

City of Tipton Common Council meeting held on September 23, 2019, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

Members: Mayor Havens, Councilmen Curnutt, Morgan, Chandler, Ogden and Rippy, and Clerk-Treasurer Clark.

Others: Ken Ehman, Vicky Boyd with Tipton Tribune, Steve Niblick, Mike Phillips, Rex Boyer, Dick Klein, Ann Tragesser-Tina, Roberta Heinzmann, CJ Redmon, Conner Morris, Riley Herron, John, Maggie Kincade, Gracie Phillips, and Sydney Tragesser-Tina.

Mayor Havens opened the September 23, 2019, Council meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Havens welcomed all and especially guests.

Minutes: Councilman Chandler made a motion to approve the September 9, 2019, Public Hearing without amendment, seconded by Councilman Morgan, with all in favor. Councilman Morgan made a motion to approve the September 9, 2019 Council minutes without amendment, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor.

Amend Agenda: No amendment.

BOW: Councilman Curnutt reported from the September 23, 2019, BOW meeting.

GAC: Councilman Chandler reported the Committee met on September 9th and Golf Pro Bontrager had reported they are up six season passes from last year at this time and are up \$9,000 from June 2018 to June 2019. He also reported Dr. Lambert seeded the bare spots on the course. Councilman Chandler reported the footbridge by hole 15 might be removed, the Committee will vote on this at the next meeting, October 8th.

Goodwill: Councilman Rippy reported they discussed Parks and US 31. It was a good meeting.

DSW: Councilman Morgan reported Director Heron had reported the baler was in and they are waiting on the electric to be hooked up. He also reported they are working on cleaning up the yard waste that has accumulated. Councilman Morgan reported recycling has increased.

Street, Alley & Sidewalk Committee: Mayor Havens reported it was a good meeting, there are 25 items on the checklist, and we hope to have half of them checked off by end of year. He also reported the walk is completed in front of the South Pole and the six-foot walk to the bridge. Mayor Havens reported the walk on the west side they should start this week. Councilman Rippy asked about the Sidewalk Program. Mayor Havens stated it is a budget item and he is trying to finalize the pool funding with the Clerk-Treasurer first.

Utility Board: Councilman Chandler reported the September 16, 2019, Utility Board minutes are enclosed. He also reported Utility Resolution 2019-07 was introduced for a \$1.20 increase in Storm Water rates to fund the Phase III Project. Clerk-Treasurer Clark reported the Council's Resolution 2019-17 address the rate increase and is for Review Only and will be on the Agenda for the October 7, 2019 Special Council meeting. Councilman Chandler reported IMPA at their recent meeting discussed the importance of a strong security system for our computer systems. He also commented that Utility Manager Boyer stated that LEAP Managed IT does a good job on our system. Councilman Chandler addressed the different projects going on with the Utilities and the status of the projects. Utility Board member Klein asked if all the Councilmembers received the invitation to the Solar Farm dedication. Councilman Morgan asked about the landscaping standards. Utility Manager Boyer stated one of the County Council is checking with IMPA about the landscaping, but the County Council authority is with the tax abatement. Utility Board member Klein stated that after IMPA received the call they looked at the landscaping and the shrubs along the fence line and they don't look healthy and will be addressing it.

New Business: Nothing to report.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Havens stated the countdown today is the 100th day left of my administration. There is a transition period with the election in November and helping the new Mayor with good information and orientation before January 1st. There will be some projects pushed into 2020 except for eight of them should be finished before the end of the year. There are 66 working days.

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Resolution 2019-12 – A Resolution To Reduce 2019 Appropriations in the General Fund: Councilman Curnutt made a motion to reduce the General Fund appropriations in the amount of \$189,094, seconded by Councilman Ogden. Mayor Havens stated this resolution requires one reading and the vote is the final vote. Resolution 2019-12 was passed with all in favor.

Resolution 2019-13 – A Resolution To Reduce 2019 Appropriations in the Edit Fund: Councilman Curnutt made a motion to reduce the Edit Fund appropriations in the amount of \$59,000 from line 413, 415, 416, and 418, seconded by Councilman Rippey. Mayor Havens stated this is the only reading. Resolution 2019-13 was passed with all in favor.

Resolution 2019-14 – A Resolution To Reduce 2019 Appropriations in the Local Road & Bridge Matching Grant Fund: Councilman Curnutt made a motion to reduce Local Road & Bridge Matching Grant Fund appropriation in the amount of \$1,324,265 from line 590, seconded by Councilman Ogden. Mayor Havens stated this is the only reading. Resolution 2019-14 was passed with all in favor.

