

## Truman Council Minutes

The regular meeting was duly held by electronic means remotely via Zoom on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2020 at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Jake Ebert, Councilor Kathy Hendricksen, and Councilor Brian Nickerson

Staff present: City Clerk Brenda Nielsen, Deputy Clerk Thea Boesch, Brent Brown Utility Foreman, Josh Kitzerow Assistant Ambulance Director, Jessica Clow Ambulance Director and John Bosshart Street Department

Mayor Pro Tem Jake Ebert presided over the meeting.

**Motion made by Councilor Kathy Hendrickson, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson and carried to approve Resolution No. 2020-18 Determination regarding conducting meeting by telephone or other electronic means.**

No comments made during community public comment.

### Utilities

Brent Brown discussed the repairs at CFS which Beemer performed and paying the invoice from the electric reserves and then budgeting to be paid back to the reserves. Currently we budget \$20,000 yearly for breaks.

John & Wayne will be enrolled in the Union health care as of 10/1/2020 and will continue discussion for the union contract.

Brent discussed the need for the skid steer as we are always borrowing and then the city is liable for damages or repairs on the machine. He brought a quote to the council with State bid pricing through GDF in Windom with attachments for \$55,116.58. Council would like to see a bid from John Deere as well brought to the next meeting. The Utility department will sell the small John Deer tractor and replace it with Skid Steer and attachments making a more versatile piece of equipment for more jobs within the city. The skid would split between four departments Electric, Water, Sewer, and Streets.

### Group Health Plan Renewal

Discussion took place around the employee health care renewal with the proposed increases for 2021. The other quote will not be ready for review before the contract is due as new rates for 2021 are not available till 10/3/2020 after the contract is due. **Motion made by Councilor Brian Nickerson, seconded by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen and carried to approve the South Central Cooperative Health Care Renewal rates for 2021 coverage.**

### 2021 Budget Discussion

Deputy Clerk Thea Boesch discussed the Building Inspector Darold Nienhaus did request a raise in his salary a few months ago. He has been employed for 6 years with no raise in salary and the city also has asked him to start attending the Zoning and Ordinance Meetings. The City Clerk recommended raising it from \$3500 to \$4000 based on a conversation with Nienhaus. The Clerk stated the increase was consistent with the average cost of living wage increase for the last six years. **Motion was made by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson**

Truman Council Minutes

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Page 2

**and motion carried to approve the increase of \$500 to the building inspector salary from the current \$3500 to \$4000 annually for inspections and Zoning & Ordinance meetings.**

The City Clerk discussed while they were working on the Levy for 2021 with Deputy Clerk and Monte Rohman; they found last year the levy was not raised but decreased due to clerical errors within the budget and certification of Levy form. The city is currently with a 6% proposed increase but would like to set the proposed levy at 20% as we have few things to set for next year budget. Setting the tax levy at 20% allowing for the few items still being discussed for 2021 budget; we can only decrease not increase.

Discussion also took place around moving the Seal coating funds around in the budget to move money into Crack filling. John Bosshart stated they have not budgeted in past years for crack filling and that is how it has been done before he came on to the City. Council thought for now they would leave all the funds under seal coating until the city decides what they are wanting for preventative maintenance to our street infrastructure.

#### Resolutions

**Motion made by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson, and motion carried to approve Resolution No. 2020-16 & Resolution No. 2020-17.**

#### **Resolution No. 2020-16**

Resolution to adopt the Proposed 2021 Tax Levy

#### **Resolution No. 2020-17**

Resolution to adopt the Proposed 2021 Budget

#### CARES Funding Expenditures

The City Clerk discussed how important the technology piece with the current COVID-19 Crisis within our community with an influx of new cases. The city needs another Laptop so we have two so both the Deputy Clerk and Clerk can telecommute and Zoom meetings when need be, The Utility department also needs a laptop for telecommuting and Zoom Meetings. The Council will also need tablets for Zoom meetings to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, while we continue to meet remotely.

Josh Kitzerow discussed the jumpsuits quote for the lightweight PPE suits and needing 18 for the department. He discussed the need for a PAPR which is a filtration mask, it filters the air in and out reducing the risk spreading COVID-19 between EMT's and the patient. The ambulance will cover part of the cost of the 7 PAPR from their donations and budget.

