

**FESTUS CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 27, 2022  
6:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on June 27, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call in the Council chambers: Boyer, Collier, Templeton, Venz, Wehner, Cook and Tinnin. Councilman Dennis present via Zoom. Absent: None. Mayor Richards presided over the meeting. 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, Fire Chief Travis Wood, Police Chief Tim Lewis, 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 \$303,005.51. Motion to approve the bills, minutes of the Council Meeting of June 13, 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**

Mayor Richards awarded three Proclamations for Excellence in Athletics – 2022 Festus Varsity Baseball Team – 2022 Festus Varsity Track and Field and Cross Country Teams – and Jacob Meyers for making athletic history at Festus High School and being a State Champion Track and Field athlete.

Police Chief Lewis commended his detective bureau – Alec Litzau, Tommy Cox and Sgt. Lewis Pippin for excellent work.

Curt Godier of 1409 West Main Street wanted to re-address the Council regarding the zoning change proposed in Bill No. 4683. Mr. Godier stated he contacted his own traffic study and between 5:45 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. he counted 937 vehicles.

**Bids** – None

### **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 stated Bill No. 4683 had previously been read for the first and second time and asked for a motion to proceed with a roll call. **Councilman Dennis made a motion to proceed with a vote on Bill No. 4683, seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion carried unanimously. Vote was as follows: Ayes – Boyer, Collier, Templeton, Venz, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – Wehner. Mayor Richards declared Bill No. 4683 passed.**

**New Business** - None

### **Old Business**

City Administrator Greg Camp asked Council to approve a stipend for employees to help them out during these tough economic times. Mr. Camp stated full-time employees would receive \$3,000 each and part-time would receive \$1,500 and \$500 to any eligible volunteer firefighter. Mr. Camp stated employees would receive the stipend on July 15<sup>th</sup>. **Councilman Dennis made a motion to approve the stipend for employees as proposed, seconded by Councilwoman Templeton. Motion approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Templeton, Wehner, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none; Abstain – Collier and Venz. Motion was approved.**

### **Reports**

Councilman Cook – Mentioned air conditioning in the bathrooms at West City Park. Thanked Mark Harris and Matt Unrein for help with the issue on Masters Drive. Commended public works department and parks department on the great job they did on the Firecracker Festival. Questioned Matt Unrein about the bids on the street paving regarding MoDot requirements 6" v. 8". Mr. Unrein stated he would look into this and get back with Councilman Cook.

Councilman Dennis – Commented on the wonderful job everyone did with the Firecracker Festival. Stated he was happy to be able to give the employees the stipend. Asked about a pavilion for future festivals in West City Park for EMS, police, fire to use. Stated he was proud of everyone who works for the City.

Councilman Wehner – Thanked everyone for the work on the Firecracker Festival. Thanked Chief Wood for the open house at the Fire House and that it was a really good experience for those who participated.

Councilman Boyer – Thanked the Police Department and Barb Lowry for the Firecracker Festival. Thanked Mark Harris. Thanked Chief Wood for the open house at the Fire Station.

Councilman Collier – Thanked all the employees that worked the Firecracker Festival. Commended the Police and Fire Departments stating that we have one of the best. Thanked all the employees.

Councilwoman Templeton – Commended the Firecracker Festival and the Police Department on doing a great job.

Councilman Venz – Commended the Fire Department on the open house. Stated he received complaints about the fireworks display being too short. Parks Director Josh Whaley replied that the fireworks display was done according to contract specifications which were previously approved and the amount of money allocated for fireworks. Asked Matt Unrein about cutting the right-of-way on Scenic and Mr. Unrein replied that the City does not have the equipment and that the type of mower needed for that type of cutting is around \$200,000. Mr. Unrein stated that they could ask the Festus Special Road District to assist since we have a mutual agreement with them. Mr. Unrein stated that he will look into the matter and bring some options back to the Council.

Councilman Tinnin – Stated he thought the Firecracker Festival went very well. Stated the street sweeper did a nice job on getting Main Street cleaned up after the downtown festival. Commended the Police Department on the handling of the shooting and that he was proud to be part of Festus.

Mayor Richards – Congratulations to Barb Lowry, Josh Whaley, Shain Dollar, Crystal City Police Department, Festus Police Department, Street Department and all those who worked the Firecracker Festival on such a hot day. Stated he felt all the City employees are doing a great job. Commended the Police Department.

### **Adjournment**

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