

**FESTUS CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 11, 2021  
6:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met in regular session on October 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The following Council members were present for roll call in the Council chambers: Boyer, Templeton, Cook, Venz, Underwood, Wehner and Tinnin. Councilman Dennis was present via Zoom. 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, Public Works Director Matt Unrein, Treasurer Lori Eisenbeis, Fire Chief Kevin Cremer, Police Captain Doug Wendel, Parks Director Josh Whaley, Tourism Director Barb Lowry, Attorney Brian Malone and City Administrator Greg Camp.

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

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

Mayor Richards announced the bills were in the amount of \$629,746.41. Motion to approve the bills, minutes of the Council Meeting of September 27, 2021 was made by Councilman Cook, seconded by Councilman Boyer and approved by the following votes: Ayes – Boyer, Cook, Templeton, Dennis, Underwood, Wehner, Tinnin and Venz; Nays – none.

**Correspondence** - none

**Visitors**

Michael Povich, 812 Horine Road, addressed the Council expressing his concerns with various subjects: selling tobacco products to those under the age of 21; Savannah Place homes on Horine Road and issues with the development such as traffic congestion and water retention, etc. Mr. Povich thanked members of the military and first responders for their work and sacrifices.

**Bids**

**Street Department – New International Dump Truck**

Matt Unrein addressed Council asking for approval to purchase a new International single axle dump truck with snowplow and spreader. Written report provided by Street Foreman Shain Dollar. Bids were received under the MoDOT state bid as follows: International \$74,688.12 and Viking Cives \$83,475.00 for the fabrication and installation of the dump bed, snowplow, spreader, safety lights, etc. for a total of \$158,163.12.

Bids (continued)

**Street Department – New International Dump Truck**

**Councilman Venz made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Councilman Dennis. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Underwood, Boyer, Wehner, Templeton, Venz, Dennis, Tinnin and Cook; Nays – None.**

**Street Department – New Freightliner Tandem Axle Dump Truck/Bed**

Matt Unrein addressed Council asking for approval to purchase a new Freightliner tandem axle dump truck/bed. Written report provided by Street Foreman Shain Dollar. Bids were received under the MoDOT state bid as follows: Truck Centers \$103,557.00 and Viking Cives \$42,660.00 for the fabrication and installation of the dump bed, hydraulics, warning lights, etc. for a total of \$146,217.00. **Councilman Venz made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Councilman Tinnin. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Underwood, Boyer, Wehner, Templeton, Venz, Dennis, Tinnin and Cook; Nays – None.**

**Street Department – 11 Galvanized Salt Spreader Stands**

Matt Unrein addressed Council asking for approval to purchase 11 galvanized salt spreader stands. Written report provided by Street Foreman Shain Dollar. Bids were received under the state bid as follows: Viking Cives Midwest \$33,572.00.

**Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Underwood, Boyer, Wehner, Templeton, Venz, Dennis, Tinnin and Cook; Nays – None.**

**Street Department – New Ford F-250 4x4 Pickup Truck**

Matt Unrein addressed Council asking for approval to purchase a new Ford F-250 4x4 Pickup Truck under the State Bid from Joe Machens Ford. Written report provided by Street Foreman Shain Dollar. A bid was received under the state bid as follows: Joe Machens Ford \$30,818.00. **Councilman Venz made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Underwood, Boyer, Wehner, Templeton, Venz, Dennis, Tinnin and Cook; Nays – None.**

### **Water Department – New Ford F-250 4x4 Pickup Truck**

Matt Unrein addressed Council asking for approval to purchase a new Ford F-250 4x4 Pickup Truck under the State Bid from Joe Machens Ford. Written report provided by Water Foreman Chuck Boyer. A bid was received under the state bid as follows: Joe Machens Ford \$30,953.00. **Councilman Cook made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Councilman Boyer. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Underwood, Boyer, Wehner, Templeton, Venz, Dennis, Tinnin and Cook; Nays – None.**

