**TRUESDALE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING**

**April 8, 2020**

The Truesdale Board of Aldermen held a board meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2020, 5:30 p.m.

at the Truesdale City Hall, 109 Pinckney Street, Truesdale, MO. Due to Covid-19, the meeting was not open for the public to attend, only the Mayor, the 4 Aldermen and City Administrator attended the meeting. All other staff was excused due to safety concerns. The meeting was to be shown face book live but there was technical difficulty and it was didn’t work. However, the meeting was taped and will be available for viewing.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was requested and answered as follows: Alderman Stanley Brookshier-present, Alderman Mike Thomas-present, Alderman Jerry Cannon-present, and Alderman Robert Green-present. A full board was present. Also attending the meeting were Mayor Chris Watson and Administrator/City Clerk MaryLou Rainwater.

Mayor Bruer called the meeting to order. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the agenda, second by Alderman Thomas, with all Aldermen approving. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Alderman Thomas, with all Aldermen approving. Consent agenda included the minutes for the March 11, 2020 meeting, the emergency meeting from March 16, 2020 and the report from Chief of Police Casey Doyle.

Citizens Participation: Due to the Covid-19, no public was allowed into the meeting and no comments had been received prior to the meeting. Mayor Watson stated the city did want to continue being transparent and that is why the meeting was being taped for public viewing. He also noted the room was set up to keep the required social distancing of 6 feet from each other.

It was stated if the Public had any questions or comments, they could call the City Hall during regular office hours.

Comments from Mayor Chris Watson: Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Board needed to pass a Declaration of Emergency and a Resolution. Alderman Green made the motion to introduced Bill #8-2020 for the first reading, second by Alderman Thomas: An ordinance of the City of Truesdale hereby authorizing the Mayor of the City of Truesdale to declare an emergency and to enact a resolution due to coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Brookshier-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, and Alderman Cannon-yes. Motion carried:4 yes/0 no votes. Alderman Green made the motion to introduced Bill #8-2020 for the second and final reading, second by Alderman Thomas, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Brookshier-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, and Alderman Green-yes. Motion carried:4 yes, 0 no votes. This will now be Ordinance # 905.

Employees and work schedule were discussed. Office Staff work in a close area and it was discussed if they should rotate days working to have one in the office and the other one working from home. This will need to be done after the laptops have been set up to allow access to City records from home. It was decided the office staff should work out the schedule that works best for them. The two employees for the Public Works Department can continue to work as they can be on projects that only one person needs to do and be in different areas. It was noted that Chief Doyle is working overtime due to shortage of other officers’ availability to work. It was noted that everyone is doing a great job during this crisis.

The concern of taking cash for payments was discussed. The Administrator stated a few citizens would have no other way to pay except by cash. It was decided to make the policy that the payment should be for the actual amount due or any additional money paid would be applied to the next bill. No change will be given back to the customer. It was stressed the best way to pay the bill would be with credit card or debit card. That way there is no interaction among each other.

Concerns with sewer was discussed. Due to Warrenton denying service to the proposed Truestone development, the Mayor had been looking into other options. He has been in contact with the developers and the real estate agent representing the sellers. They are both wanting to move forward with the project. The seller stated they would deed over land for the site of a treatment plant. Mayor Watson has been discussing the issue with Susie Masterson and she had provided information on what is needed and an estimate on cost. Chad Eggen is looking into what grants would be available for this project. It was noted that even during this pandemic, the government still wanting to see growth. It is unknown if a grant would be available and how soon it could be awarded.

Warrenton has also denied sewer connections for the three lots owned by Wes and Jane Kelly. Mayor Watson stated he sent additional information to the City of Warrenton explaining how the connections will be done. He also sent information showing the property is divided into three lots according to the Warren County mapping system.

The Safe Room was discussed. If Warrenton denies the Safe Room connection to the sewer system, then we can not proceed with the project. It was noted the Safe Room would be available for anyone that needed it during the storm, and part of Warrenton was included in the calculation on what size the building should be that was needed as part of the grant application.

Mayor Watson stated he has informed the Mayor of Warrenton on this issue.

