

FESTUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
June 13, 2022
6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on June 13, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call in the Council chambers: Boyer, Collier, Templeton, Venz, Wehner and Tinnin. Councilman Dennis and Cook present via Zoom. Absent: None. Mayor Richards presided over the meeting via Zoom. Also present in the Council chambers were Finance Director Stephanie Cunningham, City Clerk Kerry Patek, Public Works Director Matt Unrein, Parks Director Josh Whaley, Building Official Mark Harris (via Zoom), Fire Chief Travis Wood, Police Captain Doug Wendel, Tourism Director Barb Lowry, Treasurer Lori Eisenbeis, City Administrator Greg Camp and City Attorney Brian Malone.

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mayor Richards announced the bills were in the amount of \$792,014.45. Motion to approve the bills, minutes of the Council Meeting of May 23, 2022 was made by Councilman Cook, seconded by Councilman Venz and approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Collier, Dennis, Wehner, Templeton, Venz, Tinnin and Cook; Nays – none.

Correspondence - None

Visitors

Barry Vandiver – Twin City Jeeps

Barry Vandiver with Twin City Jeeps asked permission to use the parking lot behind Main and Mill Brewing Co. on Sunday, July 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to have a “Burgers for Badges” event to honor local police by serving them free of charge. Councilman Cook asked about firefighters, EMS, other first responders. Mr. Vandiver stated the initial idea was for police only, but that any first responder with a badge would be welcomed. Councilman Dennis made a motion to approve this event, seconded by Councilwoman Templeton. Motion carried unanimously.

Lynn Trask - Alley behind John’s Butcher Shoppe

Ms. Trask was not present to speak.

Visitors (cont.)

Amanda Neeley – Chicken Ordinance

Amanda Neeley addressed the Council regarding the current regulations on chickens within the city limits. Ms. Neeley asked the Council to reconsider amending the Ordinance to make it easier for residents to have chickens. Ms. Neeley presented information to make her case. City Administrator Greg Camp asked Ms. Neeley to email him the information she presented this evening and he would look into and get back with her. Mr. Camp did state that the current Ordinance that is in place regarding chickens had been thoroughly reviewed before being passed by the City Council and that he felt it struck a good balance and we need to be mindful of neighbors.

Bids

Public Works – Street Striping Project

Public Works Director Matt Unrein asked Council to approve the bid from American Parking Remarketing for the 2022 Street Striping Project in the amount of \$18,525.00. Only one bid was received for this project. **Councilman Collier made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Collier, Boyer, Wehner, Templeton, Dennis, Venz, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none.**

Public Works – Power Screed

Public Works Director Matt Unrein reported on used the equipment the City sold and made over \$225,000 thanks in large to the hard work by Clerk Melissa Brown. Mr. Unrein requested to use \$6,000 of the sale proceeds to purchase a power screed for the public works department. **Councilman Collier made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Collier, Dennis, Wehner, Templeton, Venz, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – None.**

Police Department – Auction of Used Equipment

Police Captain Wendel requested permission to sell several items of surplus property on GovDeals.com website. **Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Councilwoman Templeton. Motion carried unanimously.**

Ordinances and Resolutions

Bill No. 4683 – 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. Mayor Richards asked for a motion to read Bill No. 4683 for the second time. Councilman Boyer made a motion to read Bill No. 4683 for the second time, motion seconded by Councilman Dennis. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4683 for the second time. Mayor Richards asked for any discussion. City Administrator Camp reminded everyone this was for the rezoning of the old church property on West Main Street where a proposed daycare is planned. Public Works Director Matt Unrein stated he had met with a traffic engineer on another project and she made a suggestion for this location which he provided to the City Council for their review. Building Official Mark Harris also provided input on the proposed rezoning and daycare plans. Bill Menkhus (property owner) and Ford Taylor (daycare owner) also addressed the Council. Since there were some new developments to be reviewed. They both stated the idea of an additional road did not make sense. Mr. Taylor stated that the site already has preliminary approval from the State to be operated as a daycare. **Councilman Cook asked that Bill No. 4683 be tabled.** Greg Camp informed Mr. Taylor that the City has up to 90 days to respond, but that it shouldn't take longer than a couple of weeks and hopefully it will be back on the agenda at the next council meeting. **Councilman Collier made a motion to table Bill No. 4683, seconded by Councilman Tinnin. Motion carried unanimously. Bill No. 4683 TABLED.**

Bill No 4687 - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Approving an Agreement with Travis Grafe of the Law Firm of Grafe and Batchelor, PC; to serve as Public Defender for ordinance violations occurring in the City of Festus, Missouri; and establishing an effective date. **Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4687 for the first time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. City Attorney Brian Malone explained the agreement. Councilman Venz made a motion to suspend the rules and read Bill No. 4687 for the second time, motion seconded by Councilman Wehner. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4687 for the second time. Bill No. 4687 was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Collier, Templeton, Wehner, Venz, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4687 passed.**

New Business

Yoga Underground Event

Rheannon Melber, of Yoga Underground, requested permission to use the back parking lot on South Second Street on June 25, 2022 from 10-3 just the section in front of 207 for a grand opening celebration and outside yoga classes. **Councilman Collier made a motion to approve this event, seconded by Councilman Tinnin. Motion carried unanimously.**

Records Destruction Request

Accounts payable department requested permission to destroy accounts payable vendor files from 10/01/2020 through 09/30/2021. Copies of vendor checks have been backed up and saved on BS&A. **Councilwoman Templeton made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion carried unanimously.**

Old Business

City Administrator spoke to Council about the economy and its affect on our employees and stated that he would like Council to consider a stipend in July using the ARPA funds to help employees out since they will not see a COLA increase or raise until the budget is passed and the new fiscal year begins in October. Mr. Camp stated he would like to prepare something for Council to consider at the next meeting on June 27, 2022. Council unanimously agreed with Mr. Camp.

Reports

Councilman Venz – Asked if there was a maximum amount of people allowed in West City Park during the Firecracker Festival since there was only going to be one night of fireworks. Mr. Camp stated there was planning meeting for the festival this Thursday and parking issues, etc. would be discussed and planned out. Councilman Venz also asked about the Flock cameras and expired/temp plates. Captain Wendel explained how those are handled. Asked about the water meters electronically interfaced. Public Works Director Matt Unrein addressed the issue.

Councilwoman Templeton – Complimented all the great car cruise photos on Facebook.

Councilman Collier – Stated he was glad to be back in person at the meeting and that he agreed with Mr. Camp on the stipend for employees.

Councilman Boyer – Stated he also agreed with a stipend for employees. Commented on the car cruise turnout.

Councilman Dennis – Asked about the property behind John’s Butcher Shoppe and asked when it would be cleaned up, asked about the ditch and the standing water. Mr. Unrein stated it was on the schedule to be taken care of and that the public works department has been very busy with water main breaks, etc. Stated that Cromwell Road looks very nice.

Councilman Cook – stated he would like to see more Flock cameras in the budget next year and that he also agrees with a stipend for employees.

Mayor Richards – Commended Barb Lowry on a great job on the car cruise.

Adjournment

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