

## Truman City Council Minutes

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers and by electronic means remotely via Zoom on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Staff present: City Clerk-Treasurer Amy Huber, Utility Billing Specialist/Deputy Clerk Thea Boesch, Utility Foreman Brent Brown, Street Superintendent John Bosshart, and Police Chief Justin Jobe

Also Present: Jennifer Brookens via remote access, Fire Chief Dave Bentz, Cathy Sorenson, David Sorenson, Lynn Brownlee, Josh Kitzerow, Mona Weihe, and Jim Utermark

Mayor Terry Bentele presided over the meeting, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Public comment

None

### Senior Banners

Jim Utermark was in attendance and was seeking authorization from the Council to hang 10 Senior graduate banners from the light poles along Highway 15, similar to what Fairmont did last year for their Senior graduates. He mentioned the students have went through a lot this past year and was hoping to recognize them. The banner would have them in a cap/gown and the year 2021 on it.

**A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to approve the hanging of Senior graduate banners along Highway 15 pending DOT approval. All yeas – motion carried.**

### Spruce Up Committee

Cathy Sorenson provided the Council with a handout of projects around the city that the Spruce Up Truman committee would like to address this summer. The goal is to get several projects done prior to Truman Days and the All-School Reunion. Projects on the list include: a new mural, redo picnic tables and bench, and remove rocks on east side and cement side of the downtown park; replace and possibly repaint the stucco on the peach building; replace a board on the west side of the grocery store and then finish repainting it; at Graf Park they need to power wash shingles on shelter and bathroom building, redo picnic tables and repaint them, and improve the landscape area with pea rock or mulch; repaint the two shelters and other two buildings at the Campground and would like some help paying for some of the paint; there is a new FFA instructor at the school and the FFA intends to tackle the Mini-golf area by pulling some weeds and possibly add some new plants there; the Bullseye building is for sale and could use attention; paint the curbs; and redo the flower pots and find proper storage for 12 of them which are good size - about 60 lbs. Storage considerations included the old Police department building as an option if there is room or the basement of the Community building. Dave Sorenson asked the Council to consider a long-range plan to paint the curbs, have paint on hand, and hopes some curb painting could get done this year along Ciro Street and the Park. Cathy inquired where to get pea rock and the cost as it is needed around the Community building, Graf park, and the mural area. Consideration of pea rock, river rock, mulch, or eavestroughs were discussed to reduce the dirt splashing up on the buildings. The Street

Superintendent indicated there is some pea rock available. Council member Ebert thought river rock would be about \$22/ton. Mrs. Sorenson also mentioned that Marilyn Carrigan is writing a grant to the historical society to pay for some pictures to display 4'X8' historical pictures of Truman along various buildings in town, which could be a draw to the town. Lastly, she mentioned there are about 15 more artworks to put up around town. Lynn Brownlee provided the Council with an update regarding the walking/bike path. The group mentioned they may need some help with purchasing paint for some of their projects and would discuss paint choices prior to painting the buildings.

**A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson for starting the improvement projects as presented. All yeas – motion carried.**

