

FESTUS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
April 8, 2020
5:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on April 8, 2020 at 5:25 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call in the Council chambers: Boyer, Underwood, Gray and Cook. Also present in the Council chambers City Administrator Greg Camp and City Clerk Kerry Patek. Present for roll call via live streaming: Mayor Samuel F. Richards. Absent for roll call due to technical difficulties: Councilmen Wilkey and Wehner.

Mayor Richards called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m.

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mayor Richards announced the bills were in the amount of \$514,611.05. Motion was made to approve the bills and minutes of the Council meeting of March 23, 2020 by Councilman Cook, seconded by Councilman Boyer. Consent Agenda was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Underwood, Dennis, Gray, Cook and Tinnin. Nays – none. Councilmen Wilkey and Wehner were unable to vote due to technical difficulties.

Visitors

No visitors were allowed in the building due to the emergency order regarding the coronavirus and no visitors asked to be heard via live streaming.

Bids

Roofing Bids – 500 Ridge Avenue Maintenance Shed

Matt Clemens staff report stated that on March 20, 2020 five bids were received as follows: WCC Roofing \$28,117.47; Johnson Construction Co., Inc. \$45,934.00; M.D. Sebastian Construction LLC \$54,760.00; Johnson Construction Co., Inc. \$57,940.00 (did not meet specifications); Copal Construction \$98,600.00. After reviewing all bids, staff recommends accepting the low bid from WCC Roofing.

Councilman Cook stated that he was relaying a message from Councilman Wehner that he would like to see a spending freeze by the City. Councilman Boyer stated he feels the building needs to be maintained now that it is in bad shape and will only get worse if repairs are delayed.

(Bids cont.)

Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve the bid from WCC Roofing for \$28,117.47, motion seconded by Councilman Tinnin. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Underwood, Wilkey, Wehner, Gray, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Bill No. 4571 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Establishing Stop Signs at both intersections of Masters Drive and Championship Lane in Tanglewood Subdivision; and establishing an effective date. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4571 for the first time. Mayor Richards stated this was proposed for the safety of citizens and children in this subdivision. Councilman Gray stated that he observed there are about 59 other areas in the City's subdivisions that need this which would cause about 100-150 stop signs to be placed in subdivisions. Councilman Wilkey agreed with Councilman Gray and asked if a list could be compiled of all these areas. Councilman Cook stated he was contacted by a member of the Bailey Station Homeowners Association and that they were denied a request such as this a few years ago. Councilman Underwood stated he would like a list compiled also. Councilman Gray stated he could compile such a list and bring it back to Council so they can vote on it and make it equal for all areas of the City. **Councilman Dennis made a motion to suspend the rules and read Bill No. 4571 for the second time in title only, motion seconded by Councilman Tinnin. Motion failed. Bill No. 4571 will be held over for a second reading.**

Bill No. 4572 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Authorizing the Mayor to enter into and execute a Contract with Stopp & VanHoy, LLC for professional auditing services; incorporating said Contract as part of this Ordinance; and establishing an effective date. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4572 for the first time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. Finance Director Stephanie Cunningham had prepared a written staff report which was included in the Council packet. **Councilman Cook made a motion to suspend the rules and read Bill No. 4572 for the second time in title only, motion seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4572 for the second time. Bill No. 4572 was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Underwood, Wehner, Wilkey, Gray, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4572 passed.**

Bill No. 4573 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; Authorizing the Mayor to enter into and execute a Contract with WCC Roofing for the removal and replacement of the Metal Roof at 500 Ridge Avenue Maintenance Shed; incorporating said Contract as part of this Ordinance; and establishing an effective date. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4573 for the first time. Mayor Richards called for discussion. Public Works Supt. Matt Clemens had prepared a written staff report which was included in the Council packet. **Councilman Tinnin made a motion to suspend the rules and read Bill No. 4573 for the second time in title only, motion seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk Patek read Bill No. 4573 for the second time. Bill No. 4573 was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Underwood, Wehner, Wilkey, Gray, Dennis, Cook and Tinnin; Nays – none. Mayor Richards declared Ordinance No. 4573 passed.**

Reports

Councilman Underwood – Thanked the Park Dept. staff for controlling the crowds in the City parks during this time.

Councilman Boyer – Asked about the local businesses applying for SBA loans. Greg Camp stated that those loans can be accessed through the Jefferson County Economic Development Commission and that they have been receiving applications. Greg stated also that the State of Missouri just announced that they were earmarking six billion dollars for schools, local governments, etc.

Councilman Wehner – Stated he had a conference call this morning regarding the homeless population in our area and the passing and contracting of COVID-19 amongst them and that this was a threat to community health and public safety. He stated that MERCY hospital has partnered with a hotel in Fenton to be used as an overflow building. Mentioned a community services block grant and asked that everyone support this and to be prepared if they ask for our help. Asked Greg Camp about putting out a special edition of the City newsletter with information about resources, etc. during this pandemic. Greg stated it was hitting the mail tomorrow and the City has been issuing as much information as possible via the City's website, newsletter, Facebook page, etc. Asked about masks for essential workers – Greg responded that the City has some in their possession and more have been ordered.

City Attorney Brian Malone – explained the City's Ordinance regarding violations of non-compliance to the stay at home order issued by the Governor.

Councilman Wilkey – Thanked the Mayor and Greg Camp for keeping the City running during this difficult time and agreed with Councilman Wehner on keeping the public posted via newsletters, social media, etc. Thanked the Park Dept. for working to keep the parks safe for everyone during this time. Asked that citizens be informed about yard waste disposal, bulk items, the citywide cleanup, etc. Talked with the Tanglefoot Association about the planters downtown and he feels that the City should water the plants in those planters and would like response at the next Council meeting.

Councilman Gray – Asked for remembrance of former Mayor Earl Cook.

Councilman Dennis – Stated former Mayor Earl Cook was a good man and he would be missed throughout the community. Asked that the City make sure all essential workers have masks and that other employees be provided with masks that can be taken home and washed.

Councilman Cook – Wished everyone to stay safe.

Councilman Tinnin – Appreciates the City getting all the information out.

Mayor Richards – Stated that he was extremely proud of all the City workers for keeping the City running during this time. Reminded citizens to Stay Home, Wear Masks and Use Hand Sanitizer! Rest in Peace Earl Cook.

Adjourn

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Underwood. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.