TRUESDALE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

MAY 13, 2020

The Truesdale Board of Aldermen held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2020, 5:30 p.m. at the Truesdale City Hall, 109 Pinckney Street, Truesdale, MO . This meeting was open to the public with seats arrangement of 6 feet distancing due to Covid-19.

Mayor Chris Watson and City Administrator/Clerk MaryLou Rainwater attended the meeting. Public attending the meeting was Chad Eggen from Boonslick Regional Planning Commission, Bart Korman from Lewis-Bade, Rodger Wells, and Adam Rollins from Warren County Record.

The Pledge was recited. Roll call was requested: Alderman Cannon-present, Alderman Thomas-present, Alderman Green-present, and Alderman Brookshier-present. Full Board was present, and Mayor Watson called the meeting to order.

Alderman Green made the motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the ordinance authorizing Mayor and Administrator to be authorized agent to request from the Warren County the Coronavirus Relief Fund as created in the Cares Act. The motion was second by Alderman Cannon with Aldermen approving. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the consent agenda (which included minutes from the April 22, 2020 and May 6, 2020 meetings, approval of Diamond Maps annual subscription for $228. Motion was second by Alderman Thomas and approved by the Board.

Mayor Watson stated the Treasurer, Public Works Supervisor, Chief of Police, and the attorney did not attend the meeting to allow more room for the public with the requirement of social distancing.

**Comments from the Mayor:** Mayor Watson informed the Board of the meeting with County Commissioners concerning the 4.1-million-dollar grant from the Care Fund. He stated a committee of three people will oversee the grant, but he requested the City of Truesdale have a liaison to be sure all cities are treated fairly. There will be three phases of the grant (1) what has been spent (2) what is needed for the next 90 days and (3) what will be needed in the future. It is unknown exactly what will be funded but first responders will receive needed supplies. Mayor Watson stated they wanted to hire someone to oversee the grant as the County Staff could not do it, and he suggested Boonslick Regional Planning Commission be contacted. The Commissioners will have the final vote on what is spent. It was stressed they wanted to be sure to keep things transparent. At this time, dates and times for meetings are not known so the City will see who is available to attend the meetings when it is scheduled so it could be various ones attending at different times. Mayor announced the City did receive a no-touch thermometer from Mike Daniels.

A discussion followed concerning the Chrismer property. The owners of Green Gardens are very interested in purchasing the property. It was mentioned in the previous meeting to recommend they buy it when the delinquent tax sale in August, but the Administrator has discovered there is a lot more to getting this done than we thought. The City wants to recoup its cost on this property. It is unknown what steps the City would have to take once it has clear title to sell the property. The Administrator will reach out to other cities to see if anyone has been through this before and what they did.

Mayor Watson stated Mr. Copeland is still interested in moving the mobile home in Truesdale but he has been informed that he needs to provide pictures of the mobile home outside and underneath and also a letter from the railroad approving moving the mobile home across the tracks. These must be provided prior to the City considering the request.

The trash issue at the apartment was discussed. It has been 7 days since the warning was issued. The trash remains on the property.

It was also noted there has been two cars broken into and items stolen in the Dieckman Farms area. It was recommended to keep vehicles locked and items such as tools and kids’ toys put up. Due to cameras in the subdivision, the person involved in the one theft has been identified.

**COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN:** Alderman Thomas stated there are lots in Heritage Hills with uncut grass. Mayor stated Chief Doyle is working on violation of ordinances and if someone sees something, please report it to Chief Doyle.

Alderman Thomas said two out of three builders are doing a great job cleaning the streets, and the one is doing minimum. It was noted that silt fences are not being used and the builders were told that was necessary to keep things out of the storm drains.

Alderman Green stated Frankie Whitaker was still not satisfied with the condition of his yard due to the construction.

**GRANT UPDATES:**  Chad Eggen from Boonslick Regional Planning Commission addressed the Board.

On the DNR Land and Water grant, the engineer study has started. The new site plan was provided to the Board for its review. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the site plan for Bruer Park as submitted, second by Alderman Thomas, and roll call as voted: Alderman Brookshier-yes, Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, and Alderman Green-yes. Motion carried:4 yes/0 no votes.

Safe Room: The FEMA grant is being managed by SEMA, and it will be done in two phases. The first phase is the engineering and the second phase will be the design phase. It is a 90/10 match and the grant is for 1.8 million dollars. Bart Korman (the engineer from Lewis-Bade) stated the City’s cost could be closer to 20%-25% as the grant will not cover all needed items. Air conditioning and bathroom sinks were mentioned. Chad stated the Community Development Block Grant program is not accepting application at this time and no date has been given when they will open up the application process. The City still has other options to help with their share of the match and additional expense the City may have. Booneslick RPC has a revolving loan fund. The first year there is no interest and this for the 9 years left, the interest is low-now at 2 ½ percent. There is an Economic Development loan for ten years with an interest rate of 2.44% with no penalty for early payoff. Missouri Development finance Board has a 20-year loan with a 3% interest rate. The USDA has grant funds that could be available to help with the local match and possible additional items needed. Bart stated the need for deeper foundation to support the required wall to withstand 250 mph wind increased the cost also. The plans have to be submitted to SEMA by May 27th for their review. Plans are to bid out the project in August. Mayor Watson stated the concern is can the city afford to do it and will the bids come in over the projected grant amounts. It was suggested if the building is completed to offer the naming rights to the building for a donation-highest bidder would receive the right to name the building. Mayor Watson stated the large companies in the city may small donations (which are appreciated) but the smaller business donates more than the larger ones. Bart stated at this time, the only additional expense the City will have before bidding is the notice in paper. At the time, bids are received the cost will be known. Mayor Watson stated the Administrator had asked these questions while in Jefferson City prior to him signing the grant paperwork. It was stated at the time the bids are submitted, if the cost is higher than the amount in the grant, FEMA would not increase their amount and it would be up to the City to decide if they could afford to proceed. This would be the time to do this and not start construction. This would not hurt the City for future grant applications. Mayor Watson stated he appreciates all the work being done by Boonslick Regional Planning Commission for the City of Truesdale. Rodgers Wells stated the City could reach out to union and trade men for donations also.