### **Commercial Gym Equipment**

Matt Unrein addressed Council asking for approval to purchase new gym equipment for the employee workout room which includes 3-way Olympic bench, 100 lb. dumbbells, Lat-Row dual machine and Ab-Low back dual machine. Written report provided by Street Foreman Shain Dollar. A bid was received from Johnson Fitness & Wellness as follows: \$7,366.58. **Councilman Cook made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Councilwoman Templeton. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Underwood, Boyer, Wehner, Templeton, Venz, Dennis, Tinnin and Cook; Nays – None.**

### **Fire Department – New Fire Truck**

Chief Cremer addressed the Council asking for approval to purchase a new pumper/rescue fire truck from Sentinel Emergency Solution through the Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Consortium pricing program which is a competitive bid process which the City opted to be a part of by Ordinance No. 4338 passed in October of 2016. Chief Cremer stated that by paying for the truck 100% upfront there would be a savings of \$26,505.00. Cost of the new truck is \$816,933.00. **Councilman Boyer made a motion to approve this purchase, seconded by Councilman Cook. Motion was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Underwood, Boyer, Wehner, Templeton, Venz, Dennis, Tinnin and Cook; Nays – None.**

**Ordinances and Resolutions** - None

### **New Business**

#### **Trick or Treat on Main Street**

Nicole Carter, Midwest Regional Bank, requested that Main Street be closed on Saturday, October 30, 2021 from 10 a.m. to noon for "Trick or Treat on Main Street" formerly known as the "Great Pumpkin Festival". Request is for Main Street to be blocked off starting at 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Captain Wendel stated the Police Department has assisted with this event every year and that there is no problem with it. **Councilman Wehner made a motion to approve this event, seconded by Councilman Venz. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **Old Business** - None

### **Reports**

Councilman Cook – Asked about signs with obscene wording being displayed in certain areas and that if anything could be done about it. Greg Camp stated that this issue has been brought to the City's attention and that after reviewing it with the city attorney that unfortunately political signs, etc. are protected by the first amendment. Stated that the comments made by Mr. Povich regarding water quality, etc. did not concern him as he felt the regulatory agencies overseeing water quality, etc. do a good job. Commended city employees, library staff, park staff, etc. on doing a great job.

Councilman Dennis – Stated that he grew up in the Horine Road area and that he has seen a lot of progress over the years and that the City isn't always going to make everyone happy but that he feels that the decisions made by the Council and other City boards and commissions aren't taken lightly and that they take the best interest of all the City into account and he is very proud of the progress that has been made. Stated he felt the City and all the employees were doing a great job.

Councilman Wehner – Stated what a great compliment from Councilman Cook and Councilman Dennis about the city workers and that he agreed with them. Stated that the obscene signs were upsetting to many people and that those persons have crossed a moral threshold by placing the sign in a school area, a major thoroughfare and that we pride ourselves in a clean city and this is very unfortunate. On the other hand there are many positive signs around town placed by Comtrea and local churches that were encouraging and uplifting.

Councilman Boyer – Stated he had spoken to Captain Wendel and thanked him for talking to him prior to the meeting regarding crime in his ward.

Councilman Underwood – Stated that he agreed all the departments were doing a fine job.

Councilwoman Templeton – Stated she agreed with all the positive comments the other Councilmembers had to say about the city in general and the employees. She also mentioned Barb Lowry, Tourism Director, for bringing in new ideas into the city like the food truck Mondays, etc. and thought they were a great addition and that people really seemed to enjoy having them here.

Councilman Venz – Stated he agreed with all the positive comments also.

Mayor Richards – Stated the past week has been very busy in the city with the Festus homecoming parade, etc. and that the Tigers won the football game. Stated the Streetfest was a great success with Main & Mill and the The Brick selling out of food and had to be closed on Sunday and Monday. Stated that he doubled all the compliments and positive words on the city and the employees. Encouraged employees who have still not been vaccinated to do so and to still practice social distancing and mask wearing. Stated that he felt the employees and the city council are doing a great job running the city. Stated that Friday morning Elliott Davis from Fox 2 News in St. Louis will meet with himself and Greg Camp in the council chambers.

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