Truesdale Board of Aldermen Meeting

May 26, 2021

The Truesdale Board of Aldermen held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 5:30 p.m. at the Truesdale City Hall, 109 Pinckney Street, Truesdale, MO. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

 Roll call was requested: Alderman Robert Green-present, Alderman Joseph Brooks-Present, Alderman Mike Thomas-Present, Alderman Jerry Cannon-Present, and. A full board was present. Also attending the meeting on behalf of the City of Truesdale were Public Works Supervisor Mark Bennett, Chief of Police Casey Doyle, Attorney Katie Joyce, City Treasurer Elsa Smith-Fernandez, , and City Administrator/City Clerk MaryLou Rainwater. Visitors were Charles Girardier, William Moir of East Central Broadcasting, Greg Lane, and Adam Rollins from the Warren County Record.

President of the Board Robert Green called the meeting to order. Alderman Thomas made the motion to approve the agenda, second by Alderman Cannon, with all Aldermen approving. Alderman Thomas made the motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Alderman Brooks, with all Aldermen approving.

Citizens Participation: William Moir, consultant for East Central Broadcasting LLC addressed the Board. He stated he is requesting Board’s approval for a 485-foot tower to be placed at 1302 East Veterans Memorial Parkway. He provided a booklet with information on the project. It is to provide service for radio station 93.3. It is presently operating on a 200-foot tower located on Highway U. The area on East Veterans Memorial Parkway is in a flood plain area (behind Hart’s Collision and Custom shop) and is owned by George and Dana Heath. He stated he had attended a Truesdale meeting in the past (2016) for a radio tower, and the concern was if the tower would fall. William stated the towers don’t fall; they actually collapse. An engineer will stamp the plans for the tower. At this time, the City’s ordinance states the maximum height of any tower would be two hundred fifty (250) feet from ground level. Alderman Thomas stated if the issue came to a vote, he would not vote on this issue, but he did have questions. He asked if this tower has received FAA approval, if there would be a fence and a generator on site. William stated yes to all three items, with the FAA being a 500-foot clearing.. Presently the studio is in Chesterfield. It was stated it would not be a repeater type of tower, and no plans to move the Elsberry station onto this tower. There were concerns of the tower falling and William stated it is very safe, a small tower only 24 inched wide, with guyed wired which would prevent it from falling. Alderman Green asked about the look of the tower and the area, and William stated they do plan to landscape around the area. It was asked by the Aldermen how often a tower falls and there was several the Aldermen found online. William stated it is not known if these towers were maintained and what condition they were in. He stated the area would have security cameras, lighting, and the fence. The target plan is to file final paperwork with the FCC, get the engineering completed, and have steel delivered by middle of August, and be finished by September 15th. Alderman Cannon recommended having a public hearing to get input from citizens and businesses. It was decided to hold a public hearing at 5:00 p.m. on June 9, 2021. William stated he would find out more information on the towers that had fallen. A copy of the communication tower ordinance was available for review.

Greg Lane lives in Dieckman Farms, and he addressed the Board concerning the issue of speeders and not stopping at the stop signs. He stated it is a dangerous situation with the children in the area, but he is not just concerned with his subdivision but all over. Greg suggested putting in speed bumps as some of these can be removed. Public Works Supervisor Mark Bennett stated he was not in favor of the speed bumps being screwed into the concrete street and it creates a problem with snow removal. Mark suggested double fines in the area. Alderman Cannon stated speed bumps may cause the speeders to lose control of the vehicle and that is dangerous also. Chief Doyle agreed with this and stated they could increase patrol in this area. It was noted that traffic from Belaire and other areas of the city use these streets as a way to get into Warrenton without going on Highway M. Attorney Joyce will look into the safety zone area and will prepare an ordinance.

