

City of Tipton Common Council meeting was held on August 28, 2023, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

Members: Mayor Dolezal, Councilwoman Hufford, Councilmen Ehman, Chandler, Kring, and Rippy, and Clerk-Treasurer Clark.

Others: Abby Ripberger, Jane Harper, Ryan Bontrager, Bob Edinger, Joe Duvall, Debbie Bowlby, Lisa Arnold, D. Adams and son, R. Haubold, Aaron Hill, Jeff and Jaxson Stout, Benny Frazier, Linda Ripberger, Kery Ripberger, David Maddox, Terry Smith, Roberta Heinzmann, Tim Richards, Rich Vautaw, Joe VanBibber, Joe Bitner, Jeffrey Ogden, Jacob Adams, Garret Wyant, and Lucas Jones.

Mayor Dolezal opened the August 28, 2023, Council meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve the August 14, 2023, Council minutes without amendment, seconded by Councilman Ehman. The minutes were passed with Councilman Ehman, Chandler, Kring, and Rippy in favor. Councilwoman Hufford abstained.

Amend Agenda: Councilwoman Hufford stated she received an email the Golf Course was going to be on the agenda. Mayor Dolezal stated we would do that under Petitions and Comments. The intersections will be under Old Business.

BOW: Councilman Kring reported on the August 28, 2023, BOW meeting.

GAC: Councilman Ehman commented they met last Tuesday. The weather is perfect, the revenue is up, and the Course is in great shape.

Goodwill: Councilman Chandler stated they met two weeks ago on Wednesday. In attendance were Councilman Ehman, Mayor Dolezal, Commissioner Henderson, County Councilman Purvis, and himself. There was discussion regarding City and County issues.

DSW: Councilman Kring commented things are going well and they are reforming the Advisory Committee on recycling with Mr. White and one representative from each school. He also commented that they are looking at yard waste cleanup.

Street, Alley, and Sidewalks: Councilman Ehman stated we have significant participation in the Sidewalk Program. The LPA project is moving forward. The 2022 CCG paving is completed on West and Independence and the 2023 CCG application has been submitted. He also stated there has been discussion about using yard waste containers for individuals who don't have alleys. Councilwoman Hufford stated there are people who put their yard waste in the street. It was stated if they don't have an alley. Councilman Ehman stated the yard waste program is for those who put it in the street with no alleys. Councilman Kring

stated it is a code enforcement issue. Councilman Ehman commented the City does a good job picking up the yard waste.

Plan Commission: Councilwoman Hufford commented they met on the third Thursday.

Everybody was there but one. She also commented that the accessory dwelling units were discussed, and the Standing Committee will meet the week after the Pork Festival.

Utility Board: Councilman Chandler stated he wasn't able to attend but the August 21st Utility Board minutes were enclosed in the packet.

Other Boards/Committees: Nothing to report.

New Business:

Teen Academy: Chief Stout commented that the Tipton Public Safety Teen Academy is a two-day opportunity to provide our local youth with a glimpse into what the professions of policing and firefighting are all about. He also commented there were 14 students ranging from Sixth grade to freshman, a few are here this evening. It was a great event, Chief Stout read off the Platinum, Gold, and Silver sponsors and thanked them for the sponsorship. He also explained what the students learned each day. Councilman Ehman asked the students if they wanted to say anything. Jaxson Stout stated it was fun and JJ Adams gave a thumbs up. Councilman Chandler stated he appreciated what they have done for the Academy. Mayor Dolezal stated it was great to hear it was successful, you hit the right age group this year. You have all done a tremendous job, of leadership by example. Keep track of the participants so we can see how many translate to serving the community.

Old Business:

Introducing the stop signs: We flipped the lights to four-way stop signs to see the results in the community, and where we go moving forward. Mayor Dolezal asked the Council's opinion on stop lights or stop signs. It was stated there were mostly positive comments, all positive suggestions on Independence/Jefferson Street and Jefferson/Main. Pedestrian safety was one of the main comments. Councilman Rippey stated he has heard positive comments, and they discussed it at the SAS meetings. The vast majority says it is not a problem the flow thru is just fine. Councilwoman Hufford stated she loves it. It runs really well; people just need to remember what they learned in driver's education. Councilman Kring stated the citations are up even with the Police Dept. being short-staffed. Councilman Chandler suggested making some intersections hybrids, such as West & Jefferson, Madison & Main, and Independence & Jefferson. He also mentioned a sensor that will activate so pedestrians can cross the street. Mayor Dolezal stated he has heard a lot of feedback in the City about how they like the flow of traffic and how it is orderly. We want to make downtown as safe as possible and it is absolutely the safest way. Mayor Dolezal opened comments from the public on the intersections. Ms. Debbie Bowlby addressed her concerns and stated she does not like the four ways and wants the lights back. Mrs. Jane Harper stated she went to a conference last week with INDOT

