

**FESTUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
January 8, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on January 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call: Underwood, Wilkey, Cook, Dennis, Tinnin, Wehner and Gray; Absent – Boyer. Mayor Samuel F. Richards presided over the meeting. Also present City Administrator Greg Camp, City Clerk Kerry Patek, Police Chief Tim Lewis , Fire Chief Kevin Cremer, Public Works Supt. Matt Clemens, Parks Supt. Larry Crites, Treasurer Lori Eisenbeis, Finance Directors Pat Parsons and Stephanie Cunningham and City Attorney Brian Malone.

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

Minutes

Minutes of the December 18, 2019 council meeting were presented for approval. **Councilman Cook made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Tinnin. Motion carried unanimously. On a call by the chair, minutes of the council meeting were then approved.**

Warrants

Mayor Richards reported warrants in the amount of \$512,048.11. **Councilman Cook made a motion to approve the warrants, seconded by Councilman Wilkey. Votes to approve the warrants were as follows: Ayes – Tinnin, Wehner, Cook, Gray, Underwood, Dennis and Wilkey; Nays – none.**

Visitors

Fire Chief Cremer introduced new full time firefighters Cody Charleville – B Shift; Shain Reinhold – A Shift; and Travis Wood – C Shift. Mayor, staff and Council welcomed the new firefighters.

Mayor Richards introduced new Head Librarian Elizabeth Steffen. Mayor, staff and Council welcomed Mrs. Steffen.

Mike Povich, 812 Horine Rd., addressed the Council regarding fluoridation in the drinking water leaving a book and informational sheet for the Mayor and Council. Mr. Povich suggested eliminating the filing fee for elected office.

Tim Montgomery, 406 Benton, addressed the Council regarding past issues he has addressed the Council several times about - (being removed from JCWA and being the JCWA President, saving the City millions of dollars). Mr. Montgomery stated that he has a loud speaking voice due to the fact he had to speak loud in his home growing up because of his father's hearing impairment from serving in the military. Mr. Montgomery videotaped his interaction at the meeting as he has done in the past. Mr. Montgomery asked if the 3.2 million dollar sewer line project was being inspected. Greg Camp responded that Jacobs Engineering is overseeing the project and providing those services. Mr. Montgomery stated he was never given a reason why he was removed from the JCWA board. Mr. Montgomery asked Council to treat everyone fairly.

Daniel Luck, one of the owners of Four Brothers Meadery, LLC. addressed the Council stating that he was requesting a liquor license for his new business in town which is on Main Street. Mr. Luck stated he was a veteran of the USAF and served in Iraqi Freedom and that his company gives back to the veterans and first responders. Mr. Luck explained that mead is a wine made from honey and that he knows of only one other one in the state of Missouri. Greg stated the liquor license approval is on the agenda tonight under new business.

Correspondence

Clerk Patek stated she received a letter from Giving Something Back to the Community informing the City of the 26th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. March to be held on January 19, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. The walk will start at the First Baptists Church in Crystal City and end at Crystal City High School where a program will follow. Chief Lewis stated the PD would offer any assistance needed for the march as they have done in the past.

Bids

Fire Dept. – Chevy Tahoe Duty Vehicles

Chief Cremer requested purchasing two new Chevy Tahoe duty vehicles from Don Brown Chevrolet who was awarded the state bid. The total cost for the two vehicles is \$85,540.00. **Councilman Dennis made a motion to approve the purchase from Don Brown Chevrolet, seconded by Councilman Underwood. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Tinnin, Underwood, Wehner, Gray, Dennis, Cook and Wilkey; Nays – none.**

Chief Cremer also requested to sell two older vehicles. Council agreed unanimously.

Public Works Dept. – Folding Machine for Water Bills

Matt Clemens requested to purchase a water bill folding/stuffing machine from Neopost U.S.A. in the amount of \$12,137.00. Matt stated that the City currently leases a machine and the lease is up and that the yearly maintenance cost starting the second year will be \$2,424.00 annually. **Councilman Cook made a motion to approve the purchase of a water bill folding machine from Neopost U.S.A., seconded by Councilman Wilkey. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Wilkey, Wehner, Underwood, Gray, Cook, Dennis and Tinnin; Nays – none.**

Public Works Dept. – Water Bill Printer

Matt Clemens stated two bids were received for a water bill printer as follows: Ricoh USA \$1,995.00 and Da-com \$3,617.26. After reviewing all bids staff recommends accepting the bid from Ricoh USA. **Councilman Gray made a motion to approve the bid from Ricoh USA for \$1,995.00, seconded by Councilman Wehner. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Wilkey, Wehner, Underwood, Gray, Cook, Dennis and Tinnin; Nays – none.**

