Truesdale Board of Aldermen Meeting

June 10, 2020

The Truesdale Board of Aldermen held a regular schedule meeting on Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 5:30 p.m. at the Truesdale City Hall, 109 Pinckney Street, Truesdale, MO.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited. The Administrator read the certification results of the election received from the Warren County Clerk. Candidates for Alderman position for two years term was as follows: Mike Thomas 71

Rodger Wells 16

Joe Brooks 47

Rhonda Colombo 28.

Mike Thomas and Joe Brooks received the most votes.

The Certification of election results for the Proposition “Shall the City of Truesdale impose a sales tax

of one-half of one percent for transportation purposes” was 65 yes and 29 no votes. The proposition passed.

Administrator Rainwater gave the oath of office as aldermen to Mike Thomas and Joseph Brooks.

Added after approval of the minutes is the list of those attending the meeting. Mayor Chris Watson, Aldermen Robert Green, Mike Thomas, Jerry Cannon, Joseph Brooks. City Administrator/Clerk MaryLou Rainwater, and Attorney Tim Joyce. Greg Lane attended the meeting as a visitor.

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. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Alderman Thomas, with all aldermen approving. The consent agenda included the May 27, 2020,, the financial report for the month of April 2020 (all account balance), and the invoice received from Lewis-Bade Inc. $23,750 for engineering services on the FEMA Safe Room.

Citizen Participation: Greg Lane addressed the board. He lives with his wife at 201 Naomi Drive. He stated they are concerned as well as the neighbors on the problem of traffic speeding and running the stop signs between Laura Street and Conrad Circle. There are children walking and on bikes in the area and this presents a danger to them. He stated he understood that law enforcement cannot always be in this area and he is asking what can be done to solve the issue. He then suggested “traffic calming” devices such as speed bumps or more signage. He noted the citizens just voted a tax increase for transportation projects so he suggested that some of the money could go towards a solution to this issue. Mayor Watson said he and Aldermen Green live in the subdivision and they both have children.

He stated the Police have worked the area and caught speeded and people not stopping at the signs-some were from out of the area and some were actually residents of the subdivision. Alderman Green stated he was concerned with speed bumps and snow removal. Mr. Lane stated the ones he saw could be removed and moved. Suggestion was making an area a speed safe zone and double the fines in the area to increase compliance with the law. It was suggested to discuss this matter with Chief Doyle to get his input. Some of the area discussed was the two subdivision, Smith Street, South Street, and Pinckney Street. It was also suggested Chief Doyle could provide a letter to be placed in the water bills alerting the public to the concern on speeders and those who do not stop at stop signs. Attorney Joyce stated it could be placed on the ticket if it is a repeat offender, which would make the fines higher.

Jim Bensman from MECO Engineering was on the agenda but did not come to the meeting. His firm was one that submitted a proposal but was not one of the top three chosen. He has asked for copies of the top three proposals, and they are public records and will be sent.

Comments from Mayor Watson: Mayor Watson congratulated Alderman Thomas and Alderman Brooks for winning the election. He also said he was thankful to the citizens that supported and passed the transportation sales tax.

He informed the Board that Chief Doyle planned to attend the meeting, but he is working due to the planned protest march in Warrenton/Truesdale. It will start in front of the Holy Rosary Church in Truesdale and end at the Warren County Court house. He is the only one working for Truesdale because the other officers are working with their full-time department. Chief Doyle will be blocking off Highway M for the safety of those involved.

Mayor Watson stated Chad from Booneslick Regional Planning Commission is meeting with representative from Coca-Cola to discuss if they can provide funding to help with the safe room and possible naming rights to the building.

He also informed the Board the developers that was interesting in doing Truestone east of Heritage Hills has dropped out of the purchase of this property.

Mayor Watson stated he met with Bert Michelson concerning his request to close the alley that runs south and north along the west side of his building. Bert has stated that MKA does not want any part of the alley if closed; that it can all be deeded to Michelson. Michelson stated he would pay for the recording of the paperwork for the closing of the alley. Mr. Michelson will be requesting to attend a meeting to discuss it.

Mayor Watson stated he would like to see the park open up for the citizens. There is a faucet that needs to be repaired and is being checked on by Public Works Supervisor. Alderman Thomas stated he understood Governor Parson plans to open the state in the next few days and to avoid a possible issue with the care funding, the City may need to wait until the Governor opens the state. Alderman Cannon make the motion to approve opening of the park at the time Governor Parson opens the state. second by Alderman Thomas, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Brooks-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes. Alderman Green-yes. Motion carried 4 yes/0 no votes.

Mayor Watson gave a report on the rating of the engineering firms by the Board in a work session on June 9, 2020. The three with the highest ratings are Klingner & Associates P.C. (Columbia)

Cochran (Wentzville), and Gredell Engineering Resources INC (Jefferson City). Interviews will be set up with these firms. It was suggested that Mayor Watson, Alderman Cannon, and the Administrator interview the candidates and make a recommendation to the board.

Mayor Watson shared a letter received from SEMA concerning the next phase funding approval, which is the construction phase. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the Mayor signing the paperwork once Boonslick RPC gives their approval, second by Alderman Thomas, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Brooks-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Green-yes, and Alderman Thomas-yes. Motion passed:4 yes/0 no votes. The time to complete the project is March 2, 2022.