Resolution 2019-15 – A Resolution Of The Common Council Of The City Of Tipton, Indiana, Approving The Issuance And Sale Of Bonds And, If Necessary, Bond Anticipation Notes By The City for And On Behalf Of The Storm Water Management District Of The City To Provide Funds For Improvements To The Storm Water System Of The City: Utility Manager Boyer stated your aware of Phase III Project, the interceptor sewer, south of town. The engineer's estimate was \$7,085,000 in May and the bid came in at \$7,880,000 in July. We tried to cut costs and to make an affordable rate increase. We got the project down to \$7,200,000. We are borrowing \$6,200,000 and the Utilities is putting in \$1,000,000 for cash and what we have already paid on the project. We got the rate down to \$1.20. Councilman Chandler stated the Board hashed this out, they looked at other communities, TMU is second to none. Councilman Morgan made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-15, seconded by Councilman Chandler, with all in favor.

Resolution 2019-16 – A Resolution To Transfer Within The General Fund The Following Appropriations: Councilman Curnutt made a motion to decrease Street \$68,750, Cemetery \$6,000, Park \$34,500, Golf Grounds \$17,000 and Golf Clubhouse \$8,000 for a total of \$134,250 and increase Pool line 413 Land Improvement in the amount of \$134,250, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor.

Resolution 2019-17 – A Resolution Of The Common Council Of The City Of Tipton, Indiana, Approving An Increase In Storm Water User Fees For Properties Located In The Storm Water Management District Of The City: Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated this Resolution is for review only, it will be acted on at the Special Council Meeting on October 7, 2019 at 5:15 p.m.

Ordinance 2019-10 – An Ordinance Setting Salaries For Elected Officials For The Year 2020 As Required By IC 36-4-7-2: It was reported this reflects a cost of living increase of two percent for the Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer and Council. Councilman Curnutt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-10 on first reading, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor. Councilman Morgan made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Curnutt, with all in favor. Councilman Curnutt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-10 on second and final reading, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor.

Ordinance 2019-11 – An Ordinance Setting The Maximum Salaries, Wages And Other Compensation For Police Officers, Firefighters And All Other Employees Of The City Of Tipton For The Year 2020: It was reported this reflects a two percent cost of living increase. Councilman Curnutt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-11 on first reading, seconded by Councilman Ogden. Mayor Havens stated there is only one employee, the Golf Superintendent is receiving more than a two percent merit increase. He will have the same rate as other Dept. Heads. Ordinance 2019-11 was passed with all in favor. Councilman Morgan made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor. Councilman Curnutt made a motion to approve

Ordinance 2019-11 on second and final reading, seconded by Councilman Ogden. Councilman Morgan asked about the titles of Dept. Heads. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated that when Mayor Havens had a Public Works Manager, she kept the other titles in case we would need to go back to those titles. Mayor Havens reported they are place holders. Ordinance 2019-11 was passed on second and final reading with all in favor.

Ordinance 2019-12 – An Ordinance For Appropriations And Tax Rates For The Year 2020:

Councilman Curnutt reported there is a list of funds on page one with the final numbers. Councilman Curnutt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-12 on first reading, seconded by Councilman Rippy. Councilman Chandler read his comments about the 2020 budget (See attached). Councilman Morgan reported the funds appropriated is \$8,058,967, tax levy of \$3,821,247 and tax rate of 2.3531. It was reported the rate depends on the net AV and the numbers he read are based on 162,000,000 net AV. If the AV comes in as it was certified of 180,000,000 it would drop the rate down below last year rate. A vote was taken by a show of hands regarding Ordinance 2019-12, Councilmen Ogden, Curnutt, Morgan, and Rippy were ayes and Councilman Chandler was a nay vote. Ordinance 2019-12 passed on first reading. Councilman Morgan made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor. Councilman Curnutt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-12 on second and final reading, seconded by Councilman Rippy. A vote was taken by a show of hands regarding Ordinance 2019-12, Councilmen Ogden, Curnutt, Morgan, and Rippy were ayes and Councilman Chandler was a nay vote. Mayor Havens stated Ordinance 2019-12 Form 4 was adopted. He also commented that he appreciated the work the Clerk-Treasurer has done, especially this year, it was a great help.

