

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



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**  
**April 16, 2024**  
**Minutes**

**The Tontitown City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 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  
Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.  
Second by Mike Washkowiak

Motion Passes Unanimously

5. Approval of the March 19, 2024, City Council Minutes.  
Amber Ibarra motioned to approve.  
Second by Misty Piazza

Misty Piazza Voted- YES

Amber Ibarra Voted- YES

Daniel Montez Voted- YES

Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES

Mike Washkowiak Voted- Abstained

Tim Burress Voted- YES

5 Votes- YES and 1 ABSTAINED

Motion Passes

6. Financial Report  
Reference the city website for detailed report.
7. Department Reports

## **A. Museum**

Tontitown Historical Museum (THM) Report for the COW Meeting-Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

The THM Board of Directors met in person on Monday, February 5, 2024.

1. Board of Directors Updates: We are excited to announce we have several members of the community wanting to join our Museum Board of Directors: Allyson Bowen and Kara Jo Engle; Junior Board Members: Ashlyn Bown and Torrie Pianalto. We ask the mayor and city council to approve these appointments to the board tonight.

2. New Staff: A small hiring committee interviewed candidates and hired Amanda Taylor for the part-time Museum Assistant position, Amanda is currently a graduate student in Museum Studies and has previous experience working as a registrar at The Old State House in Little Rock. We are excited about the knowledge she brings to the museum and her eagerness to learn our town's history.

3. University of Arkansas Italian Studies Partnership: We have been approached in the past about partnering with the U of A to host a research intern, but the timing just hasn't worked until this spring 2024 semester. We are hosting Alessandro Palazzuoli-Bevilacqua through May, he will be conducting some Italian translations on documents from the early days of Tontitown, as well as helping put together a new exhibit in the museum which we hope to have ready by Heritage Day, June 2, 2024.

4. "Cries From the Cottonfield": Dr. Larry Foley is diligently working on the documentary "Cries from the Cottonfield", he aims to have it completed and ready for premiere in early-mid April, we are currently looking at sites that the first premiere could take place, he would like the first showing to happen in Tontitown as that is the center of the documentary. We hope everyone will have a chance to view the film either at a local showing or via PBS when it is released this summer through their televised showing.

Regular Museum Hours: Wednesday 9 am – 1 pm; Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 1 pm – 4 pm.

The next THM Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for March 4th.

## **B. Police**

Tontitown Police Monthly Report Month: March 2024.

Calls for Service – 753

Accident Reports – 17

Warrants Served – 118

Warrants Outstanding - 1266

Warrants Amount - \$ 1,587,342.50  
Training Hours (YTD) – 767  
Citation Total - 233  
Speeding Citations - 15  
(Other) Traffic Citations - 144  
Criminal Citations – 42  
Improper Driving (City Ordinance) - 32  
Warning Total - 397  
Speeding Warnings – 108  
(Other) Traffic Warnings – 289

**C. Fire**

Fire Department Report March 2024.

Total Calls: 39  
EMS 16  
FIRE 5  
MVA 4  
FALSE ALARM 9  
SERVICE CALL 5  
MUTUAL AID 0

Calls within city limits of Tontitown

March 2024: 115 calls for service                      March 2023:141 calls for service  
Decrease of 26 calls to date over 2023

Average response time (Alarm to en route) listed at: 1 minute 29 seconds.  
Average on scene/arrival time (Alarm to on scene): 3 minutes 45 seconds.  
Code Enforcement opened   0   new cases and closed   0   in March.  
The fire department completed training hours in March.

**D. Public Works/Engineering**

Reference the city website for detailed report.

**E. Building Report**

Reference the city website for detailed report.

**F. Planning**

Building Report for March.

**Planning Commission**

1. April Planning Commission

Siemens Rezone - The applicant is requesting a rezone of 10.46 acres from R-3 (Single family) to Agriculture (AG) at 1278 Piazza Rd. Parcel #: 830-38117-000.

**Planning Department**

1. Development Code Updates
2. Community Foundation
3. Community Project Funding
4. Heritage District
5. Street Maintenance Plan
6. Park

8. Comments from Citizens

Mark Calcagni 12642 Arbor Acres Rd., Tontitown, AR

1. Friday night was probably one of the top three air issues, gas related, caused headache, nausea.
2. Hasn't seen any ordinances on the agenda for air and water.

Rhonda Doudna 462 Pozza Lane., Tontitown, AR

1. Friday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM, Little Rock- is the meeting to decide whether to pass the class one. Would like everybody to attend the meeting and show support.

