

**Truman City Council Minutes**  
**June 3, 2024**

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Fire Department meeting room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 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.

Also present: Troy Nemmers Bolton & Menk, Dave Rode, Joyce Ysker, Sherry Breitbarth, 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: Resolution 2024-23 added. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Nickerson to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes - motion carried.**

Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting

**Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson to approve minutes of the May 20, 2024 Regular Meeting. All ayes - motion carried.**

Public Comment

None.

Rural Service District Public Hearing

The time being 5:35 p.m., the Rural Service District Hearing was called to order. Consideration was given to Ordinance 2024-02 which amends the tax ratio applied and to verify the status of all affected land to determine if such parcels continue to qualify for inclusion in the district. No residents were present to comment on the matter. The ratio, based on the 2024 General Fund budget, will increase from 24% to 26%. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to introduce Ordinance 2024-02 to amend the Rural and Urban Service District Ordinance. All ayes – motion carried.**

Bolton & Menk Jones Subdivision Update

Engineer Troy Nemmers shared the status of the project. The contractor has connected homes on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to temporary water service while the new watermain is installed. Tree removal at the property will be completed by Mensing for an estimated cost of \$8,000-\$9000 so the development project can proceed on schedule.

## Utility Department Business

Utility Foreman Brent Brown confirmed that Rosburg will not complete tree removal at the Bau property as was included on his bid at \$5,000. It was discussed what to do about the breach of contract with the additional cost incurred by the city. Further discussion will take place once the exact cost for the work is known. All ash trees on the property will be removed. A portion of the Trinity Church parking lot is on the Bau property so it will be marked out and no longer available for parking. The city will allow Trinity to continue using the city owned lot south of the church for parking.

Two fire hydrants located on Ciro & 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 1<sup>st</sup> Street & 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue don't hold pressure. There are two hydrants in the Jones Subdivision and council was asked to consider placing one of those at 1<sup>st</sup> Street & 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Approval was given to do so and a change order will be requested from the contractor to document the new location.

The storm sewer on South 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue East needs to be cleaned out to handle heavy rainfall. It has been jetted but is blocked about 325 feet out. It should be televised to determine the problem. Assessing repair costs to adjacent properties was suggested, but after discussion, it was decided to use residential development funds because storm water from the new street will run into that sewer line. **Motion made by Mosloski, seconded by Kelley to approve exposing the line to have it televised and jetted, and to add a manhole so it can be cleaned when needed. All ayes – motion carried.**

The shut-off valve at the Community Building doesn't turn, but the valve in the basement works. The shut-off could be cut off and abandoned to just rely on the basement valve, or a new shut-off could be added beside the sidewalk. It was decided to abandon the old shut-off and replace it in a new location at a later time.

The trash pump has failed again and parts aren't available to repair it. A new hydraulic 6" pump costs \$11,000. There is \$6,500 in the utility budget and the street department has \$3,000 - \$4,000 remaining in capital outlay. **Motion made by Truax, seconded by Nickerson to approve the purchase of a 6" pump as proposed. All ayes – motion carried.** The city clerk will provide details at the next meeting on funds that can be used to cover the \$4,500 shortfall.

Council was advised that urge testing will take place tomorrow.

Joyce Ysker and Sherry Breitbarth joined the meeting, asking to address the council regarding the Community Building. They would like to add various items to the display case in the front entryway. Permission was given. It was agreed to provide an original Minnesota flag for the display. They have paint available for the entryway and questioned if there is money in the budget to hire someone to paint. Ysker also advised she has a stool she will donate to replace the small one in the men's room if the city wants it. Council agreed to look at the budget to determine if there are funds available to paint and to install the stool.

## Resolution 2024-21 to Appoint Election Judges

**Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to adopt Resolution 2024-21 to appoint election judges for the Primary and General Elections. All ayes – motion carried.**

## Police Department Business

Mayor Ebert called for a special meeting to discuss police business. It will be held on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

Resolution 2024-23 to Contract with a City Official and Approval of Claims

Councilor Truax abstained from discussion and voting on the resolution and payment of claims.

**Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Kelley to adopt Resolution 2024-23 to contract with a city official and to approve payment of claims. Motion carried 4-0, with Councilor Truax abstaining due to a conflict of interest.** Approved claims totaled \$156,390.93. Checks #41996 - #42027, ACH #840E - #850E, #501399E, and #501401E.

Old Business

Deputy Clerk Carol Becker reviewed hazardous and nuisance properties that are in violation of city ordinances and are being processed for abatement. Council was asked if they know of any others. One property has not been mowed yet and the city contractor said he cannot get through it. Superintendent Bosshart will look for another contractor to do it. City housing code official Steve Carson advised staff that nuisance properties having received a letter of violation of city weed and/or grass regulations can continue to be mowed by the city for the rest of the season without further notice if they fall out of compliance again. A list of additional hazardous properties will be provided to Carson for review. The garbage cans at Rosburg Field haven't been emptied yet. The baseball association has done that in the past. Mayor Ebert asked the street department to check and empty them if needed. Discussion followed about how to maintain the land across the creek at the campground as it was found too rough to mow. Various ideas were suggested. A letter will be sent to John Deere regarding the lot they purchased from the city due to tall grass and weeds.

The Deputy Clerk Becker advised the council that a grant application has been submitted to the Martin County Area Foundation to fund picnic tables for the campground. The AARP grant application to fund a pickleball court has been denied.

New Business

Councilor Truax is meeting with Prairieland tomorrow to start planning cleanup day. A request was made to hold it prior to Truman Days and that will be discussed.

Certificates of Deposit will mature in June and July that include reserve funds for residential development and new streets. Those funds will be needed for the Jones Subdivision project and it was recommended to move them from the CDs into checking, and to roll over the remaining funds into another six month CD due to strong interest rates. **Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to approve transferring funds designated for residential development and new streets from certificates of deposit into checking when the CD's mature. All ayes – motion carried.**

A status update was provided on the Habitat for Humanity house that will be moved into Truman. A lack of funding has delayed the work that is now expected to take place in August. There is a second house available if another lot can be located. The clerk will check with the county to determine when the property tax forfeiture process will begin again. Habitat for Humanity will be invited to a meeting to discuss the upcoming project.

**Motion made by Kelley, seconded by Mosloski to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.**

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Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk/Treasurer