

**FESTUS CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 23, 2019  
7:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on January 23, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call: Underwood, Boyer, Wilkey, Tinnin, Venz, Cook, Gray and Wehner; Absent – none. Mayor Mike Cage presided over the meeting. Also present City Clerk Kerry Patek, Police Chief Tim Lewis, Fire Dept. Jeff Brown, Finance Director Pat Parsons, Treasurer Lori Eisenbeis, Public Works Supt. Matt Clemens, Parks Supt. Larry Crites and City Attorney Melissa Vighi.

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

**Minutes**

Minutes of the January 9, 2019 council meeting were presented for approval. **Councilman Cook made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Wehner. Motion carried unanimously. On a call by the chair, minutes of the council meeting were then approved.**

**Warrants**

Mayor Cage reported warrants in the amount of \$325,306.12. **Councilman Cook made a motion to approve the warrants, seconded by Councilman Venz. Votes to approve the warrants were as follows: Ayes – Underwood, Tinnin, Wehner, Venz, Boyer, Wehner, Gray, and Cook; Nays – none.**

**Visitors**

Police Chief Tim Lewis introduced new Police Officer Jon Kelly.

**Correspondence** - None

**Bids**

**Fire Department – Firehouse Remodel Bids**

Matt Clemens stated six bids were received as follows: Cahills Construction, Inc. \$174,900; Donze Construction, \$185,182; EA Boyer Building \$187,810; Brockmiller Construction \$214,600; Jackson Building Group \$249,900; and LayneCo Construction \$263,100. After review of all bids staff recommends accepting the bid from Cahills Construction, Inc. for \$174,900.

**(Bids continued)**

**Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve the bid for the Firehouse Remodel from Cahill Construction, Inc. for \$174,900, seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Gray, Tinnin, Wilkey, Wehner, Venz, Underwood and Cook; Nays – none.**

**Ordinances and Resolutions**

**Bill No. 4495** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, MO.; Approving the Planned Unit Development for 63.46 Acres off of West Main Street in Festus, MO. (formerly known as the Burns Farm); and establishing an effective date. Mayor Cage stated this would be the second reading of this Bill and asked for discussion. Councilman Gray wanted to know the decision by the developer on putting in sidewalks. Matt Clemens stated the developer said via voicemail that they would not be putting sidewalks in. Councilman Gray stated in his opinion no houses should be built in that development until sidewalks are put in up to the property line. Councilman Gray stated that he spoke to the Festus Schools Superintendent and he informed him that the school board was on board with a sidewalk. Councilman Cook stated he was not happy with the City requiring the developer to put the sidewalk in now at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour when it should have been brought up in the very beginning. Councilman Gray stated he did bring the issue up in the very beginning. Councilman Tinnin agreed that the City should require a sidewalk in this development due to its proximity to the school and that it would not be a major burden to the developer. **Councilman Cook made a motion to approve Bill No. 4495 with the amendment that sidewalks are required to the property line. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gray. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Tinnin, Wilkey, Boyer, Underwood, Cook, Venz, Gray and Wehner; Nays – none. Mayor Cage declared Bill No. 4495 passed.**

**Bill No. 4497** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, MO.; Authorizing the Mayor to enter into and execute a Contract with Cahills Construction, Incorporated for the Fire House Remodel Project; incorporating said Agreement as a part of this Ordinance; prescribing the conditions thereto; and establishing an effective date. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4497 for the first time. Mayor Cage called for discussion. Matt Clemens gave a staff report. **Councilman Cook made a motion to read Bill No. 4497 for a second time by title only. Motion was seconded by Councilman Tinnin. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4497 for the second time. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Tinnin, Wilkey, Boyer, Underwood, Cook, Venz, Gray and Wehner; Nays – none. Mayor Cage declared Bill No. 4497 passed.**

**New Business** - none

**Old Business** - none

**Reports**

City Administrator provided a written report which included the items listed below.

- Will not be attending Council meeting this evening – attending Missouri City Manager Assoc. Winter Workshop in Columbia, MO.
- Added Crystal City and DeSoto for in county comparison in our compensation study
- Attended meeting along with Adrienne Navarro, Chief Lewis and Brian Malone with Crystal City and Herculaneum representatives regarding our municipal courts
- Temporary easement requests sent out to residents on Fifth St. for the upcoming STP project
- Matt Clemens, Michelle Guidicy, Pat Parsons and myself interviewed four excellent candidates for our Finance Director position
- Officially closed on the Lee Avenue lot with Smoothie King

Councilman Boyer – Thanked the Street Dept. crews and complimented their snow removal job. Stated they did however knock out a piece of concrete in his ward and asked Matt Clemens to take a look at it.

Councilman Wilkey – Thanked the Street Dept. crews for their snow removal job.

Councilman Venz – Stated he had received some requests by citizens for street lighting in the area of the new Kentucky Fried Chicken. Matt Clemens stated he did not know of any new street lighting plans in that area, however, the City could contact Ameren about it. Council agreed they would like Matt to check on prices with Ameren for street lighting in that development area. Also, commended the Street Department on keeping the roads clear from snow.

Councilman Cook – Asked Chief Lewis if he could check into W. Main Street in the area of the new development as he could foresee problems with the road. Mayor Cage stated the problem is that no one is sure who exactly owns the road. Matt Clemens stated it was an old highway at one point and that MoDOT is researching their records for any deeds, etc. Mayor Cage stated that the developer is working on this issue also. Councilman Cook stated that he still feels the Council is not informed of things going on in the City and that he would like better communication when new businesses are coming in, employees are retiring, new positions are open, etc.

Councilman Underwood – Stated he agreed with Councilman Cook in that Council should be more informed of what is going on before the public knows.

Councilman Wehner – Asked if the pickleball and tennis court nets could be put back up, he stated that other local cities left their nets up. Larry Crites stated that he was instructed by Greg Camp to take them down. Councilman Wehner stated that he did not feel that the winter weather affected the nets anymore than the summer weather did and they were not that expensive – around \$180.00. Mayor Cage asked Council if they wanted the nets put back up and all were in agreement. Mayor Cage instructed Larry Crites to put the nets back up. Larry Crites stated he would have his crew do it tomorrow. Councilman Wehner asked about regulations for drones within the city limits and asked Council to think about that. Stated that the old Colonial Cleaners lot had been graded and Comtrema was now using it for parking. Asked if communication could be given to residents/renters about not leaving their trash receptacles on the sidewalks.

Councilman Gray – announced that he was married on January 18<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations were offered by all.

Councilman Tinnin – Stated he agreed with Councilman Cook in that he feels Council should be more informed of what is going on in the City. Councilman Tinnin asked if one Councilman talks to Greg or the Mayor or other staff about something, if the others could be informed of the discussion via an email. Stated the Street Dept. did a good job on snow removal.

Public Works Supt. Matt Clemens – Stated the City had a couple of water main breaks and that Starbucks was coming in.

Finance Director Pat Parsons – Asked if when the City contacts Ameren about street lighting that they ask about the intersection of Pounds and West Main.

Mayor Cage – Asked that citizens be patient and not complain when street crews are removing snow, that snow being pushed up against driveways is unavoidable.

## **Adjournment**

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