

City of Tipton Board of Public Works and Safety meeting on May 27, 2025, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

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

Others: Joe Bitner, Jeff Stout, Dylan Dietrich, Tim Richards, Lilly Boyer, Savana Morris, Emily Hartley, Cora Rodibaugh, Holly Wilson, Tryce Huffman, Brandon Leisure, Bob Nunemacher, Judy Coker, Michael Nasser, Grant Tansy, and Riley Hardin.

Mayor Schmicker opened May 27, 2025, BOW meeting.

Amend Agenda: Nothing to report.

Old Business:

217 Fourth Street – Charles Hunter: Planning Director Coker stated there had been no change and requested a \$100/day fine, and now the grass needs to be mowed. Mayor Schmicker asked if she had any communication at all. Coker stated no. BOW Member Ehman commented that it would be done in 14 days. Coker stated the maximum is \$300. Mayor Schmicker stated the maximum is \$250. Councilman Ehman stated that we need to go to the \$250 fine. There was no effort to clean it up. Coker stated she would talk to City Attorney Quigley to see the options for the City to clean up the property. The question was asked about the flu/hole in the roof. It isn't to code and needs to be fixed. Chief Bitner stated he doesn't have control over single-family residences. There was discussion about the fine with a cap of \$5,000. Coker did advise the BOW that the fine/cap can be for each violation. BOW Ehman made a motion to fine \$250/day for 217 Fourth Street beginning this coming Friday, May 30, 2025, for one code violation, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated the nuisance violation. Planning Director Coker commented that they are trying to work with Mr. Netherton on his property. He wants to build a garage, but he has to have a house there to build a garage. He has been advised to get the stuff cleaned off of the property. Councilman Kring stated the two other properties are 525 E. Jefferson – Susan York and 122 Diehl Street. The trash is pouring out. Coker stated that 525 Jefferson has been mowed. Kring stated there is trash, an old trailer, and overgrown vegetation. He believes that someone is living in the camper. Coker commented that they sent letters, the complaint came to our office, and by the time we got to it, no one was living there. This happens every year. The property at 122 Diehl Street has been sent letters for trash and junk. Councilman Kring stated that the garage is unusable and full of trash; it should be a fire code issue. He also stated the enclosed porch has trash on it. We need to check with the Health Dept. This is a health and safety issue. BOW Member Ehman stated what is required for the Health Dept. He advised W. Adams property you can see trash through the window. Coker stated we follow the trash municipal code. She also stated we work the best we can with the Health Dept. Mayor Schmicker stated Mr. Chad Mills on Mill Street had 45 days; we need to monitor it. Municipal Services Superintendent Dietrick stated the truck had been moved. Mayor Schmicker commented that the motion at the last meeting was a \$300 per day fine, and it should be a \$250 per day fine; that is what the ordinance states.

BOW Member Ehman made a motion to change the fine to \$250 to go along with the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

New Business:

Tipton Trails Change Order 1-3 Summary: Mayor Schmicker stated this overage occurred on the concrete overrun; the net overage was \$47,810.83. BOW Member Ehman made a motion to accept Tipton Trails Change Order 1-3, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor. Councilman Kring asked what fund this will come out of. Mayor Schmicker stated Edit would catch whatever is not funded.

Tipton Trails Change Order 4 Summary: Mayor Schmicker stated this is a reduction of \$11,732.17. Councilman Kring made a motion to accept Tipton Trails Change Order 4, seconded by BOW Member Ehman, with all in favor.

Fire: Chief Bitner asked if there were any questions on the April Monthly Report; there were none. Bitner stated FF Josh Vinson passed his EMT and is now able to work just with Paramedics. He also stated he had done well on the national registry test. Chief Bitner commented that FF Vinson and FF Hougesen will be attending FF Academy at the Muncie Fire Dept. from June 2<sup>nd</sup> to August 16th, from Monday through Friday. They will receive NIMS and multiple certifications. Chief Bitner stated that there is no cost to us at this time. The new wall behind the public safety building is done. Hopefully, they will finish the dirt soon. Chief Bitner gave an update on the CSR process and the DEA license. He also stated EMS week was last week, and the EMS Liaison who covers Tipton came on Monday with a traveling pizza oven. The ER also provided us with Fire House Subs and some goody bags. We appreciate that. Chief Bitner asked about the training ground at the Industrial Park. It was stated that the property is a no-go. We just transferred it to RDC. He also asked if there was a possibility of where the ball fields used to be. Can we obtain it for the Fire Dept. training center? There are water lines, and we can use the hydrant and slowly build it up within the budget each year. BOW Member Ehman asked what it would look like. Chief Bitner stated that they would be Conex shipping containers that you stack up and train out of. They are painted, so they look decent. Councilman Kring commented that the one in Noblesville seems nice. There was a brief discussion on a site, what other communities use, and how nice they look.


Police: Chief Stout handed out the stats and advised the Board that he didn't have the stats from the 911 Center. He also stated that the traffic stops went down last month. Chief Stout commented that they will be interviewing two individuals this evening, and he would like to have an Executive Session scheduled for the BOW interviews. He also commented that Sgt. Nunemacher did a great job with the Dare Graduation. Officer Leisure and Officer Huff brought K-9s out for it. Chief Stout stated that half of the FOP Social proceeds were split between Tipton and Tri-Central for kids' lunches. He also stated that Leslee Howell, who used to work at the school, had done a portrait of the dogs. Chief Stout commented that Officer Huffman is a full-time officer off probation. He also commented that Officer Leisure, Huffman, Money, and himself were attending the Police

vs Fire Shooting Competition in Fortville. Chief Stout stated he was still waiting for a response from Enterprise. He also commented that Ray Shepherd, jail commander, applied for a Wellness Program grant that the City and County can use. This would help the officer or firefighter handle death calls. The grant will be through the County, and Mr. Shepherd will do it all. Chief Stout commented that he received a letter from Sgt. Leisure recommended Tipton Police Officer Grant Tansy for the Life Saving Award in recognition of valor, decisive action, and service to the community on May 7 2025. Councilman Kring stated he could only remember it being given once in the last six years. Chief Stout stated yes, the pool incident and this one. Councilman Kring asked how long Officer Tansy had been with the PD. Officer Tansy stated six years. Mayor Schmicker stated he received compliments from a community member and that they wanted to thank Sgt. Leisure and Officer Huff for the professionalism they brought to the scene.

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

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.

  
Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer

  
President, Board of Public Works and Safety