#### Quarterly Reports

Ambulance Department: The Quarterly report will be done at the April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, but Josh Kitzerow attended the meeting to discuss the possible purchase of a 2011 ambulance, which would replace the 2005 ambulance. He stated the 2005 ambulance has had several problems, but they have been making it work and it is considered their back-up and transfer vehicle. Knowing they will soon need to replace the 2005 ambulance, they started looking for other options and came across the used 2011 Chevrolet 4500 series ambulance which has the same body and chassis as their 2016 ambulance. They also demoed a Ford F450 with a 4-wheel drive chassis, but the consensus was that it rides worse than the 2005, although the 4-wheel drive would be good to have, however the quality may not be worth sacrificing for the 4-wheel drive. He also mentioned it is easier to find a Chevy dealer than a Ford right now for the area or runs they have. The downfall on it is that there is currently 76,000 miles on rig #2 where the 2011 has about 160,000 miles on it. Arrow Ambulance has it and they have a 10-year rotation on them, so that is why they are getting rid of the 2011. It came from Plattsburg, MO. It was a fulltime paramedic unit, which is why the mileage was higher on it. Rig #1 would still be rig #1 and this one would be rig #2 - the back-up and transfer unit. He has spoke to the company about possibly trading the 2005 in, but when they heard it was a 6.0 diesel, they were not as interested. He checked the government surplus website and found two ambulances that are older and smaller than the 2005 and going for about \$6000.00. If the city were to move forward with the purchase of the 2011 ambulance, they would try to put the current ambulance up for auction and see what the city could get before we cannot get anything for it. He said he has heard back from 12 of the 18 crew and they are happy with the ride compared to what they have now. They have taken the 2011 on some ride transfers and it seems to be much smoother and better quality than the current unit and it started better and appears to be dependable. The company is asking \$34,900.00 for the 2011. Truman ambulance has been demoing it for about 2-3 weeks, and it is still here if the Council would like to look at it. The Ford was \$250,000.00 for a 4-wheel drive truck chassis on an ambulance. The other ambulance was purchased for about \$170,000.00. The difference between the van chassis and a truck chassis is you cannot put a truck chassis on an ambulance for under \$200,000.00. He discussed the advantages/disadvantages of a diesel versus gasoline ambulance. He said they put about 7,000 – 10,000 miles on the ambulances a year, which is up from about 3,000 miles per year in the past. Josh said he was not looking for a decision tonight but wanted the Council to have time to consider this and he will be looking for a decision at the next Council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April, which is also when they plan to present the Quarterly Ambulance report.

Fire Department: Fire Chief, Dave Bentz, presented the quarterly update to the Council. Said they have had a few fire calls, but nothing too major. They have a couple trucks that need some maintenance and repair right now. Engine #3, the primer pump is not functioning properly – they believe there is a valve stuck open that lets air out so for drafting and rural it will not work right now, so Engine #3 is the primary for a rural fire and Tanker #6, the new truck, becomes the back-up pumper. Engine #3 works fine to hook up to a hydrant in town. A company is coming next week sometime to do pump testing, which they do every other year, so they will fix the pump when they are here. Tanker #5, the side pony pump motor bearings in the pump are out so currently the motor is out and they are looking for a replacement motor. So, they have maintenance and repairs coming up, but hopefully nothing too major. Regarding the firehall floor – they received 3 bids back and the Relief board has discussed this. The highest quote was for \$51,429.00, the middle quote from PolyTek based out of Mankato and Rochester was \$39,475.00, and then the lowest quote was \$30,675.00. The bid includes taking the old coating off down to bare cement. It is the opinion of the fire department to go with PolyTek, which was the middle bid. The reason is that the cheapest bid company hires out to another company to do the grinding and shop blasting and during their prior flooring experience, that did not work so well for them. Councilor Truax wondered if there were any references for PolyTek and Dave said he had just received a contact number for a company that PolyTek did the flooring for just before coming to the meeting. Dave also mentioned that with PolyTek, that they do everything in-house with their own crew and equipment, do diamond grinding, and have a five-year warranty, which is why they eliminated the lowest bidder. Councilor Nickerson mentioned he spoke with someone that could possibly do the floor as well, but they hire out the grinding portion. Councilor Mosloski mentioned they would like to stay away from a company that hires out a portion of the work, like the grinding, because of what happened with the last company and lawsuit. It became difficult dealing with two separate companies and suggested it would be best to avoid that this time. Dave mentioned that the ambulance kicked in about one third of the cost on the last flooring installation, so he felt they were okay with kicking in another third on this project. Councilor Mosloski then questioned if the ambulance department ever did pay a third of the cost on the prior flooring install as the Fire Relief Association paid for it out of their account and was not sure if there was ever a check back to the Fire Relief Association in 2017. Thea agreed to look into this.

**A motion was made by Mosloski and seconded by Truax to approve the bid from PolyTek at a cost of \$39,475.00 to be paid by the Fire Relief Association and a third of that cost from the Ambulance Department. All yeas – motion carried.**

Police Department: Police Chief, Justin Jobe, mentioned that he got the speed trailer out along highway 15 last Tuesday. He also stated that now that all the snow is gone, they have started with ordinance violations and door hangars and will continue with that until the public gets their items cleaned up from over the winter. He said he has a prospective part-time officer to fill another officer's spot that took a fulltime position with Fairmont Police department.