Comments from Board of Aldermen: Alderman Thomas stated several residents have concerned about the water remaining in the creek near the drain with mosquitos in the future. This is in the area of the project the City completed with Bart Korman as engineer and MKA Contracting as the contractor. A meeting was held upon location due to a concern on the grade in the area and those attending that meeting will look for their notes. Public Water Supervisor will be asked to meet set up a meeting with the engineer and contractor to discuss the issue.

Alderman Cannon and Alderman Green stated there are several properties in the City that need to mow their grass. Mayor Watson stated to report any issues to Chief Doyle, and he will check on them. Alderman Thomas stated the builders have cut their lots in Heritage Hills.

Alderman Thomas suggested the City look into an ordinance for the removal of political signs after an election. The ordinance may obtain information on how long before the election signs can be placed and state it can not be put on City’s right-of-way and can only be put on private property with the owner’s permission. This could be worked on prior to the next election.

Report from Department Heads, Boards, and Committees:

Administrator/City Clerk: The Board needs to have a workshop to review the budget. Also, a meeting to discuss National Night Out/Railroad Days with Elsa to get the details lines out on the event. This meeting will just be for the City Board and not the RR Days Committee. The date for the meeting was set for June 17, 2020 at 5:00, and the workshop will include both of these items. Mayor Watson stated during the budget discussion, he would like to see the part time workers to be considered for a benefit of a week vacation after a period of employment with the City and possible holiday pay.

The Administrator has been working on the information for the Lagers requirement to do an initial cost study. Mayor Watson stated this could be a great benefit to the employees and retaining employees. The City could vote to go with lagers and decrease the salary raises and the employees made be required to contribute to the plan. The administrator stated it is correct the employees would be required to contribute to the plan also. One of the requirements is to set the annual hours needed to be eligible for Lagers. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the initial cost for the study of $700, second by Alderman Thomas, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, and Alderman Brooks-yes. Motion carried: 4 yes/0 no votes. Alderman Thomas made the annual hour requirement to qualify for lagers at 1,250 hours, second by Alderman Cannon, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, and Alderman Brooks-yes.

The Treasurer and the Public Works Supervisor have not been attending the meetings due to the need for social distancing and the limited space available in the meeting room. They have been providing information to the Administrator to present to the Board.

Treasurer’s report: The treasurer wanted to set up the meeting for National Night Out/Railroad Days and that was covered earlier. The all account balance report was approved under the consent agenda.

Public Works Supervisor: The Public Works Supervisor has received written documentation from Suez stating due to the lost revenue from water they will provide exterior pressure washes at no extra charge during the upcoming interior renovations at Tower #2 in 2021 and Tower #1 in 2022. The Board was pleased to have this agreement in writing.

He also stated the City of Warrenton has approved the three sewer connections for the Kelly’s three lots on 738, 740, and 742 Smith Street. Bart Korman from Lewis-Bade prepared the required calculation for the City of Warrenton. It was noted on the plans he showed three crossings, but these will be placed in the 10’ by 10’ section as approved by the City of Truesdale.

Attorney’s Report: Attorney Joyce stated the Police continue to provide tickets that are well written. Also, he has been signing paperwork for the destruction of evidence that is no longer required to be maintain by the Police Department and submitting it to Judge for his approval.

Chief of Police’s Report: Chief Doyle did not attend the meeting due to being at the Demonstration march but provided a written report to the Board.

Chief Doyle has been contacted by a Missouri state law enforcement agency that is interest in purchasing the 2008 Ford for official use. Contact was made with Missouri Municipal League who advised a sale between government agencies is acceptable and suggested it be documented on department letter head and receive board approval. Attorney Joyce stated the documents stated the documents should say the sale is “as is” and should be at a reasonable price. Alderman Green made the motion to approve selling the 2008 Ford to the Missouri state law enforcement agency with the addition of the wording “as is” and at a reasonable price. Motion was second by Alderman Thomas, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Brooks-yes, and Alderman Cannon-yes. Motion carried: 4 yes/0 no votes.

New Business: The restructure of the Board of Alderman due to the election was next.

President of the Board: Alderman Thomas made the motion to elect Robert Green, motion second by Alderman Cannon, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Brooks-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, and Alderman Green-abstained. Motion passed:3 yes/1 abstained. Alderman Green accepted the position and thank the other Aldermen for their support.

Chamber Committee: Due to the chamber being a day meeting, it will be hard for the Aldermen that have day jobs to participate. It was suggested that those available could take turns attending as available. Alderman Thomas was meeting with Jan Olearnick and would discuss this with her. At this time, no one was selected.

University Extension Center: Alderman Brooks

Greater Warren Economic Development Meeting: Alderman Green

TAC Committee: Administrator Rainwater

Park Committee: Alderman Thomas and Alderman Cannon

City Permits: Alderman Thomas and Alderman Brooks.

Being no other business to come before the Board, Alderman Thomas made the motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Alderman Green, with all Aldermen approving.

Meeting adjourned approximately 7:30 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