

Mayor – Angela Russell
Recorder – Rhonda Ardemagni
City Attorney –Justin Eichmann
Law Firm–Harrington-Miller
City Engineer–Garver Engineers



Ward 1 Position 1 – Misty Piazza
Ward 1 Position 2– Amber Ibarra
Ward 2 Position 1–Daniel Montez
Ward 2 Position 2–Larry Ardemagni
Ward 3 Position 1- Mike Washkowiak
Ward 3 Position 2– Tim Burress

City Council
December 19, 2023
Minutes

The Tontitown Public Hearing and City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Tontitown City Hall.

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 220 667 057 989

Passcode: Aepw56

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City Council

1. Meeting Call to Order
2. Roll Call

All in attendance

3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Agenda

Amber Ibarra motioned to approve the agenda.
Second by Misty Piazza

Mike Washkowiak Voted- NO
Tim Burress Voted- NO
Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES
Amber Ibarra Voted- YES
Daniel Montez Voted- NO
Misty Piazza Voted- YES

3 Votes- YES to 3 Votes- NO = Tie (All NO votes were based on the time the information was received)

Mayor Russell Votes- YES

Motion Passes

5. Approval of the November 11, 2023, City Council Minutes

Tim Burress motioned to approve the minutes.

Second by Daniel Montez

Motion passes unanimously.

6. Approval of the December 5, 2023, Special City Council Minutes

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.

Second by Tim Burress

Motion passes unanimously.

7. Financial Report

Reference the city website for detailed report.

8. Department Reports

A. Museum

Tontitown Historical Museum (THM) Report for the COW Meeting Tuesday, December 19, 2023.

The THM Board of Directors met in person on Monday, December 4, 2023.

1. End-of-Year Celebration: At our December meeting, we celebrated all our achievements of the year such as a successful May event, Polenta Smear, and all of our updates around the museum and in the community with Emily coming on as part time.

2. Board Member updates: We have two board members that are not renewing their terms in February. We will be looking to backfill them on our board. If you know someone in the area that would be interested, please have them reach out on our website or to any of the current board members.

3. Staff Changes: In the new year we will be backfilling Pam as she has decided that after 5 years with the museum, she is ready to retire and spend more time with her granddaughter. Job posted last week, and we hope to have filled by the end of January. This is a 12 hour a week part time position.

4. Thank you: The museum board would like to thank the City Council for their approval of the 2024 budget. Bringing Emily on full-time will open so many more exciting

opportunities and updates for our museum. We will continue to keep you updated as things are happening.

5. Hours changes: With the changes in museum staff, we have also been evaluating the best hours to be open. Starting January 1st our new hours are Wednesday & Thursday 9-1 and Friday & Saturday 1-4. We will be open by appointment the rest of the week.

New Museum Hours starting January 1st: Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 1 pm; Friday & Saturday 1 pm – 4 pm.

The next THM Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 8, 2023, at 6:00 pm in the City Hall Conference Room.

B. Police

Tontitown Police Monthly Report Month: November 2023

Calls for Service – 916
Accident Reports – 14
Warrants Served – 62
Warrants Outstanding - 1307
Warrants Amount - \$ 1,685,708.50

Training Hours (YTD) – 3063

Citation Total - 259
Speeding Citations - 17
(Other) Traffic Citations - 170
Criminal Citations – 33
Improper Driving (City Ordinance) - 39
Warning Total - 537
Speeding Warnings – 142
(Other) Traffic Warnings –395

C. Fire

Fire Department Report November 2023

Total Calls: 57
EMS 23
FIRE 7
MVA 3
FALSE ALARM 9
SERVICE CALL 3
MUTUAL AID 0

Calls within city limits of Tontitown

November 2023: 607 calls for service November 2022: 474 calls for service

Increase of 133 calls to date over 2022

Average response time (Alarm to en route) listed at: 1 minute 20 seconds.

Average on scene/arrival time (Alarm to on scene): 4 minutes 34 seconds.

Code Enforcement opened 10 new cases and closed 11 in November.

The fire department completed over 260 training hours in November.

We have one cadet complete Firefighter standards school. We have three cadets in EMT school. Ryan Krug and Cody Tucker attended Trench Rescue Technician.

D. Public Works/Engineering

Reference the city website for detailed report.

E. Building Report

Reference the city website for detailed report.

F. Planning

December Agenda:

1. GSP NWA, INC - The applicant is requesting a rezone from C-2 (General Commercial) to R-3, (Single Family Residential) of approximately 36.8 acres at 523 South Barrington.

2. GSP NWA, Inc. - The applicant is requesting a rezone from R-3 (Single Family Residential) to C-2 (General Commercial) of 1.9 acres at 523 South Barrington.

9. Comments from Citizens

Kenneth Lovett 18702 Clearwater Rd., Fayetteville, AR (Kenneth not present but sent an email to all the council and the mayor, the comment is to be added to the minutes)

I will not be able to attend the meeting tonight and may not be able to connect online, so just wanted to speak again to you requesting your attention.

Last month the Council approved the Water Department budget to be balanced. To do this, you did not approve the spendature of a new system for water meter reading. It is my understanding, that decision leaves funds available that are not allocated to a specific project and can be used to fund other projects.

Citizens need you to publicly address the trackout and deterioration of Arbor Acres, Dowell, Kelley and Klenc.

There are options to have these issues addressed by Waste Management, and if not WM, the city should be responsible to clean the Mud/Dirt/Debris with the proper equipment.

Brushing this road with a sweeper is not enough. The deterioration embeds the elements into the road and causes conditions that endanger citizens in certain conditions.