Ordinance 2019-13 – An Ordinance Of The Common Council Of The City Of Tipton, Indiana

Amending The City Of Tipton Zoning Ordinance 2010-03, As Amended: Mayor Havens reported Attachment A makes deletions and additions to the text. Parts to be deleted are struck through while parts to be added are in red. Mayor Havens asked Bldg. Commissioner Niblick to address this ordinance. Bldg. Commissioner Niblick stated this ordinance amends the zoning code, the proposed change strike-through sentence on Section 401.02 D. 11 and the amendments to the approved development plans allowing the Executive Director schedule a development plan review committee to review the amendment application. The committee shall determine if the amendment consists of substantial development/redevelopment/additions in which the approval shall be required of the Plan Commission. If it's determined the amendment is, it will refer the matter for a public hearing before the City of Tipton Plan Commission in accordance with the procedures for a Development Plan Review. If the committee determines the amendment is not substantial, it shall be returned to the Executive Director for administrative approval. He also reported the County Commissioners addressed this same issue and approved the change. Niblick reported the City of Tipton Plan Commission approved this amendment with a 10-0 vote. Councilman Morgan asked what is substantial. Niblick commented that it meets the standards and very little changes in the plan. He also stated the Review Committee is the Utilities, Police, Fire and Public Works Manager. There

would be no major (substantial) concerns. Mayor Havens stated you can suspend the rules because of the nature but it's not a pressing issue so he will not be asking for suspension of rules. Councilman Curnutt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-13 on first reading, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor. It was stated that the second and final reading will be the first meeting in October.

Claims: Councilman Curnutt made a motion to approve the claims 163856-163973 in the amount of \$566,011.66, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor.

Petitions, Complaints, Comments, and Memorials:

Councilman Chandler stated that the 911 Day of Service was received well and thanks for the Declaration. There were three to four projects completed and he was pleased with the public. Thanks, citizens.

Mayor Havens commented that the fall banners are a nice addition to the downtown area.

Vicky Boyd with Tipton Tribune asked what PERF meant. Mayor Havens stated Public Employees Retirement Fund. Boyd asked about the salary ordinance regarding Public Works Manager and Street Commissioner being the same do they get both amounts. Mayor Havens stated that he only receives the Public Works Manager Salary the other salary amounts are just place holders. The Street Commissioner rate is always kept current with the other salaries for future years. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated we only figured in the budget the Public Works Manager salary. Mayor Havens commented that this budget represents our eighth straight year with a two percent increase.


Councilman Morgan stated this was his final budget as a City Councilman and he would like to publicly thank Clerk-Treasurer Clark. She does an outstanding job each and every year and is a valuable asset to the community. I wanted to point that out. Mayor Havens and Clerk-Treasurer Clark thanked Councilman Morgan.

Utility Board Member Klein reported the ribbon-cutting luncheon for the solar farm is at 11:15 a.m. on September 30th at the Tipton County Foundation.

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

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.


Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer


Council President

First, I'd like to thank our Clerk/Treasurer Tammy Clark for all her hard work on this budget. This yearly task is certainly not easy and there is nothing simple about it. But she always seems to get the job done and gets the job done well. Thank you, Tammy.

Since this is our mayor's final budget, I'd also like to thank him for all his hard work. Even though we have different ideas on how to implement the creation of an animal shelter for our city, he has helped to spearhead many successful projects during his term in office. Thank you.

Having said that, I unfortunately cannot and will not vote to adopt this budget. This budget is missing the line item that would provide dedicated funding for a municipal animal shelter that our city so desperately needs and our animals so desperately deserve.

Animal shelters do so much more than just housing stray and lost animals within our community. They help to educate the public on responsible pet ownership. They assist with low cost spay/neuter services. They participate in a trap/neuter/return program to help control and eventually eliminate feral cat communities within the community. They can provide a temporary home for pets owned by victims of domestic violence who stay in abusive relationships because of fear of what might happen to their animals if they are forced to flee without them. And finally, animal shelters (particularly no kill animal shelters) serve as a means of economic development by providing valued services that will attract new residents to a community.

Although I am voting no on adopting this budget, this budget needs to be adopted just the same because there is not adequate time to go through the protocol of submitting and approving another version before the November 1st deadline. If this timeline is not met, budget numbers automatically revert to 2019 levels, meaning that no departments would receive additional appropriations and our city workers would not receive the cost of living raises that they have earned and that they deserve. Because of this, I have asked my fellow councilmembers to vote to adopt this budget if they have no other issues with it. Please do not mistake their yes votes as a lack of support for an animal shelter in Tipton because nothing could be further from the truth. And do not mistake my no vote to mean that I am against other funding that does appear in this budget. I'm voting no because without the dedicated funding to establish a municipal animal shelter, it is in my eyes, an incomplete budget.

This no vote is mostly symbolic. But let it send a clear message to all who support the founding of a municipal animal shelter here in the city of Tipton that we have turned the corner and that the dream of making this goal a reality is in sight. I will work with our new mayor to get this accomplished, still targeting a 2020 completion date.