Park Dept. – Diamond Pro Infield Conditioner

Larry Crites stated only one bid was received from Sportsfields4U at a price of \$22,790.00. Larry stated the cost of this purchase was approved in this year's budget. **Councilman Wilkey made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Councilman Underwood. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Wilkey, Wehner, Underwood, Gray, Dennis and Tinnin; Nays – Cook.**

Ordinances and Resolutions

Resolution No. 4554 1/2 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Festus, MO.; Amending Section 510 – Emergency Closings of the Festus Employee Policy Handbook; and establishing an effective date. Clerk Patek read Resolution No. 4554 1/2. Mayor Richards called for discussion. Greg Camp gave a staff report. **Councilman Cook made a motion to approve Resolution No. 4554 1/2, seconded by Councilman Wilkey. Motion carried unanimously. Resolution No. 4554 1/2 was passed by the following votes: Ayes – Wilkey, Underwood, Wehner, Gray, Dennis, Cook; Nays – Tinnin. Mayor Richards declared Resolution No. 4554 1/2 passed.**

Bill No. 4555 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, MO.; Approving the Plat of Festus Commerce and Business Center Plat 4; and establishing an effective date. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4555 for the first time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. Greg Camp gave a staff report.

Councilman Gray made a motion to suspend the rules and read Bill No. 4555 for the second time in title only, motion seconded by Councilman Tinnin. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4555 for the second time. Bill No. 4555 was passed by the following votes: Ayes – Wilkey, Underwood, Wehner, Gray, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4555 passed.

New Business

Four Brothers Meadery, LLC. – Liquor License

Chief Lewis stated he completed the background check and approves the liquor license. **Councilman Dennis made a motion to approve the liquor license request, motion seconded by Councilman Wehner. Motion carried unanimously.**

Consent Agenda

Greg Camp provided a sample "consent agenda" and asked Council if they would like to try using it at the next Council meeting. Greg explained to Council the differences between the current agenda the City uses and a consent agenda.

Councilman Cook made a motion to try a "consent agenda" at the next regular council meeting, motion seconded by Councilman Gray. Motion carried unanimously.

Sunset Park – Basketball Court

Council discussed replacing the basketball court at Sunset Park. Several ideas and issues with replacing the basketball court were discussed and Council agreed to table this project for further discussion.

Old Business

Personnel Policy Updates

Greg Camp provided Council with some updates to the City Personnel Policy which would amend the following areas: business travel expenses, educational assistance and electronic communications/social networking.

Reports

City Administrator provided a written report which addressed the following:

- Update on new electronic message center for City Hall
- Met with RL Jones regarding vacant Shop n Save building
- Church opted not to renew their lease for 406 W. Main
- Attended Jefferson County Administrator's meeting
- Attended Jefferson County Water Authority meeting
- Prepared request for proposals for replacement of concrete steps at Sunset Park
- Reached out to owners of Lottawotta Creek about possibly locating in Festus (Goodwin development)
- Retirement luncheon for Tom Wiseman on Friday, January 10, 2020
- Pat Parson's retirement luncheon will be on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 in the Council chambers
- January 2, 2020 first day for new Library Director Elizabeth Steffen.

Councilman Wehner – Asked Greg Camp about the vacant building space next to the Library and if the Chamber of Commerce was interested. Stated he was glad to welcome Four Brothers Meadery to the downtown area and glad to see some movement on the Goodwin property.

Councilman Dennis – Asked the Police and Fire Chief to prepare a future plan for the tax money they will be receiving.

Councilman Gray – Asked Matt Clemens about the new subdivision off of Horine Road street plan and about the new pipeline project and if they were using asphalt or concrete and what the requirements were. Greg Camp informed Councilman Gray about what the specs on the project called for.

Councilman Cook – Reminded Council of an upcoming February 5, 2020 Stream Team meeting. Asked Council to reconsider replacing the basketball goal in Sunset Park sooner rather than later so that the kids in town would have someplace to play basketball.

Fire Chief Cremer – Thanked his firefighters for doing a great job and stepping up as they have been very busy with calls.

Finance Director Pat Parsons – Welcomed Elizabeth Steffen and the new firefighters.

CLOSED SESSION

Councilman Cook made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Missouri Law for the purpose of dealing with matters relating to RSMo.610.021 (1) Legal Matters and (3)(13) Personnel. Motion seconded by Councilman Wehner and approved by the following votes: Ayes – Underwood, Wilkey, Wehner, Gray, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none.

Adjournment

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Wehner. On a call by the chair the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.