

City of Tipton Board of Public Works and Safety meeting held on July 24, 2023, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

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

Others: Benny Frazier, Ken Ehman, Chief Jeff Stout, Fire Chief Joe Bitner, Officer Brad Robins, Jim Heard, Judy Coker, Robert Cochran II, Lindsey Ogden, Betty Spivey, and Jo Ellen Scott.

Mayor Dolezal opened the July 24th, 2023, BOW meeting.

Minutes: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve July 10th, 2023, BOW minutes, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor. Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 10th, 2023 executive session memorandum, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Amend Agenda: Nothing to report.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business:

Pork Festival – Street Closure – September 7th, 8th, and 9th: Mayor Dolezal stated the Tipton Pork Festival is on September 7th, 8th & 9th. Mr. Jim Heard spoke regarding the street closures for the Pork Festival. Mr. Heard presented the BOW with a Temporary Street Closure Permit Application that specified the dates, times, and streets that were affected. He stated they close on the 5th at midnight which is the 6th. They are moving the stage up to Hope Jeweler's parking lot, that first row. They would like to close Jefferson on Thursday night from 4 pm to midnight, Friday from 4 pm to midnight and Saturday from 1 pm to midnight and that covers both parades and then time to put chairs out and then put them back up. That allows us seating for the Queen Contest and both concerts. Mayor stated you have had detailed discussions with both Chiefs, right? Mr. Heard commented, yes. Chief Bitner stated to leave 25 feet of the North side of the Westbound lanes open for emergency traffic. Mr. Heard also talked to Mike Terry about putting cones out at the bank so people can get to the bank drive-through. Chief Stout commented he sees safety issues with having people out in Jefferson Street sitting in chairs yet having an emergency lane. We moved the carnival to the other side of the street for safety issues but we are having people sit on Jefferson Street. He suggested shutting down Jefferson completely, shutting off at Independence and Main. He acknowledged Fire Chief Bitner has other opinions about it. Chief Bitner stated it was safer for his department to go down Jefferson Street. The side streets are narrow with all the extra parking and it makes it difficult with the fire apparatus making the turns. Councilman Kring commented that the Mayor's opinion is to fully block East and West with barricades but not allow anything within 24 feet of the center to the sidewalk. Mayor Dolezal stated, yes. Fire Chief Bitner stated he was ok with that. Mayor Dolezal stated the crossover is Court Street. This should be safer for Fire & EMS to use Jefferson

Street. The Bank should close at 4 pm on Friday and on Saturday they close at 1:00 p.m. and will only be walk-up customers. Mr. Heard stated they would shut it all down and put a rope down the middle. Mayor Dolezal commented they are not going in a lane other than the Court Street opening. Councilman Rick Rippey made a motion to approve the shutdown of streets for the Pork Festival as requested, seconded by Councilman Kring with all in favor.

Hope Jeweler's – City Parking Lot – July 25th "Christmas in July": Lindsey Ogden with the Tipton Main Street Assoc. approached the BOW to request the closure of the City parking lot next to Hope Jewelers for the local vendors and shops on July 25th from 9:30 am to 8 pm. They will utilize the cones and barriers that are already set out at the parking lot. Councilman Kring asked what will they do if there are already cars in the parking lot. Mrs. Ogden commented that they hope to barricade it off this evening and hopefully, that will help. Nate Kring made a motion to approve the closure of the City parking lot on July 25th as requested, seconded by Rick Rippey with all in favor.

Mayors Report: The downtown Plaza phase 1 project is to be at substantial completion by the first week of October and full completion by the third week of October. At the ballfields, we have had material torn down and hauled away. The goal is to have fencing up this fall and a building started by November or December.

Fire: The June report is enclosed. Chief Bitner stated there was a fire on Green Street and the guys did a wonderful job getting a good stop on it. They kept all the smoke and fire damage out of the main living portion of the house, it was contained to the attic. There was significant water damage to the house but it should be salvageable. He stated no one was injured. There was great work between Cicero Township and Tipton Fire Department. There were no incidents to report during the 4th of July. No fires or injuries. It was a great show again. The Fire Dept. helped out with various things at the 4-H fair. The dunk tank for the Tipton Girls Softball league. They participated in the back-to-school night. They helped transport backpacks from Tims1 to the Boys and Girls Club and then to the fairgrounds. They were at the Library End of Summer reading event for "Touch a Truck". Tyler Davis has finished his probationary period and is now a 2nd class Firefighter. Jordan Davis the most recent hire approved has passed public safety medical and will be starting full time with us on July 30th. Assistant Chief Ogden has been researching the process of selling Engine 11 once we get it back. He has been in contact with Brenly Mountain. They will put it on their website. Their fee is 10% of the selling price or \$500.00 whichever is greater. If it is sold under \$150,000.00. They will only invoice if we sell it through them, with no fees and the final say. They are middleman for advertising and they get a fee if we sell it through them. We can pull it off the site at any time and not pay a fee. He did not have full details from the other company at this point. When we get that back from Madison Township we can look at getting that advertised. They will give us a form to complete and they will give us a price range that we should be looking at. We did a walk-through and a code consultation at The Shack. They are moving right along. They were hoping to be open in September sometime. Councilman

