

Truman City Council Minutes
February 3, 2025

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 3rd day of February, 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.

Also present: Matt Owens and Mike Anderson Martin County Sheriff Department, Troy Nemmers Bolton & Menk, Sarah Chambers, Brian Nickerson, Cathy Sorenson, Patty Truax, Brooke Wohlrabe Fairmont Sentinel, Rachael Jaeger 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 Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve the agenda. All ayes - motion carried.

Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting and Work Session

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve minutes of the January 21, 2025 Regular Meeting and the January 28, 2025 Work Session. All ayes - motion carried.

Public Comment

Sarah Chambers and Cathy Sorenson asked about grant writing on behalf of the city. Chambers has experience writing grants and volunteered to apply for the DNR recreation grant at this time. Council supported the idea and Chambers will check into it further.

Brian Nickerson asked about the hose testing contract that was approved at the last meeting. Council advised that fire trucks had been damaged from testing hoses in the past. Nickerson encouraged that department members receive training on hose testing so they can do it in the future.

Campground Expansion Bid Review

Troy Nemmers with Bolton & Menk reviewed 13 bids received for the campground expansion project. Schedule A would add 28 sites to the campground and Schedule B is for 12 sites. Holtmeier Construction had the low bid for both options. Schedule A bid was \$351,068.83 and Schedule B \$245,497.18, both under engineers estimates. Electrical services would cost an additional \$40,000 and \$12,000 for miscellaneous items such as tables and fire pits. The project would be funded using campground, commercial development and future investment reserves. Any portion of the property not used for campsites would be seeded with grass. Also discussed was the option to upgrade the

dump station rather than adding individual sewer lines to the existing 12 camp sites. The estimated cost is \$5,000. Martin County has asked about partnering with Truman so campers from Perch Lake could use the dump station. The cost for individual lines is about the same as for the dump station, and the council prefers installing individual sewer line instead. There would be some additional engineering costs for that work.

Discussion followed regarding estimates obtained for pickleball. Three quotes were obtained for concrete and one for asphalt. Nelsen Blacktop bid \$21,600 for concrete and \$16,600 for asphalt, Truax Construction bid \$21,850, and Grotte Construction bid \$17,529. Superintendent Brown noted Sport Court is less expensive on asphalt.

Discussion referred back to the campground project. Council agreed they prefer Schedule B to add 12 sites rather than 28. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to accept the bid of \$245,497.18 for Schedule B from Holtmeier Construction. All ayes – motion carried.** Full hookups to the existing sites had been previously approved by council. Allowing primitive camping on the unused area was mentioned. A state permit would be required. The campground license is pending state approval. The reservation website will remain unavailable until the license has been approved.

There is \$15,000 set aside for the pickleball project. If there are insufficient funds remaining from the campground expansion to pay for pickleball, \$30,000 - \$50,000 may be transferred from the general fund unreserved fund balance from the \$400,000 of future investment reserves that were transferred in 2021 to replenish the fund balance. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Williams to accept the concrete bid from Grotte Construction of \$17,529.52 to add a pickleball court in Graf Park. All ayes – motion carried.** Superintendent Brown advised the Grotte quote states the concrete price may increase in March. Mayor Ebert stated if Grotte is unwilling to deliver the work for the cost quoted the work will be awarded to the next lowest bidder.

Martin County Sheriff Department Update

Martin County Deputies Matt Owens and Mike Anderson provided a department update. The evidence room in the police building has been cleaned out and can be accessed now. The laptops have been cleaned and will be returned to the city. A bike rodeo is scheduled for May. Josh Nielsen has been hired as a deputy to fill the open slot from the Truman contract, however they plan to rotate officers in Truman so they all become familiar with the city. Council asked if there were any weapons left from the Truman PD that are owned by the city. Owens will check on that. There may be other gear and equipment that could be sold as surplus. The department wants to provide a monthly report to council so a deputy will attend one meeting each month. Staff asked if the house watch program will continue. Owens advised that it will. Owens will check into a question of whether or not Truman will continue to receive revenue from fines and forfeits. Residents and staff can make contact with officers by calling the non-emergency dispatch number.

Highway 15 Sidewalk Project

Engineer Troy Nemmers reviewed an agreement for Martin County to act as fiscal agent for Truman for the Highway 15 sidewalk project. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve the agreement with Martin County to act as a fiscal agent on behalf of the City for the LPP funded project. All ayes – motion carried.**

Cannabis Ordinance

An individual has expressed interest in setting up a retail cannabis business in Truman. It was decided to invite him to the next meeting to get more information.

Resolution 2025-08 to Approve Assignment of Equity

Motion made by Williams, seconded by Mosloski to adopt Resolution 2025-08 to approve assignment of equity as of December 31, 2024. All ayes – motion carried.

Approval of Claims

Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve payment of claims. All ayes – motion carried. Approved claims totaled \$45,221.78. Checks #42584 - #42589, #42626 - #42643, ACH #1014E - #1021E, and #501709E.

Old Business

MNPara Transit requested an early termination clause be added to their lease. The city attorney advised against adding the clause to a short term lease. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to deny the request for an early termination clause. All ayes – motion carried.**

A committee is needed for interviewing applicants for the administrative assistant position. Councilor Kelley, Mayor Ebert and Councilor Truax volunteered to sit on the committee as needed. Interviews are expected to be held beginning the week of February 19th.

Pool hiring and wages were discussed as no new applications have come in. Pool Commissioner Patty Truax recommended another wage increase to attract lifeguard applicants. **Motion made by Williams, seconded by Kelley to increase the starting wage for lifeguards to \$14.00 per hour, to \$15.00 for the headguard, \$18.00 for assistant manager, and \$21.00 for manager. All ayes – motion carried.**

New Business

The Truman Baseball Association proposed to contract with Mike Heckman to fertilize and spray weeds in the outfield grass of the city softball field at no cost to the city. They request the city continue to spray weeds outside the fence and on the boulevard. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to approve the request. All ayes – motion carried.**

Deputy Clerk Carol Becker presented a request from a resident to waive late fees that accrued on a utility bill due to a glitch in the online credit card payment system. Payment had been confirmed, but was later rejected without notice. **Motion made by Williams, seconded by Kelley to approve waiving late fees on the account that resulted from the payment issue. All ayes – motion carried.**

Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk/Treasurer