

Truman City Council Minutes
September 20, 2021

The regular meeting was duly held at the Municipal Building Council Chambers on the 20th day of September 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: none

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

Also Present: Jennifer Brookens and Aaron Urban.

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

Agenda

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

Public Comment

Aaron Urban was in attendance and shared his concern about the tax forfeiture property if it were to go to public auction. He was concerned about the mold and asbestos in the home and if it were to go up for public auction, someone purchases it without removing the mold and asbestos, and then trying to rent it out. He was also concerned that it could become a hazardous property again in the future to the city if sold at public auction. He pointed out that if the city took it down and then resold the property, the issue with a hazardous property would be eliminated.

Agenda Additions

A motion was made by Nickerson, seconded by Mosloski, to approve the following additions to the agenda: discuss the purchase of a swing for the playground, consider the purchase of security cameras, consider the purchase of a stump grinder, discuss Bau property farmable use for 2022, and the clean up of the grocery store. All yeas – motion carried.

Tax Forfeiture Property

The Clerk reminded the Council that the city needs to decide if they want the tax forfeited property to go up for public auction by the County or if they wish to have the property conveyed back to the city and if they did, the city would be required to demolish the property structure or consider it for public use. Amy verified with the county that there are eligible matching funds, up to a maximum of \$10,000.00, for demolition of blighted properties. The Clerk had an asbestos report included in the packet that pertained to the property – there was a small amount of asbestos in the property structure that would need to be removed. Amy mentioned that if the Council desired to have the property conveyed back to the city, she would have the city attorney draft a resolution which could be approved at the next meeting. The council discussed the fire department burning the property structure after the asbestos is removed.

A motion was made by Mosloski, seconded by Truax, to move forward with conveyance of the property to the City, obtaining matching grant money from the county, and talk to the Fire Chief about a controlled burn of the structure following asbestos removal. All yeas – motion carried.

Approve Regular Meeting & Work Session Minutes from September 7, 2021

Motion by Ebert, seconded by Truax, to approve the regular meeting and work session minutes from September 7, 2021. All yeas – motion carried.

Approve City Claims

Check #39177 – 39214

Motion by Mosloski, seconded by Ebert, to approve the Claims, less one payment in the amount of \$245.92 to M. Schutz, for a total of \$216,743.55. All yeas – motion carried.

Approve Financial Reports

The Clerk mentioned the financial reports will look much different than what they've seen in the past due to the new financial accounting system they are using. The data entry staff are still getting used to the coding and where to record items, which in some cases are different than what they have done in the past.

Motion by Nickerson, seconded by Truax, to approve the August financial reports. All yeas – motion carried.

Approve Date for Truth in Taxation Meeting

Amy stated the Council needs to set the date for the Truth in Taxation hearing so she can advise the County on the date/time. She suggested December 6th as that is the first regular meeting in December.

Motion by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson, to approve December 6th, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. for the Truth in Taxation meeting. All yeas – motion carried.

Resolution #2021-13

The proposed levy would be set at a 10% increase, but the Council's goal would be to bring it down by the final levy set in December.

Motion by Nickerson, seconded by Ebert, to approve Resolution #2021-13, adopting the proposed 2021 Tax Levy Collectible in 2022 for a total of \$598,072.00. A roll call vote was taken, those voting in favor thereof: Ebert, Truax, Mosloski, Nickerson, and Bentele. Those against: none. Resolution 2021-13 adopting the proposed 2021 Tax Levy Collectible in 2022 was duly adopted. *The complete Resolution is available and can be obtained at the Truman City Clerk's office.*

Resolution #2021-14

Motion by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson, to approve Resolution #2021-14, adopting the proposed budget for the year 2022. A roll call vote was taken, those voting in favor thereof: Ebert, Truax, Mosloski, Nickerson, and Bentele. Those against: none. Resolution 2021 – 14

adopting the proposed budget for 2022 was duly adopted. *The complete Resolution is available and can be obtained at the Truman City Clerk's office.*

Health Insurance Plan for 2022

The Clerk-treasurer had two different medical health plans for the council to consider with some of the differences in the plans displayed on a spreadsheet for the Council to compare. The health plan renewal is due by October 1st, but the new premium is not in effect until January 1, 2022. Amy mentioned that there is currently only one employee that would be on this plan effective January 1st.

Motion by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson, to approve the renewal with South Central Service Coop and Medica for the 2022 Employee Health Insurance. All yeas – motion carried.

EDA Property/C&B Operations

The Council discussed the sale of the EDA parcel and the unofficial roadway behind C&B Operations and what portions they would sell or lease. The Clerk mentioned that she could have the City Attorney attend the next meeting to discuss the details of what the Council would like to include in a purchase agreement after the Council decides which portions they desire to sell or lease to C&B.

