Truesdale Board of Aldermen Meeting

June 23, 2021

The Truesdale Board of Aldermen held a meeting on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, 5:30 p.m. at the Truesdale City Hall, 109 Pinckney Street, Truesdale, MO 63380.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was requested by Mayor Chris Watson and answered as follows: Alderman Joseph Brooks-present, Alderman Mike Thomas-present, Alderman Jerry Cannon-present, and Alderman Robert Green-present. Mayor Chris Watson, Attorney Katie Joyce, Public Works Supervisor Mark Bennett, Chief of Police Casey Doyle, and Administrator/City Clerk MaryLou Rainwater attended the meeting for the City of Truesdale. Visitors included George and Dana Heath, William (Bill) Moir, L.B. Eckelkamp, III, Paul Heggemann, and Adam Rollins.

Mayor Watson 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, which included the minutes of the Public Hearing and regular board meeting held on June 9, 2021, and accounts payable for May 2021. Approving the consent agenda also states the Board had received the Treasurer’s report for the month of May 2021, and it will be filed for audit purpose.

Citizens Participation:

Mayor Watson stated Alderman Jerry Cannon, Public Works Supervisor Mark Bennett, and he met with George and Dana Heath, William (Bill) Moir, and L.B. Eckel Kamp,III recently on the site where the proposed radio tower would be located. Alderman Cannon had prepared an email providing information on this meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes. George Heath stated at this time they do not have a business plan in place but are working on it. At this time, it is still not known if Heaths would own the tower, lease the land, or sell the land. Mr. Eckelkamp stated he is the principal owner and at this time he has been in the radio business 20+ years and presently owns two towers-one in Vandalia and one in Union, MO. He recently sold a tower to Franklin County for use by the 9-1-1 Center. Mayor Watson asked how many tenants can be on the tower, as he was thinking about the benefits to the city or the County to have this tower. If it could be used by 9-1-1 or emergency services, that could be a benefit. Mr. Eckelkamp stated several different users could be on the tower. Bill stated the tenant engineer would need to do a wind load test and the engineer stamp on the original plans of the tower would provide information on the construction of the tower and its maximum wind load. It was asked if there would be one building or several. It was stated some companies want their own building for security purposes and some would be in the same building. The tower still needs FCC and FAA approval. Mr. Eckelkamp stated maintenance would be part of the business agreement. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the East Central Broadcast to erect the tower, second by Alderman Brooks, and voted as follows: Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Brooks-yes, and Alderman Thomas-abstained. Motion carried:3 yes/1 abstained.

BlueBird Botanical did not attend the meeting.

Paul Heggemann addressed the board concerning the Holy Rosary cemetery located on Pinckney Street. They purchased property to the north of the present cemetery which is located in Truesdale. They have a grant and plan to use it to expand the cemetery and possibly erect a columbarium in the center area of the cemetery for urns. The project is still in the planning stages and final approval would be needed from the Archdiocese of St. Louis before construction of the project. Trees would be removed, and ground graded. It is unknown at this time if a entrance would be placed off of Pinckney Street or if they would enter the new area off the road already in the cemetery. He thought the project would take about 30 days to complete. Public Works Mark Bennett stated he is concerned about the additional water flow and this street is already being damaged from water. Mark had prepared photos showing the road and some of the damage. He stated there were two cars that went into the ditch in this area last year. Even without this project, this area of Pinckney Street is needed to be repaired. It was mentioned there has been a rumor for years that a confederate soldier was buried in this area. Mr. Heggemann stated he had heard that also and he has researched and walked the area without finding anything that would indicate a grave. Permits was discussed and grading permits would be needed from the City and Department of Natural Resources. It was verified for three acres of grading the city permit would be $1,200. Paul stated he would keep the city informed on the progress of the plans for the project.

Comments from Mayor Watson: Nothing to report on at this time.

