

**FESTUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
May 10, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on May 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call in the Council chambers: Gary Underwood, Dave Boyer, Brian Wehner, Staci Templeton, Bobby Venz, Mike Cook and Jim Tinnin; and the following Councilmember was present via Zoom: Kevin Dennis. Absent: None. Mayor Samuel F. Richards presided over the meeting. Also present in the Council chambers were Finance Director Stephanie Cunningham, City Clerk Kerry Patek, Treasurer Lori Eisenbeis, Fire Chief Kevin Cremer, Police Captain Doug Wendel, Public Works Director Matt Unrein and City Administrator Greg Camp. City Attorney Brian Malone and Parks Director Josh Whaley 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 \$469,447.13. Motion to approve the bills, minutes of the Council Meeting of April 26, 2021 was made by Councilman Cook, seconded by Councilman Boyer and approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Underwood, Wehner, Templeton, Dennis, Cook, Venz and Tinnin; Nays – none.

Correspondence - None

Visitors

Doug Thurman with the Immanuel Lutheran Church requested permission to hold a service on August 7, 2021 which would require some traffic control assistance and permission to place signs at intersections. Greg Camp addressed Council regarding this request. Councilwoman Templeton made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion carried unanimously.

Bids - None

Ordinances and Resolutions

Bill No. 4632 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Amending the Zoning Map of said City as established by the Planning and Zoning Ordinances of the City of Festus, Missouri; and establishing an effective date. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4631 for the second time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. City Administrator Greg Camp gave a staff report stating this would rezone 1241 American Legion Drive from B-2 to I-1. Developers Dale and Lora Stoecklein were present via Zoom. Councilman Cook expressed two concerns with rezoning from commercial to industrial and what could happen if the Stoeckleins deal fell through and if they had applied for a building permit. City Administrator Camp stated they had not applied for a building permit yet but had set out a timeline for permits, etc. The Stoeckleins stated they wanted to move as quickly as possible and that they had a proposed opening for next year. Councilman Dennis asked if the Council votes down this Ordinance how it would affect the Stoeckleins plans. City Administrator Camp talked about moving the indoor storage use from I-1 to the B-4 Business District as a Conditional Use. City Attorney Brian Malone informed the Council that the Stoeckleins would have to start a new process to rezone the property to B-4 which would involve going to Planning and Zoning first then back to the City Council. Councilwoman Templeton asked if the Ordinance could be approved pending a new rezoning request. City Attorney Brian Malone stated that would not be possible and that it would have to go through the proper procedure. Councilman Wehner asked if Council could approve this Ordinance and then rezone it later. The Stoeckleins stated they would be open to rezoning to B-4 once the property is theirs. **Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve Bill No. 4632, seconded by Councilman Tinnin. Ordinance No. 4632 was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Dennis, Venz and Tinnin; Nays – Cook, Templeton, Underwood and Wehner. Being a tie vote Mayor Richards voted Aye. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4632 passed.**

Bill No. 4633 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; to decertify Laborer’s International Union of North America & Laborer’s Local 42 as the exclusive bargaining representative of the City’s Police Officers and Dispatchers; and recognizing the expiration of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Union; and establishing an effective date. City Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4633 for the second time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. City Administrator Greg Camp gave a staff report that the committee of three Councilmembers verified the signatures on the petition to decertify the Union agreement. Greg stated that 24 of 27 police officers signed the petition and 6 of 7 dispatchers. Councilmembers Wehner, Templeton and Venz were the review committee.

Councilman Venz made a motion to approve Bill No. 4633, seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion carried unanimously and the Ordinance was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Underwood, Boyer, Wehner, Templeton, Venz, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4633 passed.

New Business

Clerk Patek asked for approval for the renewal of the annual liquor licenses as listed in the packet. Capt. Wendel stated the police department approved of all the renewals. Councilman Dennis made a motion to approve the list of annual liquor license renewals, seconded by Councilman Tinnin. Motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

Greg Camp stated that Windy Wright had requested permission to hold a free give a way/mission outreach on the Library parking lot once a month. Councilwoman Templeton asked how many persons this event draws. Ms. Wright stated that in December that gave away 140 presents to multiple families along with coats, etc. Councilman Cook expressed his concerns with allowing this group to use City property to promote their mission that the City would have to allow others to do the same and also the liability risk. Mayor Richards entertained a motion. **Councilman Cook made a motion to deny this request, seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion carried unanimously.** Request for use of City property was denied. Mayor Richards informed Ms. Wright that he had spoken with the Pastor of the Methodist Church which is directly across from the Library and has a large parking lot and to give them a call to see if she could set up at that location.

Andrew Held/Bottleneck Bridge Ride and Matt Hartman/Trailnet – addressed the Council requesting permission to hold the Bottleneck Bridge Ride on August 15 to start at finish at Main and Mill Brewing Company and to close Main Street for the event from approximately 4:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Councilman Wehner made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion carried unanimously.**

Reports

Councilman Dennis – Thanked the Police Department for the extra patrols on Central and Horine. Stated that he was very disappointed in our grass cutters, that they need to slow down and do a better job for what the City is paying them.

Councilman Venz – Asked Matt Unrein to take a look at the potholes on Collins.

Councilman Cook – Commented on the speed sign in front of the school that it was a good idea and was the City going to purchase more for areas like Central and Horine. Greg Camp stated the overall reaction to the sign has been positive and that more signs have been ordered. Councilman Dennis asked if one could be added on Hawk Pointe. Expressed his concern about the rezoning tonight and would like to see the Zoning Code cleaned up to coincide with the Comprehensive Plan. Thanked Mayor Richards for reaching out to Windy Wright to assist her in continuing her mission work.

Mayor Richards – Police Department now has their digital radios in place after working on achieving this goal for over three years. Capt. Wendel gave an update on the radios. Mayor Richards stated the Mud Run and the Food Truck Mondays have been a great success and it's nice to have people coming to Festus to participate in events.

Captain Doug Wendel introduced new Police Officer Johnathan Powell.

Adjournment

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