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

1. Thanked the council for your service.
2. We got to get this air and water monitored, Friday night was atrocious, and Saturday wasn't any better.
3. Asked the City Attorney if there was anything he could do because the health and safety of the citizens should be the number one priority.

9. 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

10. Old Business: None

11. New Business:

- A. Appointment of Chelsea Stewart to the Tontitown Historical Museum Board – Angie/Museum

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.

Second by Amber Ibarra

Misty Piazza Voted- ABSTAINED  
Amber Ibarra Voted- YES  
Daniel Montez Voted- YES  
Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES  
Mike Washkowiak Voted-YES  
Tim Burress Voted- YES

5 Votes- YES and 1 ABSTAINED

Motion Passes

B. Statistic Performance Report- Angie/Mark

Mark Latham presented this report.  
Reference YouTube for detailed report.

C. An approval of a resolution to purchase a used public works vehicle- Angie/James

The City of Tontitown received a quote from Midwest Motors for one (1) used 2022 Ford Super Duty F-350 DRW in the amount of \$66,789.00 for the Tontitown Public Works Department. Sufficient funds are available for the purchase of the vehicle.

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve the purchase.  
Second by Tim Burress

Motion Passes Unanimously

D1. Impact Study- Angie/Mark

1. Approve Resolution of the Transportation and Public Safety Impact Fee Report.

Mike Washkowiak said a correction is needed to resolution-Code 14-56-103 that is not the city we need to be.

Daniel Montez motioned to approve the Resolution for the Transportation and Public Safety Impact Fee Report prepared by Duncan and Associates for the City of Tontitown as amended.

Second by Mike Washkowiak

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

Tim Burress Voted- YES

5 Votes- YES to 1 Vote- NO

Motion Passes

D2. Approve Ordinance to enact Transportation and Public Safety Impact Fees.

Daniel Montez motioned to approve the ordinance to enact Public Safety Impact Fees.  
Second by Mike Washkowiak

Misty Piazza Voted- YES

Amber Ibarra Voted- NO

Daniel Montez Voted- YES

Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES

Mike Washkowiak Voted- YES

Tim Burress Voted- YES

5 Votes- YES to 1 Vote- NO

Daniel Montez motioned to approve the Emergency Clause.  
Second by Larry Ardemagni

Misty Piazza Voted- YES

Amber Ibarra Voted- NO

Daniel Montez Voted- YES

Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES

Mike Washkowiak Voted- YES

Tim Burress Voted- YES

5 Votes- YES to 1 Vote- NO

## 12. Comments from Alderman

Daniel Montez

1. Thanked everyone for attending and speaking at tonight's meeting.
2. Congratulated Officer Holden for her graduation from the Police Academy.
3. Congratulated Chelsea for her appointment.
4. Congratulated Julie Sallings on her appointment.
5. Thanked Alexandro for your exhibit, looks great.
6. Daniel wants everyone to know when he is making decisions, he is looking out for the citizens of Tontitown.

Misty Piazza

1. Thanked everyone for attending and speaking at tonight's meeting.

2. She is here to do what is right for our city, when making decisions.
3. April 20<sup>th</sup> event is canceled due to weather conditions, plan to move to the September fall event.

Amber Ibarra

1. We all agree we want what's best for Tontitown.
2. Thanked everyone for attending and speaking at tonight's meeting.
3. Appreciates the Council Members.

Larry Ardemagni

1. Thanked everyone for attending and speaking at tonight's meeting.
2. We have hard choices and I hope I'm making the right ones and doing the right thing.

Tim Burress

1. It is his job to serve the citizens and it's a joy because he loves Tontitown.
2. Wants to see Tontitown succeed in growth.
3. Thanked the City Departments.
4. Pleasure to work with all the Council Members.
5. Thanked everyone for attending and speaking at tonight's meeting.

Mike Washkowiak

1. Thanked everyone for attending and speaking at tonight's meeting.
2. Listened to people the last couple of nights and doing his own research and believes these fees are a necessity for Tontitown and to provide the level of protection that we need for our citizens.
3. Addressed Mr. Calcagni that they are not forgotten, drafting legislation must be precise with not running a foul with state and federal law. Representatives Unger and Lundstrom have submitted a Bill to get a million dollars to do water testing but wasn't sure if any would apply to air, but we have their attention down in Little Rock and we have state level people representing us and will continue do what we can.

13. Comments from Mayor

1. Thanked everyone for attending and speaking at tonight's meeting.
2. This was a very hard decision and all the council worked diligently.
3. Thanked the council for listening to the citizens and developers and doing what is best for Tontitown.

14. Comments from City Attorney- NONE

15. **Adjournment**- All in Favor