Rippy asked if the Fire Dept was in full force. Chief Bitner stated they were at full capacity with Jordan Davis at 14. Mayor Dolezal asked if they were still working on the final details for the RFP for the EMS Service. Chief Bitner stated Assistant Chief Ogden got ahold of the committee and asked them where they were at on the RFP's and he did not receive an answer back. Chief Bitner stated Chuck Bell is helping them with a grant through the Tipton County Foundation to see if we can get some funds for equipment for the ALS.

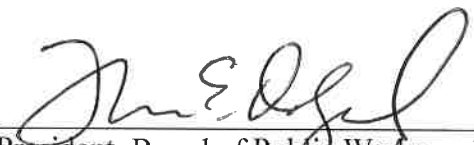
Police: Chief Stout stated that the Criminal Justice Institute has approved officers to be paid two times their regular pay for OPO. Language in the Handbook will need to be changed through the BOW. Chief Stout stated this is all off-duty overtime work. They do this on their own time. Chief Stout commented that he would need approval to change the Handbook and add that portion on page 3. Councilman Kring made a motion to add the Traffic Safety & Education Enforcement overtime into the handbook, seconded by Councilman Rippy with all in favor. Chief Stout commented that they do a great job at that and it also saves us money. Chief Stout stated traffic stops are up 115 vs. 108 from last month. Chief Stout stated the applicant that was approved, Korbin Nelson, did not pass public safety medical. We cannot move forward with him. We have opened up another process today with applications due August 11th and testing August 19th. Mayor Dolezal stated Mr. Nelson is a great candidate and hopefully, we will be able to utilize him sometime soon. Chief Stout stated he has another officer that has been given a conditional offer from Hamilton County pending public safety medical, we may be losing another officer as well. Chief Stout recommended that in the future exit interviews be done by the Board or someone other than himself so they can hear why they are leaving firsthand. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated that would be scheduled as an executive session. Chief Stout stated there will be re-payment issues to deal with on this one because that was our first lateral transfer and it is within the 3-year mark in the agreement. Chief Stout said he came to his office on Friday and said he was given a conditional offer pending public safety medical and he has kept him up to date on where he is at in the process. Councilman Kring asked if he will give that notice in writing. Chief Stout said yes he will give his resignation in writing. Councilman Kring asked if it was customary for them to give a two-week notice. Chief Stout stated that is what he would like for him to do and he already said he would do that. Councilman Kring asked if he would live in Oklahoma and if he wanted to apply would they e-mail him an application. Chief Stout stated there is a QR Code on the Facebook page and the City website. You can mail it, e-mail it, or drop it off. Councilman Kring stated we should find a way to allow digital submission, create a Google form of required fields, just to make it easier. Do we hire a firm to look at recruiting? How many does that put you at 10 plus SRO? Chief Stout stated yes. Chief Bitner stated we are trying to reach kids earlier with the teen academy. Chief Stout stated the 18-year-olds that go in the jail and work we were able to recruit two of them, they haven't worked out yet but they will. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated she would look into the salary ordinance regarding the OPO.

Code Division: Ms. Judy Coker with Code Division is seeking two orders to demolish, 801 Oak Street and 505 Harrison Street, and she would like that deadline to be the first meeting in September. She has ordered the title work. Mayor Dolezal asked we demo out of the unsafe building fund. Ms. Coker commented yes. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated it might have to be out of the Rainy Day or Riverboat fund. Ms. Coker stated the Street Dept. could take care of the demo. and that will save on cost. They are owned by the same person. The 505 Harrison property has been condemned since 2021 and 801 Oak has been vacant. It is a mobile home. Mayor Dolezal stated an order to appear didn't bring anyone out. Councilman Kring made a motion for Ms. Coker to issue an order to demo 801 Oak Street and 505 Harrison Street on or before September 11th at noon. Councilman Rippy seconded the motion with all in favor. Ms. Coker stated if the Street Dept. cannot do the demo then I will get bids and if he can then I will have him give me an approximate cost. JoEllen Scott asked about the other properties. Ms. Coker stated she is working on them. Ms. Betty Spivey stated she has put up with it for quite a few years and gets animals from his properties and not just cats.

Councilman Kring made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second by Councilman Rippy, the meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.


Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer


President, Board of Public Works and Safety