

City of Tipton Common Council meeting was held on March 11, 2024, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

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

Others: Matt Quigley, Debbie Bowlby, TJ Idlewine, Ed Schulenburg, Dick Klein, Mike Bollman, Mark Light, Riley Harden, Roberta Heinzmann, and Rob Cochrane II.

Mayor Schmicker opened the March 11, 2024, Council meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve the February 26, 2024, Council minutes, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Amend Agenda: Councilman Kring made a motion to add two items to the agenda, one the City Council RDC appointment and the other to discuss the Street Dept. Sick Days/Sick Days seconded by Councilman Richards, with all in favor.

BOW: Councilman Kring reported on the March 11, 2024, BOW meeting.

Park Advisory Board: Councilman Ehman stated the Board met and discussed the trail bids coming in higher. He also stated the new asphalt would be done at the basketball courts in May, which will raise it by four inches. Councilman Ehman commented the new playground equipment will be installed when the weather breaks.

Utility Board: Councilman Rippy commented the March 4, 2024, Utility Board minutes are enclosed. He also commented that the water tower bid would be approved at the next Utility Board meeting.

Public Hearing on Farm Lease: Councilman Kring made a motion to open the public hearing on the Farm Lease, seconded by Councilman Richards. Mayor Schmicker stated this is a statutory requirement. The motion was passed with all in favor. Mayor Schmicker asked if anyone wished to say anything at this time regarding the farm lease. This hearing is a requirement. Mayor Schmicker stated with no comments he would accept a motion to close the public hearing. Councilman Ehman made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor.

New Business:

Farm Lease Approval: Mayor Schmicker stated you were given a list of the farm lease bids with the amounts. We will need a motion from the Council on its selection. Councilman Rippy made a motion to accept Idlewine Farms bid at \$350 per acre, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

City Council RDC appointment: Councilman Kring stated he reached out to Greg Burton and Greg would like to remain on the RDC. He also stated Mr. Burton had great attendance, this would be our second and final appointment to the RDC. Councilman Kring made a motion to appoint Greg Burton to the RDC, seconded by Councilman Ricards, with all in favor.

Street Dept. Sick Days/STD: Councilman Kring stated we have an employee who is on STD but is short on sick days for the first fourteen days and the Street Dept. employees would be interested in donating some to the individual. He also stated the City engaged in this about three years ago and we have handled it on a case-by-case basis. Councilman Vautaw made a motion to allow employees within the Street Dept. to volunteer sick days to said employee, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Schmicker stated with the baseball renovation project the next step is City Attorney Quigley is creating a Construction Management Agreement to pursue another type of project execution similar to the Build/Operate/Transfer that we discussed at the last meeting. This is another mechanism type that is utilized to scope out what that looks like. We would publish that to solicit the professional service agreement with this individual and then they would become the project manager moving forward. Mayor Schmicker commented that the Public Safety Building had a very successful meeting last week, there was a lot in attendance, the next meeting is next week, and we will do break-out sessions with Police and Fire and then come back as a group. He also commented that the Golf Grounds Superintendent has officially started, Phil Beaver. Mayor Schmicker stated that the LPA Project 1 is moving forward this is on Jefferson Street from Independence to Buck Creek (Sweetland), they are doing survey work and right of way. He also stated the alley vacation at the Street Dept. will be on the agenda at the next meeting. This alley vacation is for safety reasons, all the Street employees mentioned it when he met with them individually. There was a brief discussion regarding the alley vacation. Mayor Schmicker commented that the Eclipse is April 8th so the BOW and Council meetings will be moved to April 9th.

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Resolution 2024-03 – A Resolution Of The Common Council Of The City Of Tipton, Indiana, Adopting Indiana Code 5-23 ET Seq. As It Pertains To Build-Operate-Transfer Agreement: Mayor Schmicker stated the updated Resolution is in front of you. Councilman Richards made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-03, seconded by Councilman Vautaw, with all in favor.

Claims: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve claims 175902-176020 for \$3,761,648.88, seconded by Councilman Ehman. Councilman Ehman asked about claim 175969. Clerk-Treasurer Clark stated that is the lease payment on the Golf Course Irrigation system.

Councilman Ehman asked about the payment to MakeMyMove coming out of EDIT. Mayor Schmicker explained it was a recruitment tool that was subsidized by IEDC for two years. This attracts people to Indiana. There was a brief discussion regarding this tool. The claims were passed with Councilmen Vautaw, Ehman, and Rippy in favor. Councilman Kring and Richards abstained.

Councilman Kring asked for a quarterly appropriation report for the General Fund so the Council could see the burn rate of the line items in the budget.

Petitions, Comments, and Memorials:

Mayor Schmicker asked about creating a work session for this Board, with a frequency of once a month. The School Corporation does it right before their Board meeting. Mr. Robert Cochrane stated you don't have to provide public comment at the work session. There was a brief discussion on having a work session before each meeting and who would set the agenda for the work session. It was decided to have a work session before the next meeting at 4:45 p.m.

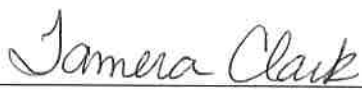
Councilman Rippy gave kudos to Mayor Schmicker and his lovely wife for the work at the ball fields, there was a lot of work done at the fields. It was also stated that on social media there have been a lot of comments regarding the Utility and Street. A comment was made that all our City employees do an amazing job. Mayor Schmicker said kudos to Councilman Rippy for the work at the baseball field as well.

Councilman Richards asked if Chief Stout could turn off the red lights on the stop lights.

Councilman Kring stated we need to get a report on the semis now with signage. Mayor Schmicker stated the BOW report will have the truck stop citations separately. He also stated there is a meeting today with INDOT, Public Works Manager Terry, and City Engineer Mahan would be attending. Councilman Vautaw said the semi-drivers don't look at the signs and one of the signs doesn't say 19 North. Mayor Schmicker stated he would reach out to the INDOT contact.

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

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.


Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer


Council President