

City of Tipton Board of Public Works and Safety meeting held on February 28, 2022, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

Members: Mayor Dolezal, Councilmen Kring and Rippy, and Clerk-Treasurer Clark.

Others: Ken Ehman, Mike Terry, Jeff Stout, Jim Heard, Joe Bitner, Vicky Boyd with Tipton Tribune, Melissa Pickering and Bob Edinger.

Mayor Dolezal opened the February 28, 2022, BOW meeting.

Minutes: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve February 14, 2022, BOW minutes, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Amend Agenda: Nothing to report.

Old Business:

Paving Bids for 2021 Community Crossing Grant Project: Public Works Manager Terry stated last BOW meeting you entered into a Construction Contract with Midwest Paving and we need the Mayor's signature on the contract. Terry also stated they would now set a pre-construction meeting with Midwest Paving.

New Business:

Hiring of Police Officer: Chief Stout reported we are looking at hiring Officer William Tipton, a full-time police officer at Gas City. He had a great interview and Chief Stout recommends offering Wm. Tipton a position with the Tipton Police Department. He would start on March 27, the beginning of a new pay period. Councilman Rippy made a motion to offer William David Tipton a position with Tipton Police Department, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Street Closure – Pork Festival – Jim Heard: Mr. Jim Heard stated he met with the Pork Festival committee last week and we made some changes on closing Independence Street. He also stated he met with the Commissioner this morning and there are a couple of details to work out. Mr. Heard commented they would like to move the carnival to the south side of SR 28 to make it safer. We are trying to work this out and get everyone on the same page. He asked to get back on the docket for March 14<sup>th</sup>, he will meet with the Commissioners that morning and will know more on the details.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Dolezal stated they are interviewing Engineering companies regarding the ADA Transition plan.

Fire: Chief Bitner asked if there were any questions over the monthly reports. There were no questions. He stated Josh Smyles ended his probationary period and has been removed from the probationary status as of February 24, 2022. Chief Bitner commented he received a letter of recommendation from his Shift Officer to move him to full-time status. Chief Bitner stated he is no longer on probation, and he is a great asset to the Fire Department. He also commented the new fire truck has been delivered. Chief Bitner

stated the pumper will be 100 % operating and employees trained before we put the truck in service. He also stated the Department thanks the Council for allowing them to get the truck. Chief Bitner commented that TFD and Tipton County Health Dept. are doing CPR classes from a donation made by Campbell Family Foundation, if you are interested in being CPR certified contact the Fire Department. He also commented that FF/EMT Adam Johnson is taking paramedic classes online, this is an accelerated class for 46 weeks. He currently does the CPR class and now Jeffrey Ogden is an instructor as well for CPR. Chief Bitner stated Ryan Speer's paramedic class finishes in May, he is currently doing his clinicals at the Muncie Fire Department, this is great exposure. He also stated Garrett Wyant should finish his paramedic classes in the spring or summer of 2023. Chief Bitner commented he started advertising for applicants until March 18th, currently, no certifications are required but preferred, we can extend the date if we need to. He asked the BOW if we could set up an interview with one of our part-time to hire full-time. He was one of the applicants before, but he was given an EMS test instead of a general knowledge test. He passed the general knowledge test with flying colors. The Board interviewed him, and we would like him for the open spot. The BOW interview is set for March 14<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. Mayor Dolezal thanked Chief Bitner for the walk-thru with Red Diamond. Chief Bitner stated they looked at the HVAC on Thursday and the roof guy was in. Chief Stout stated the window guy as well.

Police: Chief Stout stated the social media outlet, Officer Robins is doing a great job. He also stated the golf cart has been picked up and we have contacted Hoosier Sign Guy and the company for the lights to be installed. Chief Stout stated the building was inspected on Thursday and thanked the Board for having them look at the building. Chief Stout asked about funding for equipping the two new cars. Councilman Kring stated two people could look and see where the money can come from. Chief Stout stated they have received complaints about the speed limits changing on the east and west side of town and they are not the same speed in the same area going opposite directions. Mayor Dolezal stated he would check with INDOT, but slower is better and we want to make it a safer community. Ms. Vicky Boyd stated a lot of people don't know it has happened, especially on the east side. Chief Stout stated we would push the media once we get all the details. Chief Stout commented we are looking at a new uniform design. We are doing this on a trial basis and getting rid of the leather gun belts and going with a load-bearing vest. This will still have a gun belt, but it will be a nylon belt and not a leather belt. This will make a huge difference. Councilman Kring asked about the Patrol Duty Uniform. Chief Stout stated the color would be the same. Chief Stout asked if there were any questions on the stats. There were no questions.

Enforcement Division: Nothing to report.

Ms. Vicky Boyd stated her daughter was going south on N. Main Street on Saturday and at the railroad tracks, there was a train on the second set of tracks that curves. There are no stop arms or signs for the second set of tracks and her daughter was caught by surprise. Ms.

Melissa Pickering stated yes on the north set of tracks. Boyd asked if they could move the crossbar down to the second set of tracks.

Adjournment: With no further business, Councilman Kring called for adjournment, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor.

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.

  
Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer

  
President, Board of Public Works and Safety