

City of Tipton Common Council meeting was held on December 8, 2025, at Tipton City Hall Council Chambers, Tipton.

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

Others: Heath Moreland, Brian Roberts, Elsa Smith, Jeff Stout, Rob Cochrane III, Mike Bollman, and Bob Edinger.

Mayor Schmicker opened the December 8, 2025, Council meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: Councilman Vautaw made a motion to approve the November 24, 2025, Council minutes, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

BOW: Councilman Kring reported on the December 8, 2025, BOW meeting.

Cemetery: Councilman Vautaw stated that the Board met on December 2nd, and there was no report in the packet.

Park: Councilman Richards commented that there was no meeting.

Utility Board: Councilman Rippy stated that the minutes of the December 1, 2025, Utility Board meeting are enclosed.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Schmicker stated that the second LPA Grant application was submitted and that the improvements are on Jefferson Street. Structure Point is providing a financial outlook because the relinquishment funds are insufficient to complete all three phases. He also stated he attended the CIRDA meeting in Franklin. Representatives from AES, Duke, IMPA, Wabash Valley, and Center Point were in attendance. It was a great meeting; they are working to improve relationships across the organization.

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Resolution 2025-33 – A Resolution To Transfer Within The General Fund The Following Appropriations – Golf Grounds: Mayor Schmicker commented that the transfer is for \$20,500. He also commented that he believes it was for a piece of equipment – a mower. Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-33, seconded by Councilman Vautaw, with all in favor.

Ordinance 2025-16 (Amending Ord. 2025-13) An Ordinance Amending The Maximum Salaries, Wages, And Other Compensation For Police Officers, Firefighters, And All Other Employees Of The City Of Tipton For The Year 2026-1st Reading: Mayor Schmicker stated this is to add a certification to the Police for the IT Coordinator. Chief Stout stated that when Officer Nichols was here, he was the IT Coordinator, and Officer Firks was the Accident Reconstructionist Investigator. If we have any major accidents, we would call in

the State Police. He suggested removing the Accident Reconstructionist cert and adding IT Coordinator. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated that she told the IT Coordinator to remove the Accident Reconstructionist from the Ordinance, but the Coordinator didn't remove it. She felt it would be added back at a later date, so she left it in the Ordinance. Chief Stout noted that Officer Huffman has assumed the role of IT Coordinator and serves as the Training Officer. This certificate would be \$100 per year. We will not budget additional funds; they are already included in the budget. Councilman Kring made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-16 on first reading, seconded by Councilman Richards. There was a brief discussion about whether he should be paid for the 2025 certification. It was decided to begin the accreditation process in 2026. Ordinance 2025-16 was passed on first reading with all in favor.

Claims: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve claims 180990-181161 for \$4,162,028.53, seconded by Councilman Vautaw. The claims were passed with Councilman Vautaw, Richards, and Rippy in favor. Councilman Kring and VanBibber abstained. Mayor Schmicker stated that Clerk-Treasurer Clark would like permission to pay Enterprise for the first fleet management billing, which is due December 20th, once all questions on the invoice have been resolved. Councilman Kring made a motion to approve payment to Enterprise, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor.

Chief Stout presented to the Council a request to transfer three vacation days to next year for the officers listed, due to staffing shortages. He also requested payment for holiday pay, comp time, and the remaining vacation days. Chief Stout presented the Council with a list of transfers to use their budget for the payout and to pay for a maintenance agreement for Caliber. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated that the vacation policy requires vacation days to be used or they will be forfeited. The Department Head may request in writing that three vacation days be transferred to the new year. She also stated that the transfer should have been given to her so she could have prepared a Resolution to be presented this evening for approval. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated they know the process regarding transfers that require resolutions. There was a brief discussion regarding the vacation days. Councilman Vautaw made a motion to approve the transfer of the three vacation days for the officers affected to be taken in 2026 at the Chief's discretion, seconded by Councilman Richards, with all in favor. Councilman VanBibber stated use or lose is an excellent policy. Councilman Kring stated that we changed the policy to front-load those days because of the timing of some new hires.

Councilman Kring stated that the City Council appointed Jason Armes to the RDC and will no longer serve at the end of his term. We will have to nominate someone for January. Greg Burton's term is also up, and he is still interested in serving. Councilman Kring noted that anyone with ideas for the RDC must live in the City, but they can't serve on the Utility, Planning and Zoning, or BZA. He also commented that Mayor Schmicker has a lot going on with the RDC, so we won't want to wait til March or April to make that appointment.

Petitions, Comments, and Memorials:

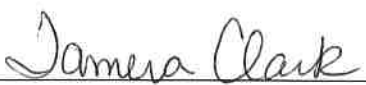
Mr. Bob Edinger asked about being fined if we don't remove snow from the sidewalks. Mayor Schmicker stated that he is pleased to report that the City of Tipton is not fining residents for not shoveling their sidewalks. We encourage individuals to shovel their sidewalks, but you will not receive a fine from the City of Tipton for not doing so. Mayor Schmicker also stated that his office, the clerk-treasurer's office, and the municipal services are not aware of any fines. Mr. Edinger asked whether it's their intention for the Christmas tree to be lit at night and, if so, whether something caused it not to be lit the other night. Mayor Schmicker stated that there was an outage in the City on Saturday and that the tree was taken offline. He also stated that there is a safety mechanism in the tree: if power is lost, you must reset the internal breaker. Mr. Edinger addressed the cost of the tree again, stating that others evidently didn't listen at the last meeting when I noted that the tree, ornaments, and topper came to somewhere over 30K, plus freight. He also stated he is just trying to educate people. Mr. Edinger commented that the lights at the Park look nice.


Councilman VanBibber stated on Thursday, December 11th, the Planning Dept. will entertain the new UDO. He encourages a decision to be made that night. It is 278 pages, but it is pertinent, and I don't see why to carry this on. Mr. Mike Bollman stated that he had received no responses from anyone. They said they had seen the changes Mike sent.

Councilman Richards asked Mr. Moreland if he had anything for the Council. Mr. Moreland stated he just wanted to be engaged.

Adjournment: Councilman Rippy called for adjournment, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.



Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer

Council President