**Motion was made by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson and motion carried to approve the purchase of a new Lenovo Laptop, Surface Pro 7, (2) Office**

Truman Council Minutes

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Page 3

**Pro 2019 licenses, (5) Lenovo tablets, (18) EMS jumpsuits, (7) PAPRs to help mitigate COVID-19 impact.**

#### Ambulance

Ambulance Director reported two EMT's stepped down Ryan Shell and Dan Grunig resigned due to having not enough time to dedicate to the department.

#### Minutes

**Motion made by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson, and carried to approve the minutes from the Regular Council meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 with the change of having the typo corrected under Fire it should say ordered not order.**

#### Utility & City Claims

**Motion made by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson and motion carried to approve the utility claims.**

**Motion Made by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson and motion carried to approve the city Claims.**

#### City Monthly Financials

**Motion made by Councilor Brian Nickerson, seconded by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen and motion carried to approve the August City Monthly Financials.**

#### New Business

Discussion took place around the sidewalk in front of Thad Lochner's building on Ciro Street. It was discussed a few years ago to replace the sidewalk and have it assessed to the property taxes and agreed to do so. However, it was decided to wait to see if the County was going to do curb and gutter during their Ciro street project, unfortunately that did not happen. Thad will have at least two get quotes for the project and bring them to the next meeting for approval to have that amount assessed to the property taxes through tax assessment. The City Clerk will bring back information of the assessment process to next meeting. **Motion made by Councilor Brian Nickerson, seconded by Councilor Kathy Hendrickson and motion carried to proceed with Thad Lochner's sidewalk project assessing the cost to the property taxes through tax assessment.**

City clerk expressed concerns about the increases of COVID-19 cases within our community and county and keeping the doors open to the public with as many COVID-19 cases the city has. City business can be handled by phone, payments dropped off in payment box, or made online. **Motion made by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson and motion carried to close the City Hall doors to the public to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to our employees until further notice.**

Truman Council Minutes

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Page 4

Councilor Kathy Hendricksen discussed how Kathy Sorenson from Spruce Up Truman would like to store the large flowerpots & barn quilts from Ciro Street in the old police building. Council thought there should be no issues as it was cleaned out.

Councilor Kathy Hendricksen inquired about the pouring of cement in JC park downtown. Mayor Pro Tem Jake stated there was about a month of time left for pouring cement. Cathy Sorenson was

wondering about having C&B do their community hours pouring cement. Councilor Brian Nickerson will follow up.

Councilor Kathy Hendricksen had committee members from the vendor show express their gratitude and thank you's for the use of the porta-potty in Graf park for the vendor show.

Councilor Brian Nickerson discussed he mowed for about two and half hours for the campground expansion. He stated the trees look good and are doing well. He would like to see the water, sewer, and electric installed before winter. He has been working with Brent Brown, Watson, and a infrastructure engineer to ensure it is done properly.

Councilor Kathy Hendricksen inquired about the dirt pile from Prairie Land wondering if it was the City's. Councilor Brian Nickerson will go out to Prairie Land and follow-up with Billye Rabbe.

Mayor Pro Tem expressed concerns with the solicitor going door to door asking residents to take a survey, performing COVID testing, and then paying them \$25 in certificates if they completed a test. They have not filed for a solicitor's permit. He would like the officer on duty to follow up.

Deputy Clerk asked about the siding on the old grocery store and if the siding was purchased from Boekett yet. John Bosshart comment he talked to Elliot and he was measuring it the other day and has been waiting to have time to do it himself. The sidewalk is uneven and he would like to do the work himself, so it doesn't bunch at the bottom.

#### Pool

Discussion took place around the pool pump motor that was sent into G & D for preventative maintenance and the cleaning robot vacuum also needing to be sent in for preventative maintenance.

**Motion made by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson and motion carried to send the cleaning robot vacuum motor in for preventative maintenance.**

Mayor Pro Tem Jake Ebert entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion made by Councilor Kathy Hendricksen, seconded by Councilor Brian Nickerson and motion carried to adjourn the meeting.**

**Signed, Jake Ebert, Mayor Pro Tem**

**Attested: Brenda Nielsen CGW, City Clerk/Treasurer**