

**FESTUS CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 12, 2020  
7:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on February 12, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call: Boyer, Underwood, Wehner, Gray, Dennis, Tinnin; Absent – Cook and Wilkey. Councilman Wilkey arrived directly after roll call and after minutes and warrants were approved. 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 Director Stephanie Cunningham and City Attorney Brian Malone.

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

**Minutes**

Minutes of the January 22, 2020 council meeting were presented for approval. **Councilman Boyer 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 Richards reported warrants in the amount of \$979,310.23. **Councilman Tinnin made a motion to approve the warrants, seconded by Councilman Underwood. Votes to approve the warrants were as follows: Ayes – Tinnin, Wehner, Boyer, Gray, Underwood, Dennis; Nays – none.**

**Visitors**

Police Chief Lewis introduced new Officer Jarrett Davis. Chief Lewis commended Officer Davis and his training Officer Kelsey Schleusner on a fantastic job solving a car theft incident and apprehending the suspect who was on the Top 10 Most Wanted List for Jefferson County.

Jim Henry – Historic Tanglefoot Association – addressed the Council on the current activities of the association and who the current board members were. Invited elected officials and City staff to the next meeting to be held at 5:00 p.m. on March 17, 2020 at Main & Mill Brewing Co.

Mike Povich – resident of the City – addressed the Council regarding fluoridation in the City water supply. Mr. Povich left a book and some information for Council members to review.

Chris Hagan – downtown business/property owner – addressed the Council regarding water getting into the basement of one of his properties on Main Street and asked if there was something that could be done about it. Greg Camp stated that himself and Matt Clemens had looked into this matter previously at the request of Mr. Hagan. Mr. Hagan also stated there were several street lights out in the downtown business area.

Tim Montgomery – resident of the City – addressed the Council regarding several issues – Greg Camp being the highest paid City Administrator Festus has ever had, employees being given the day after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July off and Council voting procedures, minutes and agendas not updated on the City’s website, accusing Mayor Richards and City Administrator Camp of making their own rules, Council emails not on the City’s website and the basketball courts in Sunset Park. Greg Camp informed Mr. Montgomery that his facts were not correct and Mr. Camp agreed to meet with Mr. Montgomery in a public place to discuss any issues with him that he may be having and offered to buy him lunch at Main & Mill. Mr. Montgomery stated that he would go anywhere else but Main & Mill as he has an issue with them.

**Correspondence** - none

## **Bids**

### **Park Dept. – Purchase 3000 lbs. Channel Catfish**

Larry Crites stated three bids were received as follows: Francis Fish Company LLC \$5,250.00; Logan Hollow Fish Farm \$7,200.00; and Nemo Fisheries \$6,250.00. After review of all bids staff recommends accepting the bid from Francis Fish Company LLC. **Councilman Gray made a motion to approve the bid from Francis Fish Company LLC for \$5,250.00, seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Tinnin, Underwood, Wehner, Gray, Dennis, Boyer and Wilkey; Nays – none.**

### **Fire Dept. – Turnout Gear**

Chief Cremer requested to purchase 12 sets of turnout gear under the Cooperative Purchasing Program for a cost of \$26,019.07. **Councilman Dennis made a motion to approve the purchase of 12 sets of turnout gear, seconded by Councilman Wilkey. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Wilkey, Wehner, Boyer, Underwood, Gray, Dennis and Tinnin; Nays – none.**

**Police Dept. – Explorer Vehicle Purchase**

Chief Lewis requested permission to purchase a new Ford Explorer police vehicle through the county bid with Reuther Ford for a cost of \$39,514.00.