Comments from the Board of Aldermen:

Alderman Cannon had recently attended a meeting with the Emergency Management Director Mike Daniels, Warrenton Mayor Eric Schleuter, Wright City Mayor Dan Rowden, and Bryan Cates (the General Manager from Federal Signal). At this time, the tornado signals are set off at the 9-1-1 center. It was noted that citizens are receiving updates on their phone before the sirens are set off. It was suggested going to an automated system, which would mean no delays. It was proposed to split the cost among the five cities (Warrenton, Wright City, Truesdale, Marthasville, Innsbrook, and Lake Sherwood) at an original cost of $1.916.67 and annual fee of $466.67. However, Innsbrook has stated they do not want to participate in it, which will increase the cost for the other cities. The start up fee would be $2,300 and the annual fee would increase also. The upgrade would be by Federal Signals. There is a default setting that would allow the 9-1-1 center to set it off, if needed. Alderman Thomas asked if it could be isolated to a certain area and Alderman Cannon stated it would be set up that way. Mayor Watson stated the protection of our citizens is important, and the Board agreed it was a good idea. Warren County would have the contract and the cities would pay them. It will require a contract and the Board will wait to vote on it once the contract is presented to them for approval.

Alderman Cannon stated he has been working with the Historical Society of Bunker Hill, Illinois to have a tombstone for Colonel William Truesdail (Truesdale) placed in the cemetery where he is buried. If this happens, there would be a ceremony where the historical society and the official of Truesdale would attend. If he had a tombstone, it was destroyed during one of the two tornados that hit Bunker Hill.

Bid Openings or Current Project:

Update on Grants:

Safe Room Update: Bart Korman from Lewis-Bade has the plans that were submitted to SEMA and they are available in the City Board room for Mayor and Board to review and comment. The one issue Bart mentioned is the location of the generator. He wants it placed within the building and it was recommended by the mechanical engineer to put it outside the building. This is still being discussed.

DNR Grant for Park: Updated information from Kurt Daniels from Cochran was obtained this week. He stated all of the field work has been completed for location of all improvements and topographic information. They are currently working on the layout and once that is completed he will email the plans for the City’s review. He should have something to the City next week on the layout. Mayor Watson provided a proposal from one company for a jungle gym set up. As of now, it is not known if the City will have the National Night Out or Railroad Days Event due to the virus. He suggested the City could find a few sets the City approves and put on web page and City’s face book page to have others give their opinions on which one they liked the best. However, it will require formal bidding before purchasing any items.

Report from Departments, Boards, and Committees:

Administrator/City Clerk: It was noted the payment had been sent to CUSI as it is due by April 10th and did not want it to be late. This is the utility service the City has had since 2008. Alderman Green made the motion to introduce Bill #9-2020 for the first reading, second by Alderman Cannon: An ordinance authorizing and directing the Mayor of the City of Truesdale to execute an agreement between the City and Continental Utility Solutions, INC (CUSI) Annual Maintenance and technical support for the period of 04/30/20-04/30/21; and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Brookshier-yes, and Alderman Thomas-yes. Motion carried:4 yes votes/0 no votes. Alderman Green introduced Bill 9-2020 for the second and final reading, second by Alderman Cannon, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Brookshier-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, and Alderman Cannon-yes. Motion carried: 4 yes/0 no votes. This will now be Ordinance #906.

Public Works Director Mark Bennett requested the following information be provided to the Board: The back hoe is at Mark’s Automotive for repairs as a hydraulic belt broke. It is unknown the cost at this time. The brakes on the dump truck needs to be checked and may need to be replaced. Alderman Thomas noted there had been positive comments on the work completed by a Community Service Worker in the creek area in Heritage Hills. It was noted that he did a great jo.

There will be no report from the treasure or attorney at this time. The report from Chief Doyle was included in the consent agenda.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all TAC meeting, Chamber Board Meeting, and the University Extension Center meeting has been cancelled. It was noted the Chamber regular meeting will be held next Tuesday, April 14th with Zoom.

Bills/Ordinances: Alderman Green made the motion to introduce Bill #10-2020 for the first reading, second by Alderman Thomas: An ordinance authorizing and directing the Mayor of the City of Truesdale to execute an agreement between the City and General Code for update to City’s Code, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Brookshier-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, and Alderman Green-yes. Motion carried:4 yes/o no votes. Alderman Green introduced Bill #10-2020 for the second and final reading, second by Alderman Thomas, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Green-yes, and Alderman Brookshier-yes. Motion carried:4 yes/0 no votes. This will now be Ordinance #907, and the invoice will be paid.

New Business: Mayor Watson stated it was a hard decision to close the park but citizens were not obeying the social distancing when playing basketball and the swings. It became necessary for the safety of the citizens.

Mayor Watson stated if anyone is having problems, they can reach out to the City and we will try to give them a resource. He stated the school and Agape are providing meals for children, and there are other resources also.

Being no other business to discuss, Alderman Thomas made the motion to adjourn, second by Alderman Green, with all approving. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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MaryLou Rainwater, MRCC

Administrator/Clerk

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Approved on date written above

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Chris Watson-Mayor