

City of Tipton Board of Public Works and Safety meeting held on December 27, 2023, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

Members: Councilmen Kring, and Rippy, and Clerk-Treasurer Clark. Mayor Dolezal was not present.

Others: Ken Ehman, Tim Richards, Joe Bitner, Kegan Schmicker, and Bob Edinger.

Councilman Kring opened the December 27, 2023, BOW meeting.

Minutes: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve the December 11, 2023, BOW meeting without amendment, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Amend Agenda: Nothing to report.

Old Business:

Baseball Concession Building Bids: It was stated there is a temporary hold until a fiscal plan can be done for the project.

New Business:

Clerk-Treasurer Clark asked to carry over 1.5 vacation days for Tricia Borders to the first quarter of 2024. Councilman Kring made the motion to allow 1.5 vacation days to be carried over to the first quarter for Tricia Borders, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor. Councilman Kring stated we allowed the Police vacation days to be paid out because of them being understaffed and it is in the Police budget. Councilman Rippy asked about Chief Bitner having 10 vacation days left. Chief Bitner asked for the vacation days to be paid out, the last portion of the month. He advised he had money in the part-time line he could transfer over if you agreed to pay them out. Councilman Kring stated with the Department Heads he doesn't want to set a precedence that the Chiefs don't have to take vacation and they bank them until yearend. Chief Bitner stated they were planned but he had hit some roadblocks on finalizing the EMS contract. Councilman Rippy made a motion to pay his 10 vacation days out. Councilman Kring stated we need to look at the Fire vacation days and handle them like the Civil side. There was a brief discussion on the vacation days. Kring stated this has worked well with the Civil side. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated this would be \$2,564.26 to be paid out of the 2023 wages for Joe's vacation days. Councilman Kring stated he worries the Dept. Heads should be proactive, maybe we should make a policy that with the Department Heads vacation we have no desire to carry over. Councilman Kring seconded the motion to pay out Chief Bitner his 10 vacation days, with all in favor.

Mayor's Report: Nothing to report.

Fire: Chief Bitner asked if there were any questions on the monthly report. There were no questions. Chief Bitner stated in regards to ALS the State guys are checking everything over and it looks good for tomorrow or early Friday, once the inspection is done we should be good to start January 1. Councilman Kring asked if there was a contingent

plan. Chief Bitner stated we have two ambulances for BLS and if an ALS is needed Jackson Twp, Sheridan, Howard County, and Elwood have the capabilities. Chief Bitner commented Ross Schulenburg started full-time on December 17, 2023. He also commented we had 19 applicants, 15 were properly filled out, 12 spots for the test, 9 showed up, 5 passed the written and physical, one is under the age so we will start him part-time and the other four will be interviewed for the available full-time position. Chief Bitner stated that Tis the Season on December 1st went well. He also apologized for the invitation to the TFD Christmas breakfast that was put in your box and some of you didn't receive it until after the breakfast. Chief Bitner commented that the ALS equipment is rolling in every day, we just got some supplies today. We changed vendor to Bound Tree in Greenwood, a better product and pricing but the same supplies as McKesson. Bound Tree is going to bring a couple of us to their warehouse in Greenwood.

Police: Councilman Kring stated Chief Stout sent us their stats. He also stated Officer Money is off probation at the end of January. Stout had advised Kring that they were interviewing a Johnson County officer, which would be a lateral transfer, he wouldn't have to have the academy, he passed the background check and ride along, and a home visit. He also advised Kring that Sgt. Leisure and Officer Tansy received end-of-year awards for traffic enforcement and criminal arrests.


Comments: Mr. Bob Edinger asked about the baseball concession. Councilman Kring stated the decision on the project is to hold on to the bids and the vendor has been made aware of it, so we can come up with solutions. Mr. Edinger stated the bids are good. Councilman Kring stated depends on the vendors if they will accept. We are not doing contracts with any of the three vendors.

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

Councilman Kring stated to keep Mayor Dolezal and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.


Tamera Clerk, Clerk-Treasure


President, Board of Public Works and Safety