TRUESDALE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

OCTOBER 23, 2019

The Truesdale Board of Aldermen held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 5:30 p.m. in the Truesdale Board Room, at the City Hall, 109 Pinckney Street, Truesdale, Missouri. Board members present were Mayor Chris Watson, Alderman Robert Green, Alderman Stanley Brookshier, Alderman Mike Thomas, Attorney Tim Joyce, Chief of Police Casey Doyle, Deputy Clerk Elsa Smith-Fernandez, and Administrator/City Clerk MaryLou Rainwater. Visitors were Fred Elkin, Jeff Jaeger, Dewayne Andrews, and Julie Myers.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited. Mayor Watson requested a roll call with three Aldermen present (Aldermen Robert Green, Stanley Brookshier, and Mike Thomas present and Alderman Jerry Cannon absent due to work).

Mayor Watson called the meeting to order. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the agenda with the following being added prior to approval: Treasurer’s position, Christmas tree for Bruer Park, and the trunk and treat event. Motion was second by Alderman Thomas, and voted 3 yes/1 absent. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the consent agenda that included the minutes of the October 9, 2019 meeting, second by Alderman Thomas, and voted three yes/1 absent.

Citizens Participation: Julie Myers from Tri-County Agency addressed the board concerning the City’s General liability and property insurance policy. The renewal date is November 2nd. Changes were made to the policy including the snowplow operation coverage, removal of the 2011 Chev Impala (it was sold), and Bruer Park was added including the swing set. The renewal total will be $33,032.00. There was a rate increase overall. Next year the City will be bidding out the insurance coverage. Alderman Green made the motion to approve payment, second by Alderman Thomas, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Cannon-absent, and Alderman Brookshier-yes. Motion approved:3 yes/1 absent.

Fred Elkins, Jeff Jaeger, and Dewayne Andrews attended the meeting upon the Board’s request. They are all builders with lots in Heritage Hills subdivision. Mayor Watson thanked them for attending the meeting and stated the Board had some of the residents and homeowners attend the board meeting on September 25, 2019 and they had questions and concerns. The board decided it would be best to meet with the builders to discuss the residents concerns as well as issues the Board is having. Public Works Director Mark Bennett had prepared a display showing the area of issues on specific lots in the subdivision. The Board has asked the building inspector to provide information on what his responsibilities are, what is the responsibility of the city, and any other information on the building permit process that he can share with the Board. Alderman Thomas stated the storm drain between Cynthia and Mike Drive is creating problems due to debris blocking the water flow causing the water to divert. This has caused several issues including splitting the Huff’s property and tree root showing causing trees to die to name a couple. Mayor Watson also stated there is a large amount of mud and debris in the storm drain system due to builders not providing erosion control. It was stressed it is best if everyone can work together to solve the current problems and prevent future problems if possible. The Board does not want to stop the progress of the builders, but things need to be done correctly to prevent issues. Jeff Jaegers stated he did plan to go back and work on his lots removing the trees but just got busy elsewhere. He will work on his lots. Chief Doyle stated even if it is a construction site, ordinances still need to be followed, speed limits, stop signs, and parking restriction need to be obeyed. The Police Department has been issuing tickets for violations.

Erosion control is an issue all over the subdivision. A copy of the City’s ordinance on erosion control was providing to the builders with the letter from Attorney Joyce. It is required to send an erosion control plan with the building application.

It was noted that sod is hard to obtain now due to flooding in the area where it is grown. Jeff Jaeger stated he has not been doing this but will in the future; no comment from Andrew.

It was noted the storm drain area needs to be worked on when the vegetation dies away. The City can’t spend City fund or use equipment in the area but the city officials and employees can volunteer on their own to help if they want to do so as an individual-not a city official or employee. Jaeger stated he would do what he could on his lots. Andrews stated none of these lots were his lots, but he would help anyway.