Representatives and spoke to Tyler Moore, Kokomo Mayor, regarding stop signs. He commented that they have stop signs downtown in the business area and the downtown is walkable. She also stated if you go with this decision, you might implement the piano crossings, which would be extremely visible. The trash cans with stop signs need to be removed, and flashing four-way stops are noticeable. Mrs. Harper stated in drivers' education you learn pedestrians have the right of way. Mr. Tim Richards suggested a push button on poles with a painted strip for pedestrians. He also suggested a crosswalk on Jefferson Street at Court Street, there are a lot of events in that area. Mayor Dolezal stated there has been discussion of removable bollards. Mr. Rich Vautaw stated he loves the stop signs but doesn't like the cans in the middle of the intersection. He suggested keeping the stop signs, it's a good thing. There was a brief discussion regarding the light being triggered by a vehicle and golf cart and motorcycle not triggering the light, the speed limit, and truck traffic. Councilwoman Hufford stated the turn lane we need to change to only having one lane. Ms. Roberta Heinzmann suggested the phone numbers on the back of semis, to call and report them. Ms. Harper stated single lanes are the key, not eight cars at the intersection. Councilman Kring made a motion to keep the four-way stops permanent, make them single lanes (remove left turn lanes), with pedestrian walks as quick as possible, This would be Jefferson & Main, Madison & Main, West & Jefferson, and Independence & Jefferson, seconded by Councilwoman Hufford. The motion passed with Councilwoman Hufford, Councilman Ehman, Kring, and Rippey in favor. Councilman Chandler was against it. Mayor Dolezal thanked everyone for all the input.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Dolezal stated at the baseball complex the seeding should be done in September and the fence will be completed in November. The building should be completed by the third week of December. The flat pour will be done in the spring. He also stated the plaza work is continuing, the first week of October should be the initial completion with the full completion being the third week of October. Mayor Dolezal commented on the trails, Steve Raber is meeting with the Hoosier Port Authority regarding the trails. Councilwoman Hufford asked questions about the baseball facility regarding the grass, lights, and Project Manager. Mayor Dolezal stated it would be grass, the lights were taken out and we have a contract with KJG to be the on-site Project Manager. There are still detailed plans that we will work on with the State and we have to get a design release approved. We have no permit for the building facility yet.

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Resolution 2023-15 – Resolution Of The City Of Tipton Common Council Transferring Certain Real Property To The City Of Tipton Redevelopment Commission 210-212 E. Jefferson Street: Mayor Dolezal stated there is an excellent plan for renovation, if we transfer to the RDC if we don't get the average of the two of them the RDC can sell them for less. If this is approved the RDC will have to pass a resolution to accept the properties. Councilman Kring made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-15, seconded by Councilman Chandler, with all in favor.

Claims: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve claims 174382-174572 for \$501,071.35, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Petitions, Comments, and Memorials:

Mayor Dolezal asked if there was any input from the Public.

Ms. Lisa Arnold thanked the Council and Mayor for letting her speak. Ms. Arnold addressed her concerns regarding the Golf Course. She stated she feels we need a Superintendent and Golf Pro and not a management company. Ms. Arnold commented we have a great Junior Program and this won't exist if we don't have a PGA Pro. There was a discussion regarding the course, the management company, and the work the Golf Superintendents have done, along with the timing of hiring another Superintendent.

Mr. Joe Duvall, Tipton, stated he has been a member of the Tipton Golf Course for a number of years. He has been through several Golf Pro's and has been pleased with all, including Ryan, they done a great job. He also stated in years past the Superintendents have a vested interest in the Course but this year it seems the worst he has seen in a while. He stated the course went in the wrong direction with the upkeep. Mr. Duvall stated during a Junior Clinic he heard a commotion between two guys screaming at each other off a mower and a piece of equipment. He also stated to keep in mind great course pricing and service to our community and he encouraged us to get a new Jake.

Mrs. Jane Harper stated an INDOT update is the paving project from CVS to the railroad on the bypass. It is a two-day resurfacing where they were going to close the road but after some negotiation, they decided to go ahead and flag it. They will be doing one lane at a time. She also gave information regarding the Park Road project, funding in 2027. It won't encroach on the Park entrance but it will be an urban roundabout. Councilman Kring asked if this includes sidewalks. Ms. Harper stated they will remove the green space on the south side but don't hold me to it. Mayor Dolezal stated they want to improve the intersection, scheduled for October.

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

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.



Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer



Council President