

**FESTUS CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 11, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on January 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call in the Council chambers: Boyer, Venz and Tinnin; and the following Council members were present via Zoom: Cook, Dennis, Wehner, and Wilkey; Absent – Underwood. Mayor Samuel F. Richards presided over the meeting. Also present in the Council chambers were Finance Director Stephanie Cunningham, Fire Chief Kevin Cremer and Police Chief Tim Lewis, Treasurer Lori Eisenbeis, City Clerk Kerry Patek, Tourism Director Barb Lowry and City Administrator Greg Camp. City Attorney’s Brian Malone and Christopher Beddell, Planning and Building Director Mark Harris, Parks Director Josh Whaley and Public Works Director Matt Unrein 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 \$548,877.60. Motion to approve the bills, minutes of the Council Meeting of December 14, 2020 was made by Councilman Cook, seconded by Councilman Venz and approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Wilkey, Wehner, Dennis, Venz, Cook and Tinnin; 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**

**Cares Act Funding – Pickup Trucks**

Public Works Director Matt Unrein requested approval for the purchase of three (3) 4x4 ¾ ton pickup trucks for \$30,405.00 each from Ruther Ford through the state/county bid award to be reimbursed through the Cares Act funding. **Councilman Dennis made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Wilkey, Wehner, Venz, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none.**

## **Bids (continued)**

### **Sale of Surplus Vehicles**

Public Works Director Matt Unrein requested permission to sell the following vehicles/equipment: 2006 Chevy Silverado; 2003 Ford Ranger; 2002 International Dumptruck; 2000 International Dumptruck; 2000 Chevy 3500HD 2WD; 2003 Ford F-250; 1997 GMC 3500; 2005 Craftco Super Shot Melter; Pontoon Boat; Kwick-kut mower. **Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Councilman Wehner. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Wilkey, Wehner, Venz, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none.**

## **Ordinances and Resolutions**

**Resolution No. 4615 ½** - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri extending the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Policy (EPSL 2020) due to Covid-19 State of Emergency Declaration. City Clerk Patek read Resolution No. 4615 ½. Mayor Richards called for discussion. Greg Camp gave a staff report. **Resolution No. 4615 ½ was approved by the following votes: Ayes - Council Members Tinnin, Boyer, Wilkey, Dennis, Wehner, Cook and Venz; Nays - none. Mayor Richards declared Resolution No. 4615 ½ passed.**

**Bill No. 4615** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Amending Chapter 210 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Festus raising the minimum age for sale and possession of tobacco products from eighteen to twenty-one; repealing all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith; and establishing an effective date. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4615 for the first time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. City Attorney Brian Malone gave a staff report stating that this would bring city law into compliance with federal law. **Councilman Boyer made a motion to read Bill No. 4615 for the second time, motion seconded by Councilman Wehner. Motion carried unanimously. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4615 for the second time. Bill No. 4615 was approved by the following votes: Ayes - Council Members Tinnin, Boyer, Wilkey, Dennis, Wehner, Cook and Venz; Nays - none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4615 passed.**

**Bill No. 4616** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Authorizing the Mayor to enter into and execute a Water Shut Off Agreement with Rock Creek Public Sewer District; incorporating said Agreement as part of this Ordinance; and establishing effective date. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4616 for the first time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. Greg Camp gave a staff report. **Councilman Boyer made a motion to read Bill No. 4616 for the second time, motion seconded by Councilman Cook. Motion carried unanimously. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4616 for the second time. Bill No. 4616 was approved by the following votes: Ayes - Council Members Boyer, Wilkey, Dennis, Wehner, Cook, Tinnin and Venz; Nays - none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4616 passed.**

### **New Business**

#### **Liquor License Application – 310-314 Main Street**

Clerk Patek stated she had received a liquor license application for 310-314 Main Street and had forwarded it to Chief Lewis for recommendation as required by City code. Chief Lewis addressed the Council stating that he did not recommend the City Council approve this liquor license request based on findings from the background check the police department conducted. Mayor Richards asked for a motion to approve this liquor license request. No motion was made. Councilman Boyer made a motion to deny the liquor license request, seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion to deny was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Wehner, Venz, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – Wilkey. Mayor Richards declared request denied.

**Old Business** - None

### **Reports**

Councilman Venz – Asked about the merge area at Pounds and A Highway. Greg Camp informed Councilman Venz that it was on State right-of-way. Councilman Venz also asked about street lights in that area. Asked what the plans were for parking on the new Fifth Street.

Councilman Boyer – Commended the Police Department. Thanked Greg Camp for setting up the tour of the water plant this Friday. Mr. Camp invited other Council members to the tour but reminded them they would have to stay under a quorum.

Councilman Dennis – Stated he saw on Facebook that Covid vaccines are going to become available and asked when the City employees, especially first responders would be getting the vaccine and if the City was going to make it mandatory for employees to get the vaccine. Greg Camp stated the City would not make it mandatory for

employees and that at the present time we are still waiting on the availability of the vaccine to first responders. Councilman Dennis welcomed Christopher Beddell. Stated that he felt things were going good for the City and that everyone was doing a great job.

Councilman Wehner – Agreed with Councilman Dennis that things with the City were going good and the employees were doing a great job and that he was glad to see progress happening such as the lagoon closure, pontoon boat being sold. Asked about sidewalks in the West City Park area. Mark Harris stated that sidewalks were part of the Phase II development but that he would contact the developer on the status.

Mayor Richards – Read the news release regarding the Covid-19 vaccine for Jefferson County residents. Mayor Richards stated that he would like to reiterate how great the City employees have been during this difficult time in keeping the City running smoothly. Thanked Greg Camp for being a great leader during this time.

City Administrator Camp – Thanked the Mayor for his comments but stated that keeping the City running was a team effort. Introduced Barb Lowry, the City's new Tourism Director.

Councilman Venz – Thanked Fire Chief Cremer for his detailed fire statistics report and that he likes how the Fire Chief and Police Chief keep the council members informed with their detailed reports.

Mayor Richards – Stated that he would like to remind everyone that we are not out of the woods yet with this pandemic and that we are going to continue to fight it for the next several months and reminded everyone to keep practicing social distancing, mask wearing and hand washing.

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