax, Mosloski, Bentele all ayes, motion carried.

Agenda

Changes to the agenda: rescheduling of Heaven’s Food Shelf with Greta Lintelman postponed to the Dec 20th meeting, additions under Utility Business to add Qualifying Facility update, and under Old Business – Madelia Health Sign Request, and Street Department truck purchase. A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Truax, to approve, all “ayes”, motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Heavens Table Food Shelf – Greta Lintelman

Unable to attend, rescheduled until Dec 20, 2021

Approve adding Officers to Ambulance Department for 2021

Curtis Hodge presented information on the Truman ambulance election. Officials for 2022 are:

Director – Josh Kitzerow
Assistant Director – Matt Lange
Captain – Barb Kubly Rig 2
Captain – Mona Weihe Rig 1
Secretary - Jillien Cornell

Discussion regarding a 5 year term limit by-laws for officers that were approved by Ambulance Committee. Council discussed concerns over this.

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to table discussion to Dec 20, 2021 meeting pending by-law information. All “ayes,” motion carried.

Josh Kitzerow spoke on behalf of the ambulance crew, regarding by-law changes and request to pay additional officers similar to fire department. Requesting

\$1,200 for the Director
\$500 for the Assistant Director
\$250 for each Captain
\$250 for Secretary

Also addressed by-law changes regarding the term limits. By-law changes will be sent for review at next meeting.

Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Mosloski to approve pay rate for all officers retroactive for 2021. All ayes, motion carried.

Discussion regarding plans for the spare ambulance. To date it has been kept to monitor use and evaluate the benefits of selling versus keeping. It has been used for moto-cross and trainings. Reminder that if it is to be sold, that there needs to be council action prior to listing.

Approve Lease Agreement with Dr Chris Olsen

Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Mosloski to approved 3-year lease agreement commencing Jan 1, 2022 through Dec 31, 2024, with correction of commencement date to January 1, 2022. All “ayes”, motion carried.

Approve Purchase Agreement for Old Grocery Store

Discussion if this was an EDA property, per City Attorney Derek Greiner it is City property and not EDA so does not have to follow those regulations. **Motion made by Mosloski and seconded by Truax to approve the agreement with addition of stipulations identical to EDA properties. All “ayes”, motion carried.**

Update on City Clerk Position & Utility Billing Specialist/Deputy Clerk Positions

Utility Billing Specialist//Deputy Clerk Position has been filled. The City Clerk position is ad and job description are being reviewed to make sure they coincide, will be run until filled.

Approval of Resolution 2021-20 accepting fund for American Rescue Plan Act

Resolution 2021-20 to accept receipt of additional \$1,805.38 ARPA funds. **Motion approved via roll call vote. Ebert, Truax, Mosloski, Bentele, all “ayes” motion approved.**

Public Hearing -Truth N Taxation

No one was present from the County Assessors office. A member of the public questioned the city tax increase, as it was more than the 10% levy increase. Expect many residents will have the same question.

Utility Business

Reviewed the 2022 utility budget, Brent Brown reported no changes made since last met. He expects ITC increase and that is already factored in. No questions on electric budget. Brown states the water tower project may include additional small projects at the same time for cost savings. Sewer budget proposed increase of 4%. Replacing the 3rd main lift pump in 2022. Saving money by jetting lines. Research had been done on purchasing equipment for the City, however it did not perform as expected, and was costly.

Brown presented a request to purchase a stump grinder, total cost of \$7,308.92. There is an OSHA grant available awarding \$2,500 towards the purchase. The remainder of the cost to be split between departments. There are currently 5 trees at the cemetery to be removed. Cost for rental of similar unit is \$230 per day. May also provide cost savings for future storm clean-up. **Motion made by Ebert and seconded by Mosloski to approve moving forward with the purchase. All “ayes”, motion carried.**

Brown also brought information following up on Qualifying Facility. Found law firm to assist that is familiar with public utilities. Brown included scope of work for projects that this firm could provide. Firm provided a proposal. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Mosloski to continue with this firm up to \$7,500. All “ayes,” motion carried.**

Approve Regular Meeting Minutes from November 15, 2021

A motion was made by Truax, seconded by Ebert, to approve the regular meeting minutes from November 15, 2021. All “ayes,” motion carried.

Approve City Claims

Check #39357 - 39426

A motion was made by Truax, seconded by Ebert, to approve the claims totaling \$56,412.76. All ayes – motion carried.

Old Business

Utility Forman Brown provided an estimate from County Line for replacing Community Building lights, both inside and out, changing to LED. The estimate was \$5,270. There is a 50/50 grant available for up to \$5,000.

Sherry Hansen’s resignation letter was provided to the Council. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Ebert to accept resignation effective Feb 28, 2022. All “ayes,” motion carried.** Mayor Bentele thanked Sherry for her years of service.

John Bosshart from the street department brought forward a request from Madelia Health to have 2 street signs. John Bosshart identified locations for the signs. Signs cost \$65 each. **Motion made by Ebert and seconded by Truax to approve the city purchasing the signs. All “ayes,” motion carried.**

John Bosshart presented quote for Ford F150 pickup for \$35,396.80. May need to purchase a toolbox. Budgeted approximately \$30,000. Unknown timeline for delivery. Ensure cash on hand available at time of purchase.

New Business

Discussion regarding EDA by-laws and purchases.

C & B operations land purchase update.

Discussion regarding posting of Sherry Hansen’s position. Truax has the position description. Work session scheduled for Monday December 13th at 4:00. Job duties are to be evaluated, as with new staff on board it’s a good time to make any changes. Also need to decide whether the Administrative Assistant position should be full-time or part-time, and how the position will be funded, if it is not in the budget.

Mayor Terry Bentele entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. **A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to adjourn. All ayes - meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.**

Carol Becker, Deputy Clerk