

**Truman City Council Minutes**  
**May 6, 2024**

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Jake Ebert, Councilors Patty Truax, Chris Mosloski, Brian Nickerson, and Ron Kelley.

Absent: None.

Staff present: Street Superintendent John Bosshart, Utility Foreman Brent Brown, City Clerk/Treasurer Melissa Sirovy, Deputy Clerk Carol Becker, Interim Police Chief Mike Schutz.

Also present: Troy Nemmers Bolton & Menk, Paul Leimer, Larry Baarts, Steve Graham, Chris Knoll Heartland Senior Living, Joseph Kreiss 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

Changes or additions to the agenda: Truman Days added to New Business. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes - motion carried.**

Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting

**Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to approve minutes of the April 15, 2024 Regular Meeting. All ayes - motion carried.**

Public Comment

Larry Baarts and Steve Graham had concern over increases in taxes on their property in the Rural Service District. Why do some RSD properties have lower tax rates than others? The city sets the same tax rate percentage for all RSD properties. They were redirected to Martin County to ask about taxable values and rates on their property as compared to other similar ag land in Truman's Rural Service District.

Paul Leimer asked about installing windows in Graf Park restrooms for better lighting at a cost of between \$200 - \$250 per window, and he would install at no cost. Other comments included the need to cleanup shrubs at the park, obtaining a second bid for adding concrete to the boulevard at the park, the need for lettering on city vehicles, having the restrooms at the park open on weekends, having the fountain turned on at the park, and thoughts on the amount the city might charge for lots in the new subdivision.

Chris Knoll Heartland Senior Living

Knoll addressed the council to request a letter of support from the city for a USDA loan application to fund roofing and HVAC projects at Heartland Senior Living. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Truax to approve signing a letter of support as requested. All ayes – motion carried.**

## Residential Development Project

Troy Nemmers with Bolton & Menk reviewed 8 bids received for the Jones Subdivision project. Bids ranged from \$454,895.65 to \$727,708.95, with Mensing Construction in Blue Earth having the low bid. Bids for Alternate A ranged from \$65,112 to \$112,825 and for Alternate B \$23,429 to \$37,516.60, with Mensing Construction having both low bids. It was Nemmers recommendation to accept the low bid for the project with Alternate A from Mensing Construction. Discussion followed regarding adding to the scope of work by developing more lots and a street before the cost for construction increases. It was recommended that a second project be developed and put out for bids if so desired. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to accept the low bid of \$454,895.65, and Alternate A of \$65,112, from Mensing Construction. All ayes – motion carried.** Work is expected to begin in June.

Nemmers reviewed Bolton & Menk's Task Order #2 for Jones Subdivision Construction Administration at an estimated cost of \$70,000. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to approve Task Order #2 for construction administration of the Jones Subdivision project. All ayes – motion carried.**

## Utility Department Business

Utility Foreman Brent Brown advised council the cost for a kit to rebuild the damaged fire hydrant is \$5,400. The manufacturer is willing to assist at no cost. There is \$10,000 budgeted for hydrant replacement to cover the cost. In case the hydrant can't be rebuilt as planned, everything needed to replace the hydrant will be on hand to avoid a longer term water outage in that area. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to approve purchasing the rebuild kit and a required tool, along with a hydrant, valve and riser to have on hand. All ayes – motion carried.**

The water pump has been removed from Generator #3 and the cost to rebuild it is \$19,263. Approval had been given by the council utility supervisor to move forward with the rebuild.

**Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to adopt Resolution 2024-20 to accept a \$1500 grant from Heartland Energy for use as an incentive to retain new employees. All ayes – motion carried.**

**Motion made by Truax, seconded by Kelley to approve a sign on incentive agreement with Administrative Assistant Raquel Ebeling. All ayes- motion carried.**

## Police Department Business

A work session will be held to go over applications for the police chief position, and to discuss other police business, on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

## Resolution 2024-19 to Accept April Donations

**Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax to adopt Resolution 2024-19 to accept donations received in April. All ayes - motion carried.**

## Payment of Claims

Street Supervisor John Bosshart advised that payment of the invoice from Midstates Equipment should be held as he may return the equipment. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to approve payment of claims, except the invoice from Midstates. All ayes – motion carried.**

Approved claims totaled \$195,407.23. Checks #41921 - #41950, #41952 - #41968, ACH #812E - #828E, #501360E, #501372E.

### Old Business

Estimates for concrete work at Graf Park and the Community Building were reviewed. TCC submitted an estimate for sidewalk repair and concrete in the boulevard at the park for \$18,218. Other options for the boulevard were discussed and it was decided to look at the area in question before deciding how to proceed. A second estimate will be obtained. Councilor Nickerson provided pricing for aluminum picnic tables to replace 9 at the park a 3 at the campground. The cost for 10' tables is \$1638 and 8' tables with a two foot handicap extension cost \$1394. The lead time is believed to be 4-5 weeks. Nickerson will contact the company to get a firm cost for 7- 10' tables, 2- 8' handicap tables, and 3- 8' tables for the campground, including shipping, and a firm delivery date for discussion at the meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>, which will now be a special meeting rather than a work session. Two estimates were considered for concrete work to repair the ramp and the entryway at the Community Building. TCC bid \$7,000 and Greg Grotte bid \$12,061.44. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to accept the bid from TCC of \$7,000. Motion carried 4-0 with Councilor Truax abstaining due to a conflict of interest.** There is concern that the sidewalk may be affected by this work, and the grant foundation has advised that a portion of the grant funds may be used to repair that area if needed. There is one estimate from Greg Grotte for sidewalk replacement of \$9,583.38. A second estimate will be obtained for discussion at the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### New Business

Deputy Clerk Carol Becker advised that Martin County Area Foundation may have grant money available to pay for picnic tables at the campground. Council approval was given to apply for funding.

Notice of the rate for Family Medical Care Plan insurance from IBEW for 2025 was provided to council. The premium will increase 2.4% on 1-1-2025.

Councilor Patty Truax provided an update on Truman Days on behalf of Nancy Salic. Two dumpsters will be needed at the park, garbage will be picked up every 1 to 2 hours, restrooms at the park need to be cleaned on Thursday.

Supervisor Bosshart advised that the pergola at Jaycee Park is broken and should be removed for safety reasons. Approval was given to do so.

**Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.**

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**Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk /Treasurer**