We need someone to step up and address the issue and acknowledge you are aware and moving forward to address.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Lovett

Nina Brown 1851 S. Pinalto Rd., Tontitown, AR

1. The council is doing a wonderful job, and the citizens are proud of this group of people.
2. Continued concerns with Waste Management.

10. Approval by City Council Members to Waive the 3 Reading Rule for All Ordinances on Agenda

Amber Ibarra motioned to approve.
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

11. Old Business: None

12. New Business:

- A. Approval of an ordinance to vacate a 10-foot easement located on East Baker Ave – Angie/Zak

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve.
Second by Amber Ibarra

Motion Passes Unanimously

- B. Approval of the 2024 City Council/Committee of the whole meeting calendar – Angie

Larry Ardemagni motioned to accept.

Second by Tim Burress

Motion Passes Unanimously

- C. Approval of an ordinance authorize an agency agreement with Weichert Realtors Griffin SPG; **Declaring an emergency and for other purposes** – Angie/Corey

Mike Washkowiak stated that he spoke to the landowner, and he had no issues holding off on the sale until after the election.

Mike Washkowiak motioned to TABLE Items C and D until after the March 5th election.

Second by Amber Ibarra

Motion Passes Unanimously

- D. Approval of a resolution to purchase approximately 2.87 acres for a future police station – Angie/Corey

Table

- E. Approval of a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a per capita jail fee agreement by and between the city of Tontitown and Washington County – Angie/Corey

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.

Second by Tim Burress

Motion Passes Unanimously.

- F. Approval of an ordinance amending section 51.04: water service rates of chapter 51: water service – Angie/James

Tim Burress motioned to approve.

Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously.

- G. Approval of a resolution to waive competitive bidding and authorize the mayor to enter into an agreement for purchase and payment in 2026 of 1 1289 Pierce Custom Saber FR Pumper 2nd Gen – Angie/Ryan

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve,
Second by Misty Piazza

Mike Washkowiak Voted- NO
Tim Burres Voted- NO
Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES
Amber Ibarra Voted- YES
Daniel Montez Voted- NO
Misty Piazza Voted- YES

3 Votes- NO to 3 Votes- YES= Tie
Mayor Russell Votes- YES

Motion Passes

- H. Approval of a resolution to amend the 2023 budget for the fire department – Angie/Ryan

Following the design and construction, the new fire department is nearing final completion and it has come to the attention of the City Council that it is necessary to adjust the 2023 fire Department budget in order to provide for the final payment of the last items of furniture, fixtures and equipment for the building; and the City has determined that the 2023 budget should therefore be amended to transfer \$60,000 from the City General Fund to the City Fire Department budget.

Amber Ibarra motioned to approve.
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously.

- I. Approval of a resolution to waive competitive bidding and authorize the purchase of a Ford Ranger for the Tontitown Public Works Department – Angie/James

The City of Tontitown received a quote from Lewis Ford for one (1) 2023 Ford Ranger R4F in the amount of \$39,925.85 for the Tontitown Public Works Department; because the quote provided by Lewis Ford is only valid for a limited amount of time and believes that this price is advantageous and will not be available in the future.

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve the purchase.
Second by Amber Ibarra

Daniel Montez Voted- YES

Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES
Tim Burress Voted- NO
Misty Piazza Voted- YES
Mike Washkowiak Voted- NO
Amber Ibarra Voted- YES

2 Votes-NO to 4 Votes- YES

Motion Passes

13. Comments from Alderman

Mike Washkowiak

1. Thanked Misty, Police Officers, and all the generous factors who supported the Shop with a Cop.
2. Being on the City Council is a serious task and we must answer for the decisions we make because this is not our money.
3. Wants to see more physical prudence.
4. Merry Christmas.

Daniel Montez

1. Thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.
2. Merry Christmas.
3. Requested that James stay in contact regarding Tontitown holding a seat with the Tow-Ton Board.
4. Requested that last-minute items be limited and to allow more time to research before having to vote.

Tim Burress

1. Thanked the council, Fire and Police Departments, Pat Pinalto, Mark Latham, and James Clark.
2. A Dave Ramsey Financial Class is scheduled for February 15, 2024, at 6:00 pm. In the Council Chambers, please contact Tim Burress 479-320-2122 or City Hall, for more information and cost of the class.
3. Thanked Chief Jenison for his actions during a serious health issue with the Burress's daughter.

Misty Piazza

1. Misty wanted to express congratulations to Daniel Montez and Mike Washkowiak as the three have been on the council for one year.
2. Very happy with the Shop with a Cop and all who participated.
3. The Fire Department is in need of kitchen supplies, please contact Misty Piazza at 479-466-3994 or visit Walmart.com where there is a registry named "Tontitown Fire House Warming" until January 15, 2024.

Larry Ardemagni

1. Merry Christmas and have a safe Holiday.
2. The shop with a Cop was a lot of fun and they are greatly appreciated.

Amber Ibarra

1. We take responsibility for the taxpayers and as our city continues to grow, we must make difficult decisions.
2. Appreciates everyone.
3. Merry Christmas.

14. Comments from Mayor

1. Thank you to everyone.
2. She strives hard to do the right thing, but it hurts her heart not to be able to please everyone.
3. Thank you to all the City Departments.
4. Merry Christmas.

15. Comments from City Attorney- Merry Christmas

16. **Adjournment-** All in Favor

Approved this day _____ of _____, 2024

Angela Russell, Mayor

Rhonda Ardemagni, City Clerk-Recorder