Comments from Mayor Watson: Mayor Watson stated he will be meeting with Chad Eggen from Booneslick Regional Planning Commission to review the grants now that the City has been informed that it has received the grant for the Safe Room and the one for Bruer Park. Also, Warren County Record has contacted Mayor Watson about doing an article on the grants the City has received.

Comments from Board of Aldermen: Alderman Thomas suggested the Board look into passing a tax for street projects. It was discussed if this would be a property tax or a sales tax. More information would need to be requested. The voters would need to approve the issue.

Alderman Thomas also stated one of the venders attending Railroad Days stated they enjoyed it more than the one they attended in the City of Columbia.

Report on bid opening and current event: This will be covered under the Public Works Supervisor written report provided to City Administrator to present to the Board.

Report from Departments, Boards, and Committees:

Administrator/City Clerk:

Dieckman Farms subdivision has a meeting set for Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at the Truesdale City Hall Board room.

The Administrator reported that she will be attending the Missouri Rural Water Association conference for credit hours for water license from October 18-November 1st and Public Works Supervisor will be there from Wednesday evening, October30-November 1, 2019 for training.

Deputy Clerk: Nothing to report.

Treasurer’s Report: The position of treasurer’s was discussed. Alderman Thomas made the motion to appoint Elsa Smith-Fernandez as treasurer at a rate of $18.00 per hour. Motion was second by Alderman Green, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Brookshier-yes, Alderman Cannon-absent, and Alderman Green-yes. Motion carried:3 yes/1 absent. This will require changes at the bank. The current approved signers ( Mayor Chris Watson, President of the Board Robert Green, and City Administrator/City Clerk MaryLou Rainwater) will remain on the accounts. Esther Smith will be removed since she has retired, and Elsa Smith-Fernandez will be added as Treasurer. City Administrator will follow up with the Bank to see what other information is needed.

At the time the office is ready to hire a part time utility clerk/reception, the Board stated the rate of pay would be $13.00 per hour.

Attorney: Attorney Joyce stated there is an issue being discussed at Jefferson City that will affect the City. The County will require the City to file its own ticket but the county would still get the benefits of the tickets. If this happens, it will add additional work on the attorney staff and the City may want to consider having its own court. More information is needed on this issue. City Administrator will contact MML to see if they have additional information.

Public Works Supervisor: A written report was provided as Mark was attending the journey training classes through Missouri Rural Water Association.

Chief of Police: A written support was provided. The 2008 patrol car is not working at this time and the City can fix it and put it on Gov.deals. Alderman Green made the motion to approve repairing of the 2008 police car so it can be sold on Gov.deals. Motion was second by Alderman Thomas, with roll call voted as follows: Alderman Brookshier-yes, Alderman Cannon-absent, Alderman Green-yes, and Alderman Thomas-yes. Motion carried:3 yes/1 absent.

It was discussed not to have the trunk and treat for Halloween in Bruer Park. Two police officers will be on duty and will stop at various places within the City to hand out bags of candy to the children.

The Drug Take Back event will be on October 26th from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Truesdale City Hall. Casey will be on livewire with Mike Thomas to discuss the event.

The Truesdale Police Department wants to have the event “Shop with a Cop” for Christmas. A discussion on the selling of guns that have been cleared as evidence and given to the City can be sold to help support this event. It is a way to give back to the community. More information is needed.

The Police Department is using its Face Page to have the public participate in naming of the new patrol car.

No reports from the various committees.

Previous Business: The issue of the purchase of a live tree to be used as the City’s Christmas Trees was discussed. Attorney Joyce stated he would purchase the tree and donate it to the City. It would be 10 foot tall at a cost of around $215.00. There was a question if this could be purchased now and be allowed as part of the grant. The City will check with Chad Eggen from Booneslick RPC.

Being no other business to come before the Board, Alderman Green made the motion to adjourn, second by Alderman Thomas, with three yes votes/1 absent.

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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