Street Department: Street Superintendent, John Bosshart, said they have been doing some street sweeping and clean-up. They just got the mower tractor out and when things get firmed up, they will start working on some gravel. The storm basins were discussed and replacement of them. He also mentioned they need to do some patching before seal coating. John said there are some frost boils showing up throughout town. Councilor Mosloski mentioned there is a good-sized hole on the service road by Profinium off the Dollar General road that could use patching. There was discussion

as to whether it is the cities responsibility to take care of that service road, but after Mosloski reviewed past meeting minutes, it was determined it is the responsibility of the City. John mentioned he was not aware of that arrangement, but now that he knows, he will take care of it. Councilor Mosloski also suggested a yield sign be placed at Dollar General as the traffic turning in there from highway 15 has right of way and there appears to be confusion about that. It was also mentioned there is a stop sign that needs to be replaced along highway 15 by MN DOT. The Street Superintendent agreed that he would contact MN DOT about the stop sign and a sign at Dollar General.

Utility Department: The Utility Foreman, Brent Brown, mentioned they have been working with the Street department on tree trimming – the north and south streets are complete. There are some broken branches at the park they need to remove. He mentioned they are working with the DNR to see if they could apply for a grant for a boulevard tree replacement program, but they had not heard anything back from them yet. Some communities have received this grant and it is a 50/50 grant that you can use in kind labor toward your 50% and would need to show your tree maintenance costs in your budget as part of the grant – it is a simple grant. Brent mentioned they will begin flushing hydrants in the next couple weeks. He also discussed jetting the sewer lines and said their goal is 12,000’ and that would put them on a 4-year rotation, which is more than the past. The Utility Foreman said there was a transmission line pole that broke over the weekend and is working to get that repaired on Thursday. If there is any outage because of this, it would be a couple blocks on the west edge of town. The grinder at the wastewater plant has been installed and working and the parts for the pitless repair came in and they are working with the SCADA system repair so that they can get plant #1 back online. Brent mentioned there was two water main breaks this spring, one by the high school and one on north 1<sup>st</sup> avenue east. They did receive the skid steer and it has been put into service. He said they had a sewer lift pump on the main sewer lift that the starter failed on – they replaced the starter, and it has been working fine. Brent said they have two water meters and six electric meters left to change out. Mayor Bentele inquired if Bevcomm would be taking down the overhead cable lines, but the Utility Foreman did not think they have shown any interest in taking them down.

#### Seal Coating Bids for 2021

The Street Superintendent said Pearson Brothers came in with the lowest bid, the amount is well under budget, and they have done a good job in the past.

**Motion by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson to approve Pearson Brothers, Inc, bid at \$42,941.00. All yeas – motion carried.**

#### Code Red Subscription Renewal

The Clerk said that according to OnSolve, the Code Red company, there are currently over 800 subscribers to the city’s Code Red Subscription and the City will need to give the company a 30-day notice if we no longer want to subscribe. The subscription automatically renews on June 1<sup>st</sup> unless the City notifies them by May 1<sup>st</sup> to discontinue the subscription. The cost is unchanged at \$1500.00/year.

**A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Truax to continue the subscription with Code Red for another year for \$1500.00. All yeas – motion carried.**

Resolution 2021-7, State of MN Joint Powers Agreement with City of Truman

The Resolution needs to be in place for the Police department to access any e-charging or e-citations and the agreement is renewed every five years, otherwise they do not have access.

**A motion was made by Nickerson, seconded by Mosloski to approve Resolution 2021-7, State of MN Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Truman on behalf of the City Attorney & Police Department. All in favor: Ebert, Mosloski, Nickerson, Truax, and Bentele. Against: none. Motion carried.** *The complete Resolution is available and can be obtained at the Truman City Clerk's office.*

Resolution 2021-8, Acknowledging Donations

A list of donations made to the City during the first quarter of 2021 were reviewed by the Council.

