

City of Tipton Common Council meeting was held on January 27, 2025, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

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

Others: Dylan Dietrick, Joe VanBibber, Matt Quigley, Elsie Smith, Mike Bollman, Andi Pumphrey, Andrea Richter, Mindy Mason, Abby Ripberger, Rick Powell, Felicia Beckett, Rob Cochrane III, and Lindsey Ogden.

Mayor Schmicker opened the January 27, 2025, Council meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve January 13, 2025, Council minutes as submitted, seconded by Councilman Vautaw, with all in favor.

Amend Agenda: Nothing to report.

BOW: Councilman Kring reported on the January 27, 2025, BOW meeting.

Golf Advisory Committee: Councilman Ehman stated they meet this Wednesday, January 29, 2025.

Solid Waste District Board: Councilman Richards commented we elected our officers today. Mayor Kegan Schmicker was appointed as President and County Council Joe VanBibber was appointed Vice President.

Street, Alley & Sidewalk Committee: Mayor Schmicker stated we had a brief meeting in truth because of the success we've been having with Dylan, the Municipal Services Superintendent. We've converted that to a quarterly meeting, so the report out will be less than it has been traditionally, but because we've been checking off many things on that list, kudos to Dylan.

Planning Commission: Councilman Vautaw commented we had a meeting on January 16th, and we elected officers. The President is Mike Bollman, the Vice President is Jason Henderson, and the Secretary is himself. He also commented that they had a public hearing on the Subdivision Control Ordinance amendments; after closing the public hearing, they decided to make a favorable recommendation to this Council.

Utility Board: Councilman Rippy stated the Board met last Monday, January 21st. He also stated F&K Construction has begun construction on the lift station. Councilman Rippy commented the steel water tower should be finished in early spring. He also commented that General Manager Ankrum, Matt Smith, and Strand Engineering remain engaged in the IDEM Pre-Treatment Wastewater permit process.

Youth Council: Mayor Schmicker commented that the Youth Council had a retreat to kick off this new semester and will be working to execute the projects they presented last fall.

New Business:

Tipton Main Street – Project Proposal – Rob Cochrane III: Mr. Rob Cochrane III introduced himself and stated he is the President of Tipton Main Street and serves on the Board of Directors and Chair of their Economic Vitality Committee. He also stated that he works at First Farmers Bank and Trust as a commercial lender during the day. Mr. Cochrane commented that we have a project before you tonight that our committee has come up with titled Project Rosebud. You ask why, Rosebud. Well, our project location is at the downtown plaza, and we want to enhance it to fully utilize it as originally planned. The plaza happens to be next to the Diana, and one of the greatest movies of all time was Rosebud so we wanted to honor the movie you know in relation to the Diana. Mr. Cochrane stated we want a stage in the SE corner of the plaza near the existing patch of grass and by the electrical panel. This stage can be used on a year-round calendar, and it could drive pedestrians to local businesses, attract out-of-town visitors, utilize the City's DORA district, support local artists, musicians, and theater, and enhance the vibrancy of our park amenities and downtown. We don't own the property, so we need City approval; no funding is requested, the money is on hand, and there is a potential for naming rights for the stage. He also suggested enhancing the area, murals promoting art, bike and pedestrian infrastructure, along with a trail to the plaza. Councilman Ehman asked for the estimated cost. Mr. Cochrane commented that the quote was from a local contractor for \$15K. There was a brief discussion regarding murals. Mr. Cochrane stated the construction cost would be for the concrete foundation and the cedar stain pergola. There was discussion on who would control and set the schedule. It was suggested that the City put Main Street on the programs and schedule. The Main Street Board stated they would do that. Mr. Cochran stated they would like access to the original plans and to know who the contractor was so they know where the irrigation is located. Councilman Vautaw motioned to allow Tipton Main Street to move forward with Project Rosebud, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor. Mr. Cochrane commented before he leaves, he wanted to take a moment to thank the people who make this possible: our Board of Directors Patti Eliserio, Julian Purvis, Amanda Baird, Mike Benjamin (Who is stepping in for James Davis while he is in Kuwait), Lindsey Ogden (Vice President), Abby Ripberger (Secretary), Max McNeal (Treasurer), and Rob Cochrane III (President). The Economic Vitality Committee consists of Bill Gossard with HAND, Nate Kring, Nancy Johnson, Miranda Silvery, the Chamber CEO, Rob Cochrane III (Chair), and Tom Dolezal. Thank you all.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Schmicker stated the West Street Project from Madison going south to South Street should be kicking off; we had a pre-construction meeting last week; they are estimating 2-4 weeks; some of that depends on still trying to secure all the materials for that project and also the weather. He also stated on the Public Safety Building just a

general update that he has been working on with a group to do some internal price estimating on the improvements he had worked with both Chief Stout and Bitner to prioritize a list of critical building improvements and worked with this group to give us a cost estimate so when we do formally put it out for bid that we don't get surprised by the pricing when it comes back. Those numbers were a little higher than we were hoping for, so we're continuing to fine-tune that as we work toward bidding the project out, hopefully by no later than the end of February. Councilman Ehman stated on the West Street project that all those residents had been notified. Mayor Schmicker noted this at least once, but after our pre-con meeting, we asked some additional questions, so our plan is to send out additional communication via mail. We've been mailing letters out. We are still trying to figure out what those realities look like with trash and school pick-up.

Resolutions & Ordinances: Nothing to report.

Claims: Councilman Rippy made a motion to approve claims 178450-178545 for \$737,198.12, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor.

Petitions, Comments, and Memorials:

Ms. Andi Pumphrey, Tipton, commented there is a chair on Dearborn that needs to be picked up; why can't we be proactive instead of reactive? Employees drive by and just let the garbage sit.

Ms. Abby Ripberger, Tipton, stated she has a business question: is there a chance of business recycling? We all have tons of cardboard and would be 100 % willing to pay for it; the business owners would love that. Councilman Rippy and Ehman both stated it had been discussed.

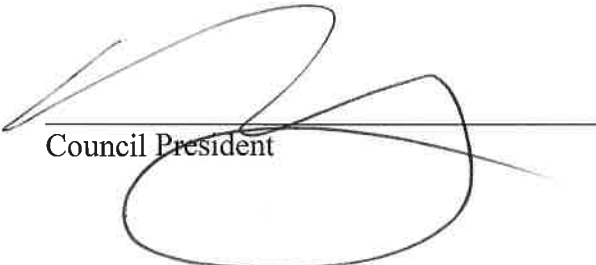
Ms. Felicia Beckett, Tipton, commented that a small alley behind her house on Vine Street has been decommissioned since 2009, and the neighbors take care of it. She also commented that she would like to have the portion behind her house decommissioned as well. Mayor Schmicker stated he would take this to the Street, Alley & Sidewalk Committee, and we would look into this along with the right of way.

Adjournment: Councilman Richards motioned to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Rippy, with all in favor.

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.



Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer



Council President