Charles Girardier addressed the Board. He has to move his mobile home and is requesting approval to place it in the Countryside Mobile Home Park. The mobile home is older than 10 years but Charles shown the Board photos taken within the last three weeks. The mobile home is in great condition according to the photos. Alderman Cannon stated whatever the Board decides could set a precedent for the future, and Alderman Green stated the ordinance is in place for a reason. It was discussed the age is not always the best way to know the condition of the mobile home. It was discussed if the City should review the ordinance allowing the committee to approve the homes if 10 years or newer but with ones that is older than the 10 years, the owner could attend a Board meeting requesting a variance if the home is in good shape. Attorney Joyce will review this subject and provide information at the June 9th meeting. Alderman Green stated the Board is looking at approving the variance but just need to have Attorney Joyce to look into it. Copy of mobile home ordinance was available for review.

Comments from Mayor Watson: Mayor Watson did not attend the meeting due to illness.

Comments from Board of Aldermen: Alderman Cannon stated in regards to the tent, he received the following text message from Mayor Watson and was asked to read it to the Board:

Board,

I will not be able to attend tonight’s meeting, as always I want to put my thoughts out there.

I am look at this current situation with the man living in a tent in several different aspects. The strongest one being a man of faith... the ol saying WWJD.

Owner  and his family has been life long residents of Truesdale and the man living in a tent in the backyard is also a Truesdale resident, that being said do we know if anyone has reached out to either one and offered any kind of assistance or directed them to some type of help?

I agree the tent is an eyesore but I can count several properties in that area that are just as bad if not worse. I can assume living in the tent is more suitable than inside the home. As this man lived inside the home during the winter.

I don’t feel that this one isolated issue is going to warrant a larger problem in the future. If that day comes we can address it then.

My thoughts ....set some guidelines for temporary arrangements...... 2 weeks and then approval from the board after the fact. I would not ask the resident to come before the board as this would be embarrassing.

Each one of us had fell on hard times but I don’t think anyone of us has had to live in a tent or is experiencing this type of living.

What keep the city of Truesdale unique is that we care about our residents and we do what’s best for them.

I trust you all will make the right decision

Say some prayers for this residents we all know they could use some

It was noted the tent is presently down. It was suggested to reach out to the property owner and the person using the tent to provide resources, if needed. No further discussion on the tent ordinance or issue.

Alderman Cannon asked about the tall grass in front of Stamm’s Rent All Center. The public works supervisor will check on this issue.

Grant Updates:

Safe Room: Public Works Supervisor gave an update on the Safe Room construction. The bricks are almost done on the outside and the workers will soon start working on the inside of the building as once the additional roof is added, it has to sit for 28 days. The project is on schedule. There was an issue with rebar getting cut off when it should not have been left on for support, but this is being looked at by structural engineer. There will be no charge to the City to fix this issue.

There was an issue with the Secure Keyways as they have an unknown lead time and the could exceed the timeline needed to complete the project. There is a standard commercial keyway for the safe room, it can be stamped “do not duplicate”. They would be commercial grade. Bart Korman stated these keys would be fine for the city and easier to get copies in the future. The public works supervisor will check to see if there is a price difference and if this would just be temporary. It was decided to accept the change to keep the project on schedule.

Bruer Park Project Phase III: An invoice from Cochran was presented for approval. The total of the invoice is $1,510.78 (project oversight/quality control $1,470 and reimbursement expenses of $40.78 for shipping and delivery). Alderman Thomas made the motion to approve the payment to Cochran in the amount of $1,510.78, second by Alderman Cannon, 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.

The proposed change order for the increased area of soft playground surface and a flush concrete curb has been submitted by Tom Drohr of Freise Construction Co. Total amount of the change order would be $21,735.97. This would cover the area around the swing set. Alderman Thomas made the motion to approve the change order as submitted, 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.

Mark stated the project is still on schedule, and plans to do the sidewalks around June 1st.

Sewer Study grant: Public Works Supervisor Mark Bennett met with Joshua Hartsock from Klingner and Associates today, May 26th. They looked at various manholes within the city to decide the placement of the flow testing meters . He will contact Mark when he is ready to install them. Alderman Green asked if there was an update from the information requested from Warrenton or if Mayor Watson was able to contact Warrenton’s Mayor. There is no new information available on either one at this time. CMOM is completed and just waiting for final approval for the Public Works Supervisor to print out the capital expense for the year.

