

**FESTUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
March 8, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on March 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call in the Council chambers: Bobby Venz and Dave Boyer; and the following Council members were present via Zoom: Kevin Dennis, Brian Wehner and Mike Cook; Absent: Gary Underwood, Kyle Wilkey and Jim Tinnin. Mayor Samuel F. Richards presided over the meeting. Also present in the Council chambers were Finance Director Stephanie Cunningham, City Clerk Kerry Patek, Public Works Director Matt Unrein, Treasurer Lori Eisenbeis, Fire Chief Kevin Cremer, Police Captain Doug Wendel, and City Administrator Greg Camp. City Attorney Brian Malone and Christopher Beddell, Park Director Josh Whaley and Building Official Mark Harris were present via Zoom.

Council, staff, etc. then said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mayor Richards announced the bills were in the amount of \$1,084,595.16. Motion to approve the bills, minutes of the Council Meeting of February 22, 2021 was made by Councilman Cook, seconded by Councilman Venz and approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Wehner, Dennis, Venz and Cook; Nays – none.

Correspondence - none

Visitors

No visitors were allowed in the building due to the emergency order regarding the coronavirus and no visitors requested to be heard via the City website.

Bids

HVAC System – Fire Department

Fire Chief Kevin Cremer requested permission to replace the HVAC system at the Firehouse which is 15 years old. The cost for this replacement through Trane is \$11,920.00 which is a budgeted item. **Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve the purchase of a new HVAC system for the Firehouse, seconded by Councilman Wehner. Bid was approved by the following votes: Ayes: Boyer, Wehner, Dennis, Venz and Cook; Nays – none.**

2022 Ford F250 Animal Control Truck and Bed

Public Works Director Matt Unrein requested permission to purchase a 2022 Ford F250 Animal Control truck and bed through the state bid at a cost of \$42,894.00. Mr. Unrein stated this purchase would be over budget by \$3,894.00 but that he would be selling the old equipment on Purple Wave so the amount received for that would be applied to the shortage. Finance Director Stephanie Cunningham informed the Council that this shortage would be included as a budget amendment to the current fiscal year budget.

Councilman Dennis made a motion to purchase the 2022 Ford F250 Animal Control truck and bed, seconded by Councilman Venz. Bid was approved by the following votes: Ayes: Boyer, Wehner, Dennis, Venz and Cook; Nays – none.

2022 Ford F550 Dump Bed with Snowplow & Spreader – Street Dept.

Public Works Director Matt Unrein requested permission to purchase a 2022 Ford F550 Dump Bed with Snowplow and Spreader through the state bid from Joe Machens Ford at a cost of \$104,251.00 (\$2,749.00 under budget).

Councilman Boyer made a motion to purchase the 2022 Ford F550 Dump Bed with Snowplow and Spreader, seconded by Councilman Venz. Bid was approved by the following votes: Ayes: Boyer, Wehner, Dennis, Venz and Cook; Nays – none.

2022 Ford F550 Dump Bed with Snowplow & Spreader – Water Dept.

Public Works Director Matt Unrein requested permission to purchase a 2022 Ford F550 Dump Bed with Snowplow and Spreader through the state bid from Joe Machens Ford at a cost of \$90,294.00 (\$20,294.00 over budget). Mr. Unrein stated this would be replacing a 1997 model and that other vehicles being sold will help cover the overage. Greg Camp stated this would be included in the mid-term budget amendments. Mr. Camp explained the need for smaller trucks for snow removal in certain areas.