Comments from Board of Aldermen: Alderman Thomas stated during the Railroad Days Committee meeting, it was discussed about needing a stage for events in the Safe Room. He looked on Amazon and they have a 4’ X 4’ stage and you can put several together to have a bigger area. It holds 185 pounds per square foot, it folds up and this would make the stage removeable. The comments on the products are mostly positive. It would be a total of $2,009.80. Alderman Cannon made the motion to purchase 4 of the 4’ X 4’ stages, second by Alderman Green, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Brooks-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, and Alderman Green-yes. Motion carried: 4 yes/0 no votes.

Alderman Cannon stated he attended the meeting of the Warren County Municipal Team Meeting at the Boonslick Regional Planning Commission Office on June 14, 2021. He provided a written report which is attached to these minutes. He provided information on a first aid gator that is available for communities to use for special events. At this time, it is housed at the Wright City Fire Department. Alderman Cannon stated this could possible be used for Railroad Days. Also, he informed the Board that Missouri is one of 21 states that has Personal Property taxes, and there is a bill being introduced to decrease or do away with it. Dr. Klinginsmith from Warren County School District stated it would cost the school $65 million per year.

Grant Updates: Safe Room: Nothing new to report at this time. The Department of the Interior National Park Service and Water Conservation Fund grant: An invoice from Cochran in the amount of $2,330 was submitted for Board’s Approval. $1,250 is for site improvement plans and specifications and $630 for Project Oversite/Quality Control. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the payment of this invoice, second by Alderman Thomas, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Brooks-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Green-yes, and Alderman Cannon-yes. Motion carried: 4 yes/0 no votes. An extension request was submitted as it had to be submitted by June 30th. At this time, it does not look like an extension will be needed but wanted to have it available if there is a need. Mark informed the Board that MaryLou and he met with Tom Dohr from Freise ,Kurt Daniel and Nathan Buehrie from Cochan, Joann Thoerper and Chuck Eichmeyer from Boonslick RPC today. There is an issue with the height of the swing set and the fall height due to slope requirement. To correct the issue, the cost would be $2,800. Freise did say he was at fault for not checking the height of the swing set before submitting the bid on the soft playground covering and the work required to meet requirements. After the meeting, it was suggested to split the cost of the needed work between the City and Freise Construction, Co., which would be $1,400 each. Alderman Thomas made the motion to approve payment of $1,400 to Freise Construction Co. , second by Alderman Green, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, and Alderman Brooks-yes. Motion carried: 4 yes/0 no votes. Mark stated he had provided information to Tom concerning the handicap swing and the swing set itself. Also, the company that was going to install the flagpole does not have Osha 10 cards, and is unable to work on the project as this is an requirement with the grant. Tom plans to erect the flagpole himself and Mark has stated he would be willing to help him. Alderman Joyce stated the family wanted to honor her Dad Timothy Joyce and they want to donate to the flagpole.

Sewer study was the next grant to be discussed. Mark has been in contract with Joshua Hartsock from Klingner Association. He is waiting for additional equipment but plans to be in the area June 28th or 29th.

Mark stated the CMOM is completed and is ready to be provided to the City of Warrenton. Mayor Watson stated he had reached out to Brandie Walters to request a copy of their CMOM and their I and I study. Alderman Green stated he has requested several times to get information from the City of Warrenton on their 80% capacity at the sewer plant when the report provided to DNR does not state this. If a sunshine request is required, then he would like to have one done. Mayor Watsons stated he will reach out to Brandie again.

Reports from Departments, Boards, and Committees:

Administrator/City Clerk: MaryLou reported that she was able to contact Mitch Parrish, the owner of the Warren County Concrete Plant on 801 South Street. At this time he is not interested in selling the property. However, he would be willing to lease it to the City for $1.00 for three days (October 1,2, and 3) for Railroad Days parking area. He does want the City to have coverage to protect him from liability. MaryLou also checked with the City’s insurance agency and was told the coverage for this property for the three days would be covered under the City’s current policy. Alderman Green made the motion to approve moving forward with the information to proceed with the lease agreement, second by Alderman Thomas, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Brooks-yes, and Alderman Thomas-yes. Motion carried: 4 yes/0 no votes. Attorney Joyce will prepare the agreement once information is obtained.

Treasurer’s Report: No treasurer’s report was provided as treasurer is on vacation.

