

City of Tipton Board of Public Works and Safety meeting held on October 28, 2024, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

Members: Mayor Schmicker, Clerk-Treasurer Clark, Councilmen Ehman, and Kring.

Others: Kendra Hummel with Tis The Season, Jeff Stout, Tim Richards, Robert Cochrane III, and Joe Bitner.

Mayor Schmicker opened the October 28, 2024, BOW meeting.

Minutes: Councilman Ehman made a motion to approve October 14, 2024, BOW minutes, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Amend Agenda: Nothing to report.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

New Business: Street Closure – Tis The Season – December 6, 2024, 4-8 p.m. – Kendra Hummel: Ms. Hummel stated this is a Street Closure for Tis The Season, the only thing different is we are asking to close Jefferson from Main Street to Court Street. Councilman Ehman stated he didn't like the idea of blocking Jefferson Street for 2.5 hours. Ms. Hummel explained the businesses on the north side of Jefferson wanted to be part of the cookie walk and we are hoping that would bring more people to the jewelry store for the ice sculpture. She also stated they are moving the reindeer to the new park area. Chief Bitner stated we did it with the Pork Festival and he didn't understand what it would hurt. Councilman Kring stated we won't have semi-traffic. Councilman Ehman stated this would be the second event that we shut down Jefferson Street, so we can't turn the next event down. Councilman Kring stated he loves it, he is glad we own Jefferson Street. Someone asked if we had any safety issues. Chief Stout commented this year it was so much easier and there were no issues. He also commented on where we could place signs for the traffic. Councilman Ehman stated that would need to be communicated with Mr. Clark. Councilman Kring made a motion to approve the street closure for Tis The Season on December 6th, seconded by Councilman Ehman, with all in favor. Councilman Kring stated this will be on a case-to-case basis, like if someone would want to close Jefferson Street for four days, that could be a problem.

Fire: Chief Bitner asked if there were any questions on the September report. There were no questions. He also asked about the building repairs with the GO Bond money, and where we were with that. Chief Bitner asked if we could use that money for security cameras for the fireside. He stated he received a quote for Verkada 9-10 cameras and Mission IT Services based out of Greentown. Chief Bitner also stated if Police wanted to add cameras it would not be a whole new plan. Chief Bitner commented Houston Electric gave a quote for a new generator and we are getting a quote from Greg Sottong too, he will forward them to us when he receives them. He also commented that the Fire Department hosted two civic classes, they were a good bunch of kids, inquisitive. Chief Binter stated we are geared up for Halloween, the Police and Fire teamed up in the last

couple of years. He also stated the Fire Department will start advertising for the hiring process, we have a minimum of three people who are in a lateral process with Noblesville and Westfield. So, we need to get a pool of applicants ready. Chief Bitner asked for approval to lower the age from 21 to 18, this would open up the opportunity. Mayor Schmicker asked about the historic value. Chief Bitner stated the level of maturity, but this would open it up to quite a few more people. Chief Stout stated by Statute for the Police they have to be 21 to go to the Academy. Clerk-Treasurer Clark asked what about PERF. Chief Bitner stated PERF is 18. He also stated Xavier Heron was not 21 yet and was hired by the Muncie Fire Department. Chief Bitner commented that 18 is the age in the statute for the 77 Fund, it is the department's preference on what age. Councilman Kring asked about Fire 1 and 2. Chief Bitner stated they could go to John Hinds and get Fire 1 and 2 and NIMS. Councilman Ehman stated he sees more plus than minuses. Mayor Schmicker stated best Firefighters and Police Officers could be from our community if they had the opportunity. Councilman Kring made a motion to loosen the restriction on the firefighter's age from 21 to 18, seconded by Councilman Ehman, with all in favor. There was a brief discussion on who may be leaving. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the cameras on the Fire side, for security purposes and the cameras on the Police side.

Police: Chief Stout asked if there were any questions on the stats. He stated they are down a couple of traffic stops but it is non OPO. Chief Stout commented that Jackson Tunnell should graduate from the Academy in the middle of December. He also commented that Officer Huffman is in his final phase of FTO with Captain Nichols, and then he will be on the road by himself. He is doing really well. Chief Stout stated the Officers are going to some school events and they will be participating in the Shop with a Cop Program. The FOP goes through the applications. He also stated CSO Cunningham is expecting and is due in March or April, so we will be out a Service Officer and Animal Control, but it will be close to the end of school. Chief Stout asked about the Golf Cart Ordinance, and stated he would like to revamp and state what a golf cart is. We have had a lot of UTV requests for approval. There was a brief discussion regarding reviewing the ordinance and registering the golf carts. Chief Stout stated he is going to need additional appropriation for gas, he gave back money, so we don't have enough money. He estimated he would need \$7500 for November and December gas bills. Mayor Schmicker stated when we worked on the budget, we knew we would need to increase it by 10k for next year because of gas prices and a full staff.

Enforcement Division: Councilman Kring stated they are not scheduled for this meeting.

Councilman Kring commented Councilman Richards and himself met regarding uniforms. We asked for a layout with the Chiefs of their uniforms and then we will work with Street and Park. There was a brief discussion regarding \$500 after tax and about the city logo on the apparel. This could change each year, but this would be a budget consideration.

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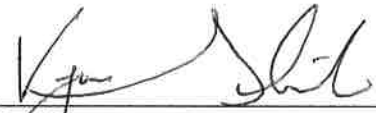
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Adjournment: With no further business, Councilman Kring called for adjournment, seconded by Councilman Ehman, with all in favor.

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.


Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer


President, Board of Public Works and Safety