Councilman Wehner made a motion to purchase the 2022 Ford F550 Dump Bed with Snowplow and Spreader, seconded by Councilman Dennis. Bid was approved by the following votes: Ayes: Boyer, Wehner, Dennis, Venz and Cook; Nays – none.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Bill No. 4621 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Accepting the Infrastructure of Birchwood Estates Phases 1 through 3; and establishing an effective date. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4621 for the first time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. Building Official Mark Harris gave a staff report. **Councilman Cook made a motion to read Bill No. 4621 for the second time, motion seconded by Councilman Dennis. Motion carried unanimously. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4621 for the second time. Bill No. 4621 was approved by the following votes: Ayes - Council Members Boyer, Dennis, Wehner, Cook and Venz; Nays - none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4621 passed.**

Bill No. 4622 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Approving the Plat of Festus Commerce and Business Center Plat 7; and establishing an effective date. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4622 for the first time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. Joe Feldman with Cochran Engineering was present via zoom. **Councilman Wehner made a motion to read Bill No. 4622 for the second time, motion seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion carried unanimously. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4622 for the second time. Bill No. 4622 was approved by the following votes: Ayes - Council Members Boyer, Dennis, Wehner, Cook and Venz; Nays - none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4622 passed.**

Bill No. 4623 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Authorizing the Mayor to enter in to and execute a Contract with Jokerst Paving and Contracting, Inc. for Third Street Improvements, Federal Project STP-2600(610); incorporating said Contract as a part of this Ordinance; and establishing an effective date. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4623 for the first time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. Greg Camp gave a staff report. **Councilman Boyer made a motion to read Bill No. 4623 for the second time, motion seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion carried unanimously. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4623 for the second time. Bill No. 4623 was approved by the following votes: Ayes - Council Members Boyer, Dennis, Wehner, Cook and Venz; Nays - none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4623 passed.**

New Business

Greg Camp stated that Four Brothers Mead on Main Street is requesting approval from the City to pour an 11'x40' concrete pad on the south side of the building at 130 S. Second Street. Daniel Luck, Four Brothers Mead, was present via zoom to make the request and answer any questions for Council. Greg Camp stated the City did an agreement similar with Main & Mill Brewing Co. Councilman Wehner asked about a proposed dog park in that area. Greg Camp provided some information regarding the proposed future dog park. **Councilman Dennis made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion carried unanimously.**

Old Business

Greg Camp asked Council about resuming normal City operations once Jefferson County goes to a yellow status. Greg noted that today St. Louis County lifted some restrictions. Councilman Venz asked about March 15 which is the day water bills are due. Mr. Camp mentioned March 22. Councilman Dennis stated he was comfortable to letting Mr. Camp set the date. Mr. Camp reminded Council that the Ordinance they passed gives himself and the Mayor the ability to make that decision. Councilman Wehner agreed that this decision should not have to come back to Council. Council agreed unanimously to allow Mayor Richards and City Administrator Camp to make the call on resuming normal operations when the county goes to yellow rather than having to go back before Council.

Reports

Councilman Dennis – Stated he received his second dose of the Covid vaccine and encourages everyone to get their vaccine.

Councilman Wehner – Stated he also received his second dose of the vaccine and encouraged everyone to get vaccinated. Stated he was happy to see the Third Street Project moving forward. Thanked Councilman Boyer for working on the visual obstruction near the Ball Barn building and also thanked Mr. Camp and Mr. Unrein.

Councilman Cook – Stated he also received his second dose of the vaccine. Asked how many City employees have been vaccinated. Mr. Camp stated he around 30 employees. Asked Greg Camp about the asphalt surfaces in West City Park.

Councilman Boyer – Asked about the yellow paint lines being repainted in the park and talked to Matt Unrein about it. Asked if there was anything that could be done about the traffic congestion near the UPS Store. Captain Wendel explained that the police department needs to be called if traffic is being blocked and that he doesn't think this will be an ongoing problem that it has been heavier lately due to the recent snow-storms and people wanting to get the salt off their vehicles.

Captain Wendel – Updated Council on the radio installs.

Mayor Richards – Stated he also has received both doses of the Covid vaccine. Stated the guys are doing a good job and that he is proud of all the City workers and the way they perform their jobs, the girls in the office will be handling a lot more traffic when the City buildings are all opened.

Adjournment Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Boyer. On a call by the chair the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.