

**FESTUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
June 24, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on June 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call in the Council chambers: Boyer, Underwood, Venz, Cook and Tinnin; and the following Council members were present via Zoom: Wehner, Wilkey and Dennis; Absent – none. Mayor Samuel F. Richards presided over the meeting. Also present in the Council chambers were City Clerk Kerry Patek, City Treasurer Lori Eisenbeis, Finance Director Stephanie Cunningham, Fire Chief Kevin Cremer, Police Chief Tim Lewis, Library Director Elizabeth Steffen and City Administrator Greg Camp. City Attorney Brian Malone was present via Zoom.

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

Councilman Tinnin and Councilman Underwood were given their Oath of Office by Clerk Patek.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mayor Richards announced the bills were in the amount of \$604,943.69. Motion to approve the bills and minutes of the Council Meeting of June 10, 2020 was made by Councilman Cook, seconded by Councilman Venz and approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Wehner, Underwood, Venz, Dennis, Tinnin, Wilkey and Cook; 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

City Administrator Greg Camp presented a staff report stating two bids were received for the purchase of a new Freightliner tandem axle dump truck/bed as follows: International Truck & Engine Corp. \$181,116.00 and Truck Centers \$143,356.00. Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve the bid from Truck Centers for \$143,356.00, seconded by Councilman Wilkey. Bid was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Cook, Wilkey, Wehner, Venz, Dennis, Tinnin, Underwood and Boyer; Nays – none.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Bill No. 4583 - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Approving the Plat of Festus Steak n' Shake Subdivision Plat; and an effective date. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4583 for the first time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. Greg Camp gave a staff report. **Councilman Cook made a motion to read Bill No. 4583 for the second time, motion seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4583 for the second time. Bill No. 4583 was approved by the following votes: Ayes - Council Members Cook, Tinnin, Underwood, Dennis, Boyer, Wilkey, Wehner and Venz; Nays - none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4583 passed.**

New Business - none

Old Business - none

Reports

City Administrator Greg Gamp informed the Mayor and Council that the City received approval for Phase II of the West Main Project which is a 80/20 split with federal funding. Mr. Camp also informed Mayor and Council that he would be attending the bid opening along with Mike Spalding of Cochran Engineering tomorrow for the Fifth Street Project. Mr. Camp stated they expected to receive a large number of bids. Mr. Camp updated everyone regarding the park foreman position and the building and public works positions. Councilman Cook requested a salary range on the park position via email. Mr. Camp asked Mayor and Council if they would be interested in changing council meetings to Mondays at 6:00 p.m. After discussing the matter, Mayor Richards polled the Council and they unanimously agreed to change the meetings to Mondays at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Camp stated he would prepare an ordinance for the next meeting to approve this change, then the new schedule will begin on Monday, July 20th. Mr. Camp stated the department heads were in attendance this evening. Library Director Elizabeth Steffen explained the Library re-opening schedule.

Councilman Boyer – Stated he had received complaints on fireworks being discharged. Stated he also received complaints about speeding and Chief Lewis replied that the department started doing traffic detail today. Asked why the yard waste dumpster was not open on the weekends. Mr. Camp stated that the City would have to pay overtime for someone there to watch the facility because it has to be monitored so that people don't use it as a trash dump as they have in the past.

Councilman Underwood – Thanked everyone for their thoughts during his absence.

Councilman Wehner – Stated he was glad to see Fifth Street opening soon. Stated the pickleball courts at Jokerst Park look great after the refinishing. Stated the bathrooms at West City Park look good. Asked about speeders also and stated that he has asked about having radar digital signs numerous times in high traffic areas where there are concerns. Councilman Dennis stated Doug Wendel was supposed to get back to the Council regarding these signs. Mayor Richards stated that he thought cost had been the factor before and that in Hawaii these signs are solar powered. Greg Camp mentioned a traffic calming policy that has worked in other cities and that he would be happy to discuss it with any Council member if they wanted to come by his office. He stated the City of O’Fallon has a good policy and program.

Councilman Dennis – Asked if anyone else had received any complaints about the water smelling fishy. Mr. Camp stated he has received no complaints mentioning that. Asked why one of the City trucks had such dark blacked out windows. Mr. Camp asked Councilman Dennis which truck it was exactly, Councilman Dennis was unsure. Mr. Camp stated he would look into it.

Councilman Venz – Asked what happens to the persons shooting off fireworks. Chief Lewis stated if they receive a complaint they usually warn the person then if they continue they will issue them a citation. Asked Chief Lewis about the speeding on Horine and asked if once the new subdivision is completed with the entrance become a three way stop on Horine. Chief Lewis did not know of any plans to make that a three way stop. Councilman Venz asked Greg Camp about sidewalks on Cromwell. Mr. Camp stated that it was not part of the project.

Councilman Cook – Stated the new basketball court at Sunset looks great. Greg Camp stated that it is not totally done that the striping still has to be completed. Councilman Cook stated that he appreciates Greg Camp responding to all his questions. Councilman Cook expressed concerns over fireworks sales. Councilman Cook asked Greg Camp to explain the issue with the Jefferson County Water Authority.

Greg Camp stated that there was a proposal from Crystal City to be able to connect to the vault of the JCWA to use in the event of an emergency need for water. Mr. Camp stated this would allow Crystal City to tap into the system in an emergency situation by having their own connection to the vault and not having to go through the Festus or Herculaneum distribution systems. Mr. Camp explained in the event Crystal City would use water they would like to purchase it from JCWA at a wholesale rate. Mr. Camp explained that this would be excess water that Festus nor Herculaneum is using, and that monies from Crystal City would be used to pay down the debt on the water plant. Councilmembers expressed their concerns with selling water to Crystal City and revisited old issues that they had in the past regarding this matter.

Mayor Richards – Stated he was happy that everyone was back to a normal work schedule and reminded everyone that cases are still rising in our area and asked that everyone be responsible and diligent. Mayor Richards asked Councilmembers to take a look at the Council Code of Conduct once again.

Adjournment

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