Attorney Katie Joyce: Attorney Joyce prepared information for the variance on the mobile home and this information was provided to the Board. The Administrator had taken this information and added into a variance. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the variance for Charles Girardier to move a mobile home into the City that is older than the 10 years requirement upon completion of the paperwork including the permits, second by Alderman Cannon, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Brooks-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, and Alderman Green-yes. Motion carried 4 yes/0 no votes.

Attorney Joyce provided information on the Double fine zone due to traffic safety zone. (a copy is attached to these minutes). She stated the zone will need to be visibly marked by the City of Truesdale with signs. Discussion on what area can be marked as double fine zone and she stated any area upon or around any school, park, or other common pedestrian path. This could meet streets without sidewalks. Chief Doyle stated a time should be stated such as when school is starting or letting out, or when there are activities at the school. The Board will have to decide what area to designate the double fine zone as Mark stated this will require a lot of signs. It was suggested in the area where there have been complaints of speeders, but this would cover a large part of the city.

Pubic Works Supervisor’s report: Mark reported the water loss for the month of May was 3.94%.

He reported an issue on Heritage Hills between Sandra and Ashleigh with concern on a sewer problem. He received approval from Mayor Watson to have Michelson Plumbing LLC to camera the city’s sewer line, which was done from one manhole to manhole (around 144’) and no issues was discovered. Mark has contacted Missouri Rural Water Association for a circuit rider to come out to help with solving the issue, but has not heard back from anyone yet. Mark submitted the invoice from Michelson in the amount of $200 for approval by the Board. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the payment of this invoice, second by Alderman Brooks, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Brooks-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Green-yes, and Alderman Cannon-yes. Motion passed: 4 yes/0 no votes.

Chief of Police’s Report:

Board Meeting

06-23-2021

Promotion: Patrolman Aaron Sutton will be promoted to the rank of sergeant, effective July 1, 2021. Patrolman Sutton has been with the department for over a year and has nearly 20 years of experience. He's a proven asset to the Police Department and currently serves as our firearms instructor. Alderman Thomas made the motion to approve the appointment of Aaron Sutton to sergeant, second by Alderman Green, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, and Alderman Brooks-yes. Motion carried: 4 yes/0 no votes.

Training: Patrolman Plackemeier and I attended Vehicle CQB / Counter Ambush Training. The course involves classroom instruction, demonstrations and multiple live fire exercises. Live fire exercises were conducted from inside and around donated motor vehicles at a local firearms range. Officers incorporated the use of tourniquets during live fire drills to simulate a wounded officer and learned bullet trajectory as it passed through vehicle parts and windshields.

Training: Chief Doyle is scheduled to attend training to become the department's taser instructor. Training will cost approximately $300 and will be held at Jefferson College on August 24, 2021.

Incident Reports: 2

Calls for Service: 111

Citations: 20

Warnings: 12

Chief Doyle asked if private donation can be used to sponsor a team-it would not be sponsored by city funds. Attorney Joyce stated it could be done. Alderman Cannon stated formed like “Friends of the City of Truesdale”.

No update from committee from TAC meeting, Chamber Board meeting, University Extension meeting, or Greater Warren EDC meeting.

Appointment for the fiscal year of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022:

President of the Board Alderman Green made the motion to appoint MaryLou Rainwater as City Clerk and Administrator, second by Alderman Green, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Brooks-yes, and Alderman Thomas-yes. Motion carried:4 yes 0 no votes.

Appointment of Elsa Smith-Fernandez as City Treasurer. Alderman Thomas made the motion to approve this appointment, second by Alderman Brooks, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Brooks-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, and Alderman Green-yes. Motion carried: 4 yes/0 no votes.

Appointment of Casey Doyle as Chief of Police: Alderman Thomas made the motion to approve this appointment, second by Alderman Cannon, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Brooks-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Green-yes and Alderman Cannon-yes. Motion carried:4 yes/0 no votes.

Appointment of Joycelawllc (Katie Joyce) as city attorney and prosecutor. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the appointment, second by Alderman Brooks, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, and Alderman Brooks-yes. Motion carried:4 yes/0 no votes.