Motion by Ebert, seconded by Nickerson, to move forward in the sale of the EDA property and unofficial roadway behind C&B Operations, maintaining utility easements, and defining terms at a future meeting with the city attorney present to assist in the proposed purchase. All yeas – motion carried.

Old Business

City-wide Clean-up – The Clerk mentioned that the city-wide clean-up is set for Saturday, September 25th at Prairieland from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or until the dumpsters are full, whichever comes first. Sentence to serve will assist and the Prairieland Board had the conditions that a city representative must be there, along with a Prairieland representative and all trash must be cleaned up at the end of the day.

New Business

Swing-set at City Park: The Street Superintendent provided the Council with a quote and options to replace the swing-set at the park. After discussion of options, the council felt the two swings on a 10' galvanized structure with regular chains may be the best option for approximately \$2500.00.

Motion by Mosloski, seconded by Nickerson, to purchase a 10' swing with galvanized chains with the anti-wrap hangars. All yeas – motion carried.

Security Cameras: The Police Chief discussed his proposed purchase of permanently mounted Verkada cameras. Justin proposed purchasing three cameras, one for Graf Park, one for main street, and the other one would be down by the pool and campground area. The Quote or cost, to include a one-year cloud license, is \$5658.90. Justin is exploring the use of ARPA funds to purchase them as the company claims they have been successful with other cities being able to use those funds for the purchase of their system. The Police Chief said the nice part of these cameras is that they are permanent, no charging needed, they run off wi-fi, and are not limited to the number of people that can log in and view the cameras and you can go back 30 days with analytic software if something does happen. The company has offered to send a free trial camera – the company would pay for shipping. Justin said he has spoke with a couple other municipalities in Minnesota that use them, and

they are very happy with them. All data is stored securely on the cloud. Once you buy the cameras, the city would own them and there is a lifetime warranty on them. The only thing the city ends up paying for over time are cloud licenses, which could be a 1-, 3-, 5-, or 10-year license. A one-year license for a camera is \$550.00 or about \$13.00/month per camera. You can remote log in from anywhere. Justin said that he is the only one that can log in to the current camera – if someone else logs in – it would kick him off. The Council discussed their concern of paying the cloud license and continuously paying for the Cloud use as opposed to a hard-wired system that the city would own. There was also discussion on whether the city really had a need for a camera security system like the Verkada and if funds should be spent elsewhere. After further discussion, it was decided to hold off on purchasing the cameras.

Stump-grinder: The Utility Foreman discussed their frustration of renting a stump-grinder as they've been cleaning up the trees around town and the cemetery. He had a quote from Bobcat through a state bid of \$7308.00. Currently when they rent one, they have paid \$240.00/day from Fairmont and the one from Blue Earth was \$200.00/day. One of the issues they run into is when they rent it, go pick it up, then something happens that it doesn't work and then they don't get the opportunity to grind stumps and still get charged for it. Brent said there is a MMUA grant through the state for safety ergonomics which would pay for 50% of it. MMUA would write the grant with the city, the grant would get submitted on October 1st, and there is usually a quick turnaround on it. Brent said if they didn't get the grant, they wouldn't pursue the purchase of the stump-grinder and would continue to rent.

Motion by Nickerson, seconded by Truax, to move forward with the grant application for the stump-grinder with MMUA. All yeas – motion carried.

Bau Property – The Deputy Clerk mentioned that a Bau family member called the office today and said the renter of the former Bau property tillable acres wondered about spreading fertilizer on those acres or if that land would be developed soon. The renter needed to have a plan for next year. Councilor Mosloski mentioned he hoped there would be some development there next spring in the 3-acre parcel area but felt the rest of the tillable acres could be farmed. The Council felt it would be helpful to have a one-hour work session to discuss where Greg is at with the Residential Development project as well as all the other projects very soon. Amy will contact the City Engineer to set up a work session to discuss where he is at with projects and she will contact the renter of the former Bau property about continuing to rent the tillable acres, excepting the 3 or so acres where the residential development would start.

Grocery Store – Councilor Truax brought up the clean-up of the grocery store. There was discussion on what should be cleaned up or if the city should gut it or how much money should be put toward it. John Bosshart agreed to contact Sentence to Serve to see if they could help clean out the building and arrange for a dumpster to be placed at the site to clean it out. Member Mosloski mentioned he has a contact that may be willing to purchase some shelving from the store and he would contact them to see if they are interested. There is also a need for at least some temporary electricity to the building so folks can work in there to clean it up.

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 7:11 p.m.**