Reports from Departments, Boards, and Committees:

Administrator/City Clerk: Nothing to report at this time.

Treasurer: It was reported 6 people have signed up for the city-wide yard sale to date. It was suggested to put the form online to be completed and sent to City Hall and Elsa will make this available. Four vendors have signed up for the Railroad Days Event and all information is available online. She is working on sponsorship forms and should have them available by the next meeting. She plans to reach out to the person in charge of the parade to obtain information to participate.

Due to the park being closed, the YOGA/Boot Camp will be moved to 114 S. Depot Street (the home of Sara York).

Attorney: Attorney Joyce stated there should be several interesting cases in the municipal court for the City of Truesdale.

She is working on the information concerning safety zones with double fines as it relates to school zone and residential area.

Public Works Supervisor: Public Works Supervisor Mark Bennett reported on the trilogy locks for the rest rooms at the park. They will open and close automatically but there is no way to lock the door once entering the restroom. He contracted ABC locksmith and the charge would be $300 for material and labor, however, the locksmith was concerned with someone getting in the restroom and not being able to unlock the door to get out.

On May 25th, Mark and MaryLou met with Emily Grace from the Department of Natural Resources for a water inspection. She provided a list of items she wanted to have available for her review. She then inspected both wells and towers (from the ground), taking photos of various things. She stated it would be 30-60 days before the written report would be sent.

Mark reported on the information he received from Samantha Hollenberg from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concerning the stream between the properties on Mike and Cynthia Drive. Copies of the report was made available to the Board. After discussion, it was decided to hand deliver a copy to the homes along the stream. The report did made recommendation for the city to do, and Mark plans to follow up with these recommendations. It also states each homeowner would need to contact her prior to doing any work in the stream area. This way they can work together to find the best solution. It was suggested for the homeowner to say 1 – 2 feet away from the stream bank to allow vegetation to grow, which will help with erosion.

Police Department:

Following is the report given by Chief Casey Doyle at the meeting:

Board Meeting

05-26-2021

Charger: The Dodge Charger is repaired and back in-service

IRS Letter of Determination: Application for tax exempt status and a determination to apply for specific grants

Torch Run: The Law Enforcement Torch Run is scheduled for tomorrow, and the athletes will be running through Truesdale (Highway M to Pinckney Street, and down South Street past Rebecca Boone Elementary School

\*\*\*Research local options to help homeless community members and a standard way of providing that information\*\*\*

Incident Reports: 2

Calls for Service: 72

Citations: 4

Warnings: 5

Respectfully,

Chief C. Doyle

Truesdale Police Department

109 Pinckney Street

Truesdale, MO 63380

Alderman Cannon stated he would work with Chief Doyle to gather resources to help homeless community members.

Report from Departments, Boards, and Committees:

TAC committee: MaryLou did not attend the TAC meeting as there was a conflict with another meeting. The meeting was to review proposed projects and to do a needs ranking.

Chamber Board Meeting: Alderman Thomas stated the next Chamber meeting on June 8th is the one where the non-profits can share on what they due. The chamber board will be preparing and serving the food for the event. Alderman Thomas requested authorizing to purchase chips for the event (around $30). He will bring in the receipt to get reimbursed.

University Extension Center: Alderman Brooks stated the discussion was on public awareness of what the extension center does and information it can provide. They are talking about getting a booth at event and showing healthy eating recipes. They may consider one at Railroad Days Event.

Greater Warren County EDC: Alderman Green discussed several projects that are being considered, including one called Squid. It is a well-known liquid bottling beverages and two sites are advancing in the area. Other projects including a food processing project and a biotech project (looking for land that is not near any residential area).

Being no other business to discuss, Alderman Thomas made the motion to adjourn, second by Alderman Cannon with all Aldermen approving. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 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