

Truman City Council Minutes
August 2, 2021

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 2nd day of August 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: Councilor Jake Ebert

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

Also Present: Jennifer Brookens, Brooke Wohlrabe, Todd Hegwer, Mike Kumm, and MN House Representative, Bjorn Olson.

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

Agenda

A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson, to approve the agenda. All yeas – motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Energy Production Discussion

Todd Hegwer and Mike Kumm attended the Council meeting to discuss the service they could provide to the city of Truman to deal with the energy costs. They discussed the options available to Truman to assist with energy costs and gave examples of the various entities or cities they have assisted with energy costs. The consultants also discussed the city of Truman's current supplier contract and their understanding of it as well as opportunities. Further discussion on this matter will be held at the next Council meeting or when there is a full Council available.

Consider Title Sponsorship of Going Hog Wild in Martin County

The Clerk mentioned that Jeff Rouse, representing the non-profit group of Going Hog Wild in Martin County, stopped at her office to discuss this new program in Martin County and provided some background information about it. The group has developed a concept to have multiple concrete hog statues as an attraction for tourists and visitors, each spotlighting businesses and organizations and recognizing the pork industry in the county. The sponsorship enables the town to purchase a minimum of two and a maximum of four statues to be placed in the community and then allow local businesses/organizations to become supporting sponsors. If purchased now, the hog statues would be available in the spring/summer of 2022. They are only able to purchase 30 hog statues this year for 2022 and 17 of the 30 are already sold. The city needs to decide soon if they would like to participate in this as there are limited statues available to be purchased. The Council expressed interest but would like more time to find sponsors and identify interest before investing in this.

Motion by Truax, seconded by Nickerson, to consider the Title Sponsorship of Going Hog Wild in Martin County at a later date. All yeas – motion carried.

Employee Review Summary from July 19th

The Clerk-Treasurer went through the summary of employee reviews that took place on July 19th.

Motion by Truax, seconded by Mosloski, to approve the Employee Review Summary from July 19, 2021. All yeas – motion carried.

Review/approve Lease agreement with Madelia Health Care

The Clerk-Treasurer said the five-year Lease agreement proposed had two changes from the prior lease; one was the elimination of the non-compete clause and the other was the effective date of August 3rd, 2021. Everything else remained the same from the lease originally brought to the Council at a prior meeting.

Motion by Mosloski, seconded by Truax, to approve the Lease agreement with Madelia Health care. All yeas – motion carried.

Review/approve quote from M-R Sign

The Street Superintendent had a quote in the amount of \$975.42 from M-R signs available for replacement of signs in town. He mentioned that Amy looked at the budget and there are funds available in the budget for this.

Motion by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson, to approve the purchase of the signs as presented on the Quote. All yeas – motion carried.

Approve Regular Meeting Minutes from July 19, 2021

Motion by Nickerson, seconded by Truax, to approve the regular meeting minutes from July 19, 2021. All yeas – motion carried.

Approve City Claims

Check #39003 – 39046

Motion by Mosloski, seconded by Truax, to approve the Claims totaling \$57,786.04. All yeas – motion carried.

Old Business

Discuss Splashpad, Pickleball Court, and Campground Projects: Amy provided the Council with a spreadsheet of some of the projects the city is working on, and their estimated available funds set aside through 2021. She noted that some projects have come in higher than funds set aside and wondered if the Council desired to use other funds to off-set the costs, hold off on some projects or how they wished to proceed. Amy mentioned she has been speaking with another splash-pad vendor that is geared toward commercial projects as opposed to the vendor the city was working with before and this vendor has done many splashpads throughout Minnesota and they have provided her with a quote. She pointed out the splashpad and pickleball court were awarded grant funds in 2019, which technically should be spent in 2021, but she has contacted the grantor to let them know the city is still working on these projects and due to various circumstances over the past couple of years, the projects have not been completed. However, the city needs to determine how to make up the difference of the funds allocated for the projects versus the actual cost. The Council suggested that the thought of funding for these projects were to come out of the general fund or reserves and that there are funds set aside in future years via Capital Outlay budget for the projects that could be added to the spreadsheet, so it captures 5-10 years out. However, when Amy pulled the Capital Outlay list that she had with her there was a total of \$6000.00 through 2024 toward the splashpad that could be added to the spreadsheet and there was nothing listed past 2021 for the pickleball court, which the Council acknowledged was not enough to cover the projects.

New Business

Price Quote for 2018 Squad Car: D&K tire has provided a quote for tires, mounted, disposal, and balanced for \$684.28.

Motion by Mosloski, seconded by Truax, to approve the purchase of the 2018 squad car tires as quoted. All yeas – motion carried.

Computer, Copier & Card Reader at City Hall: Amy mentioned that Sherry has had some problems with her computer, and it is the oldest computer in the office. She stated she was considering the new computer as a 2022 budget item if it could wait that long. She also mentioned that the city used to have a card reader with their old system, but do not have one with the new system. Thea investigated the cost and there is a one-time fee of \$250.00 as well as a monthly fee of \$4.95 for one terminal. The copier is also dated with limited functionality and should be considered for an upgrade at some point soon.

Motion by Truax, seconded by Mosloski, to approve the purchase of a new computer and card reader and investigate a lease or costs for a new copier. All yeas – motion carried.

Representative Bjorn Olson attended the meeting and mentioned he is on three different committees, consisting of the local government committee, rules and legislative committee, and transportation and finance policy committee. He discussed how he has been involved with local city councils in his past and knows how decisions at the state can quickly impact local government. He encouraged the staff and council to contact him with local needs. He stated he is only one vote out of 134 but is one of the few individuals that was involved with local government in a small-town scenario. The representative stated he wanted to be on the transportation committee because he understands the condition of our local roads. He said we pay about 28.5 cents per gallon in state gas tax and we need to make sure those funds are allocated down in the rural areas. He did say there was some success on

the transportation committee and the city of Truman will be receiving some funds, but wasn't sure exactly how much, but estimated between \$20,000 – \$40,000. He said he had a bill proposing 15 million dollars toward small cities through the transportation bill, but instead they allocated 18 million. He said he is looking at reallocation of the auto parts sales tax so that more of it goes to roads and bridges – not a tax increase – just reallocation of the existing tax. He mentioned that he was able to assist Sherburn with a 3-million-dollar road project. Bjorn had 25 bills that he was the chief author of in St. Paul, and three of those 25 were funded in some way. He encouraged the staff and council to contact him with project needs, especially looking to the future 3-5 years. He has been able to assist several area towns and would like to help Truman as well.

Mayor Terry Bentele entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion made by Nickerson, seconded by Truax. All yeas - motion carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m.**

Amy Huber, City Clerk – Treasurer