**A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to approve Resolution 2021-8, acknowledging the quarterly donations as listed for a total amount of \$2,916.31. All yeas – motion carried.** *The complete Resolution is available and can be obtained at the Truman City Clerk's office.*

Set Date & Time for Rural Service District Hearing

**A motion was made by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson to set June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. as the date and time for the Rural Service District Hearing. All yeas – motion carried.**

Approve Minutes from March 15, 2021

**Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2021 meeting. All yeas – motion carried.**

Approve the 2020 Audit

**Motion by Mosloski, seconded by Ebert to approve the 2020 Audit as presented at the March 15, 2021 regular meeting. All yeas – motion carried.**

Approve City Claims

Check #38631 - 38680

**Motion by Nickerson, seconded by Ebert to approve the Claims totaling \$115,302.37. Nickerson abstained from the payment to Nicks Body Shop. All yeas – motion carried.**

Approve Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

Mayor Bentele read the Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation declaring the month of April 2021, Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month in the City of Truman.

**Motion by Mosloski, seconded by Truax to approve the Proclamation of April 2021 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month in the City of Truman. All yeas – motion carried. Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month has been declared in Truman.** *The complete Proclamation is available and can be obtained at the Truman City Clerk's office.*

Old Business

Update on discussion with Bolton & Menk regarding projects:

Splashpad – Brent said we are still waiting on a permit from Bolton & Menk. They are going to come back to the city with more drawings. They think we can run the water into the creek nearby

and the department of health is fine with that, which would save some costs. Mayor Bentele added that this may be a multiple year project due to the cost of putting some utilities in place.

Campground – Councilor Nickerson mentioned that Greg is going to revise some plans for the RV park. The city will need a permit for that as well. Once he gets a plan put together for this, the city can proceed with the permit process.

Pickleball Court – there is no need for permits on this project. Amy mentioned that Greg provided her with a quote of up to \$2500.00 for Bolton & Menk to site topography, layout, site plan, details, and technical specs which will include drawings showing the overall layout and technical specifications suitable to send to contractors for quotes. Greg also did not advise putting an ice rink on top of the court. Netting and fencing were also discussed and will need to be considered for the project. Mayor Bentele said he can try to get some quotes on equipment for the court. Councilor Ebert said he has done some of that already too.

**Motion by Ebert, seconded by Mosloski to accept Bolton & Menk’s quote to move forward with the Pickleball/Multiuse Court. All yeas – motion carried.**

Amy asked for clarification from the Council if they are okay with Bolton & Menk assisting with plans for the Campground and the other projects just mentioned or if that had been discussed in the past. Councilor Nickerson felt it was fine to continue and that the cost for Greg to work on the campground project should not be that much.

5<sup>th</sup> Street Water Issue – Mayor Bentele said they discussed the water issue on 5<sup>th</sup> street with Greg. If they could get a right of way from the state DOT to direct the water to the ditch was one consideration discussed. Greg was going to check on this. Mayor Bentele mentioned this may be a project for next year, but we need to look at doing something with this issue. Several ideas to deal with the water on 5<sup>th</sup> street were discussed and it was noted this has been a problem for many years.

#### New Business

Set up Planning & Zoning meeting: The Building Inspector would like to set up a Planning & Zoning meeting to meet with the committee. Councilor Ebert suggested Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Amy will notify the rest of the committee about the meeting. She also suggested that perhaps the committee could also discuss some of the concerns Mr. Sheplee recently brought up at a recent meeting.

Truman Days Float/Sign & other Misc. Items Stored at Private Residence: Kirsten Bressler called the City and said the Truman Days Float/Sign and other miscellaneous items that are the property of the City of Truman have been stored on her mother’s property, but her mother is moving off the farm and the City will need to find a place for these items by April 12<sup>th</sup>. John mentioned the Quonset but said it is damp in there right now. It was suggested that the garage at the retirement home may have some empty space. Councilor Nickerson said he will follow-up with the retirement home, but in the meantime, it was decided we could put it in the Quonset if no other options are available. Amy will follow-up with Kirsten tomorrow about this.

Prairieland Odor Update: Prairieland called the City office and reported that they had no odor complaints for the month of March.

Notice of Donation from Marvin Bosshart Family Foundation: Amy recently received notification that the City will be receiving a generous donation from the Marvin Bosshart Family Foundation in the next few weeks.

Mayor Terry Bentele entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion made by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson. All yeas - motion carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.**

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**Amy Huber, City Clerk – Treasurer**