**Councilman Dennis made a motion to approve the purchase of the Ford Explorer for \$39,514.00, seconded by Councilman Gray. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Wilkey, Wehner, Underwood, Gray, Boyer, Dennis and Tinnin; Nays – none.**

**Police Dept. – Vehicle Equipment Purchase**

Chief Lewis requested permission to purchase two new radios for the two new Tahoe vehicles from Wireless USA for \$1,650.00. **Councilman Wehner made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Wilkey, Wehner, Underwood, Gray, Dennis and Tinnin; Nays – none.**

**Police Dept. – Vehicle Equipment Purchase**

Chief Lewis requested permission to purchase equipment for the two new Tahoe vehicles from from Public Safety Upfitters for \$8,055.78. **Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Councilman Wilkey. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Wilkey, Wehner, Underwood, Gray, Dennis and Tinnin; Nays – none.**

**Ordinances and Resolutions**

**Bill No. 4560** – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, MO.; Annexing to the City certain real property described herein; determining that said Annexation is reasonable and necessary to the proper development of said City; and that the City has the ability to furnish normal municipal services to the area to be annexed; and specifying the new boundary lines to which the city limits are extended by reason of said annexation. Annexes 482 England Drive. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4560 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. 4560 for the second time in title only, motion seconded by Councilman Wilkey. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4560 for the second time. Bill No. 4560 was passed by the following votes: Ayes – Wilkey, Underwood, Wehner, Gray, Dennis, Boyer and Tinnin; Nays – none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4560 passed.**

## **New Business**

### **Consent Agenda**

Greg Camp asked Council how they felt about the trial run using a "consent agenda" at the last meeting. Councilman Wehner suggested that before Council makes a decision that we have another trial run at the next meeting so that those Council members who were absent would have a chance to use a consent agenda. Council agreed unanimously to use a consent agenda at the next regular Council meeting.

### **Sunset Park – Basketball Court**

Greg Camp wanted to reschedule the work session since it was cancelled due to weather last week. Greg stated the basketball courts at Sunset Park would be on the work session agenda for February 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at 406 W. Main St. as would other items.

### **Old Business** - none

### **Reports**

City Administrator provided a written report which addressed the following:

- Met with Matt Clemens and John Freel/AmerenUE regarding current lighting on S. Second parking behind Main St.
- Attended City Managers Assoc. board meeting in Columbia
- Attended MCMA winter workshop in Columbia
- Met with Forward Slash regarding high speed internet connection at Lowe's tower to help solve radio coverage issues with our dispatch
- Sat in on morning show at KJFF
- Met with Matt Clemens and Crystal City staff to discuss budget for sewer treatment plant
- Guest at Festus/Crystal City Kiwanis luncheon
- Met with Chief Lewis, Capt. Wendel and AT&T and the City of Pevely about providing support to their dispatching services
- Met with Jim Kasten and Jaime Aubuchon and representatives of Crystal City about backup services and system capacity
- Met with Arnold, Crystal City, Herculaneum, Hillsboro and Pevely to discuss amendments to current transportation intergovernmental agreement with Jefferson County
- Attended Missouri Municipal League Legislative Conference

Councilman Wilkey – Stated he attended the Missouri Municipal League Legislative Conference in Jefferson City and commended City Administrator Camp on also attending and networking with others for the benefit of the City. Stated he is in a master gardener class and wants to transform the Byrd Sanctuary in Sunset Park and would like volunteers to help if they would like.

Councilman Wehner – Commended Councilman Wilkey on his proposed project for the Byrd Sanctuary in Sunset Park. Stated that he was in contact with someone regarding organic produce, etc. in the area and is interested in bringing a farmer’s market to Festus and would love for Councilman Wilkey to take part in doing so. Asked about meeting with the fire and police departments and to become more informed about their needs and day to day operations.

Councilman Dennis – Thanked everyone for their well wishes and thoughts and prayers for his family. Stated that he looks forward to working on a plan to provide a basketball court in Sunset Park.

Councilman Tinnin – Stated that he was supportive of the basketball court also in Sunset Park and looks forward to finalizing a plan.

Public Works Supt. Matt Clemens – Asked Council if the date of April 18, 2020 was good for the City-wide spring clean-up. Council agreed unanimously April 18, 2020 was a good date for the spring clean-up. Councilman Dennis asked about City beautification projects also.

Finance Director Stephanie Cunningham – Stated she attended the Government Finance Officers Association meeting along with Pat Parsons. Stated that she provided Council with a copy of the most recent sales tax report.

Mayor Richards – Handed out a draft copy of a “Council Code of Conduct” policy for each member to review and stated that it would be a topic of discussion at the next work session.

### **Adjournment**

Councilman Dennis made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Wilkey. On a call by the chair the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.