The next topic was the sewer situation with Warrenton stopping any new sewer connections in Truesdale for 7 years and what options the City of Truesdale may have. The Request for Qualifications for Engineer study on the sewer system should run this week in the Warren County Record and Chad stated they would be mailing 32 Request for Qualifications letters. This report should review all the options the City has and make a recommendation for the best one. The cost of the engineer report will be covered 100% by a grant from Rural Development. There is grants available that would be a 75%/25% match. The City’s connection fees, and rate fees would be used to cover the City’s match, and a loan is a possibility also. Time frame for the construction of a sewer plant could be 3 years. There is also a public water supply system that could possibly take over the sewer and this would be one of the options for the engineer report to review. Mayor Watson stated he wanted to meet with representatives at the church to discuss their sewer treatment plant and if it could handle the sewer from the subdivision. The owners of the property west of the FCFC church is willing to donate a 200’ X 200’ area for a sewer plant but it is unknown if this would be the best area to place it, would that area be large enough for the size of plant that would be needed.

**Reports from Departments, Boards, and Committees:**

City Administrator/City Clerk: The City-wide clean up day has been set for Wednesday, July 1, 2020.

The census report shows as of May 7, 2020, Warren County is at 57.9% and the City of Truesdale is at 52.4%. The notice will be placed on the City’s website and Facebook page to encourage citizens to complete it.

The sales tax for April 2020 was actually up from April 2019. General takes were up by $4,591.11 and Capital improvement by $2,297.79. The report for May will be available around June 4th.

The City’s IT guy Daniel McCory recommends upgrading the computers in the City Hall area. It would be less than $350 for all four. It should make the computers run faster and extend the life of the computers by 4-5 years. They would be moving to SSD performance. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the upgrades, 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.

The following reports were given by Administrator due to staff members not attending to allow more room for social distancing.

Treasurer’s Report: Report given by Administrator: The Treasurer has completed a video for National Night Out and the Board all thought it was a great job.

Public Works Supervisor: Report given by Administrator: Brad from Suez discuss the issues with the last visual/washout crew in April 2020. There were several issues where the workers from Suez did not follow guidelines. First was setting the date for the work and then changing it, causing the City to drain 90,000 from Well #1 tower. Brad stated the City always has the right to agree to the time for the service instead of just being told when it would be done. The inspection and wash out of Well #2 was done in October 2019 and less than 6 months the work is being done again. Due to having the inspections in April this time, the time will be changed from October to April/May next year. A discussion followed on the loss of the water. Using the minimum for 1,000 gallons of water at $9.87, the loss of $888.30. Brad stated the company would pay for the loss or would be willing to do an exterior power wash of a tower (one per year) for the next two year. This usually cost $6,000 if on site or $8,000 if the crew is mobilized to do just the power wash. This is not part of the maintenance program. The board discussed going with the exterior power wash but wants documentation from Suez that this will be done on one tower a year for two year at no cost to the City. Alderman Green made the motion to accept the exterior power wash from Suez, second by Thomas, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Brookshier-yes, Alderman Green-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, and Alderman Thomas-yes. Motion carried:4 yes/0 no votes.

The replacement door for the restroom at Bruer Park should be delivered on Friday.

Mark stated the plans are to work on the ditch line along Laura Street prior to Belaire’s property. Jim Cobb from JBC trucking has completed work on the hill side.

Chief of Police’s Report: Chief Doyle provided a report for the Board. Also, he is requesting authorization to purchase a third body camera for $600. It was in the current budget. Alderman Green made the motion to approve the purchase of the body camera, second by Alderman Thomas, 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.

Bills/Ordinances: Alderman Green introduced Bill #11-2020 for the first reading, second by Alderman Thomas: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE ADMINISTRATOR/CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TRUESDALE TO BE DESIGNATED AS AUTHORIZED AGENTS OB BEHALF OF THE CITY OF TRUESDALE TO REQUEST FUNDS FROM WARREN COUNTY FROM THE CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND AS CREATED IN THE CARES ACT and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Cannon-yes, Alderman Green-yes,

Alderman Brookshier-yes, and Alderman Thomas-yes. Motion carried;4 yes/0 no votes. Alderman Green introduced Bill #11-2020 for the second and final reading, second by Alderman Thomas, 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 bill will now be Ordinance #908.

New Business: Mayor Watson stated he has received a call from Green Wellness Relief and they stated that they are in partnership with another company that has been approved. They are considering the site at Hays Food in the Industrial Park. There will be more information in the future and Mayor Watson stated they would need to attend a Board meeting to discuss their plans with the Board.

Mayor Watson stated Agape has been providing food for citizens in Truesdale and would suggest the City consider making a donation to help with the expense. The Administrator stated it had been in the budgets in the past but was unsure if it was in the 2019/2020 budget. Alderman Green made the motion to approve $500 to Agape, second by Alderman Cannon, and roll call voted as follows: Alderman Thomas-yes, Alderman Brookshier-yes, Alderman Cannon-yes, and Alderman Green-yes. Motion carried:4 yes/0 no votes.

It was noted that Alderman Cannon attended a meeting with the Extension Center by Zoom and the TAC meeting has been scheduled for May 21st at the Emergency room in the basement of the County Administration building.

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

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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