

City of Tipton Common Council Meeting was held on July 14, 2025, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

Members: Mayor Schmicker, Clerk-Treasurer Clark, Councilmen Vautaw, VanBibber, Richards, Kring, and Rippy.

Others: Rob Cochrane III, Mike Bollman, Bob Edinger, Roberta Heinzmann, Dylan Dietrick, Jessica Ridenour with Humane Society, Adrian Hall with Humane Society, Judy Coker, Matt Quigley, and Sophia Phifer with Boys & Girls Club.

Mayor Schmicker opened the July 14, 2025, Council meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Schmicker stated as of July 2025 we are streaming meetings. We experienced a hiccup with the Park Board meeting, and a corrective action plan has been implemented. Riley Hardin, Contractor for Social Media and Public Relations, will be attending some of the meetings to assist us with this until everything is running smoothly.

Minutes: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve the June 23, 2025, Council minutes, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Amend Agenda: Nothing to report.

BOW: Councilman Kring reported on the July 14, 2025, BOW meeting.

Cemetery Board: Councilman Vautaw stated the Cemetery report is enclosed. He also noted the Board meets tomorrow at 3:45 p.m. Councilman Kring asked if we were one short on the Board. Councilman Vautaw stated yes.

Park Board: The June 3, 2025, Park Board minutes were enclosed. Councilman Richards commented that there was a short meeting on July 1, 2025. Reports were distributed, but no action was taken; there was no quorum.

Utility Board: Councilman Rippy stated that the July 7, 2025, Utility Board minutes are enclosed. He also noted that the Sanitary Force Main project is anticipated to be completed by mid-September. The electrical and control work will soon begin and is expected to be completed by August on the water tower.

New Business:

Boys & Girls Club – Sophia Phifer – Request Budget Funds for 2026: Ms. Phifer stated on behalf of the Boys & Girls Club that she thanked them for gifting the CW Mount Center and for their monetary support; we are very thankful. She also stated that we are requesting financial support again for 2026. Ms. Phifer provided a brief update on the 2024 data for the Boys & Girls Club and highlighted some of the programs available to its members.

Humane Society of Tipton County – Jessica Ridenour – Mid-year update for the shelter and expenses: Ms. Ridenour handed out a flyer of the 2025 Mid-year operational update. Ms. Hall presented the Board with YTD numbers of the animal intakes, animals in their care, adoptions, and reunions with owners. The numbers were in total and also only the City animals. There was a brief explanation of what is provided at the Shelter. It was asked who the Board of Director was. Ms. Hall stated that Melissa Rhoades is the Director and that there are three part-time Animal Shelter Assistants: Caitlin Burke, Ashlee Shirley, and Brock Phifer. Ms. Ridenour commented that she was the new Treasurer and provided information on the financial status of the Humane Society. Mayor Schmicker stated last year, when we met, you were provided with \$28,000 and you sent back \$2,400. Ms. Ridenour noted that, to your point, we are in a good financial position and should be able to return some of the money this year. Councilman Kring stated they are fully staffed. This is nice, kudos to all.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Schmicker provided an update on the following subjects: West Street project, only one phase; the East Street project will be two to three phases. They will start on the south end with stormwater, and then we will march north. This is being coordinated with the Utilities. We received the Baseball RFPs, and the group met to analyze them and will make a recommendation to the BOW, obtain a contract, and move the project forward. We are working on a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Grant that INDOT recommended for sidewalks on East SR 28 by Needlers. The first phase is the planning grant. This will help identify areas of concern. Another project that we have been working on is the Public Safety Building. We met with the Chiefs to finalize the construction items for the bid. The National Night Out – Celebrate Public Safety will be on the Sunday before school starts. There will be a movie night at the Park. Mayor Schmicker stated that two new Probationary Police Officers are in the process of completing their training with PERF, which could be completed soon. He also noted that we are working with IU Bloomington – Place Making Studio, which is a group of graduate students designing gateway signage. We will use Edit money for the signage, which will be all four entries to the City of Tipton.

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Ordinance 2025-08 – An Ordinance Of The City Of Tipton Amending Appendix A, Schedule Of Fees, Under The Category Of Buildings, Charged By The Tipton City Plan Commission Under Authority Of Chapter Four, Buildings And Building Regulations, And Procedures Of The Tipton City Plan Commission And Board Of Zoning Appeals: Mayor Schmicker stated Building Commissioner Coker is here with us, she has provided a red line verbiage and clean copy. Coker commented that this is pretty straightforward. It was repealed and replaced in 2019. What sparked this was the solar ordinance. There were no solar fees for off-grid, grid-tied, and community/large-scale systems. We reviewed everything and made the necessary updates. Councilman Rippey made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-08 on first reading, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Claims: Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated there are two sets of claims, one for May 12, 2025, and the other is for this set of claims. May 12, 2025, claims that were approved were from the previous set of claims in April. Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve claims 179034-179402 for \$4,580,115.62, seconded by Councilman VanBibber. Councilman Vautaw, VanBibber, and Rippy approved the claims. Councilman Kring and Richards abstained. Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve claims 179576-179959 for \$4,580,115.62, seconded by Councilman Richards. Councilman VanBibber stated these are the current claims. Clerk-Treasurer Clark said yes. The claims were approved by Councilman Vautaw, VanBibber, Richards, and Rippy. Councilman Kring abstained.

Petitions, Comments, and Memorials:

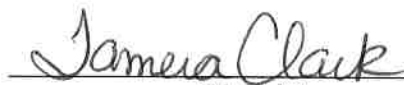
Mrs. Heinzmann stated that she had already sent an email to the School Board about the baseball project to thank them. She thanked the Council for stopping the bickering and getting the project going. She also thanked the Board for its partnership with the Boys & Girls Club.

Councilman Kring commended the Council and Leaders for the shelving project they pushed through, and with all the rain we received, it seemed to help prevent flooding in the Park and golf course.

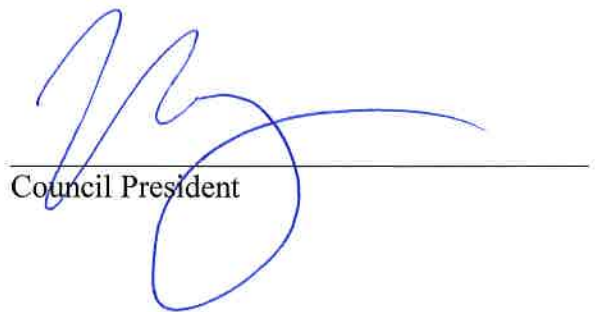
Councilman Kring stated, "No thank you" to the State and others, including Mike Braun and the state legislature, for the new bill that is going to strap communities of revenue cuts.

Adjournment: Councilman Richards motioned to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.



Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer



Council President