

City of Tipton Board of Public Works and Safety meeting on March 10, 2025, at Tipton City Hall, Council Chambers, Tipton.

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

Others: Dylan Dietrick, Ron Byal, Savannah Morris, Emily Hartley, Chad Huff, Tim Richards, Evan Pisk, Judy Coker, Matt Quigley, and Diana Tomlinson.

Mayor Schmicker opened the March 10, 2025, BOW meeting.

Minutes: Councilman Ehman motioned to approve the February 24, 2025, BOW minutes, seconded by Councilman Kring, with all in favor. Councilman Kring motioned to approve the March 5, 2025, BOW Executive Session Memorandum, seconded by Councilman Ehman, with all in favor.

Amend Agenda: Nothing to report.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

New Business: Nothing to report.

Cemetery: Cemetery Manager Tomlinson stated there were three burials, one cremation, and six lots sold at \$4,200. The price increase will be this month.

Park: Superintendent Tomlinson commented that Sinclair Recreation will install the new playground this week. She also commented that some coaches contacted her about using the Babe Ruth Field for their practices. Tomlinson stated she would be moving a set of bleachers over to the Babe Ruth Field to be used for practices. She also noted the maintenance shed will be getting new siding on it. Tomlinson commented that some trees will be removed in the coming weeks, one in the 800 block on N. Main Street (Tree Committee budget) and the other behind the Historical Society office near the street (Park's budget). She also commented that she called in a locate on the area west of the boat ramp so the contractor can make necessary changes to the landscaping to avoid standing water in the area. A question was asked about the lighting for the trails. Tomlinson stated she had turned the information into the grant writers and had a conversation with Electric Superintendent Plake about using some current poles in the area.

Planning Department – Enforcement Division: Building Commissioner Director Coker reviewed the permit report with the BOW. She also stated the BZA had a petition this month, and the Planning Commission has a PH on definitions for the Subdivision Control Ordinance. Enforcement Officer Evan Pisk reviewed the monthly report with the Board. He also stated that 421 N. East Street got a permit for the building. We have a hearing on 525 E. Jefferson Street. Mr. Ron Byal is here; Mayor Schmicker stated the property suggests it is vacant. We would like to understand the use of the property and some items on the

property. Are they trash, or are you keeping them? Mr. Byal stated he was not going into details, but the property is being used, the items are car parts from antique cars, and he doesn't want to trash them. He used to have an overhang over them, but the heavy snow knocked it down. There was a brief discussion regarding who lived in the house and about the car parts being a habitat for rodents/varmints. Mr. Byal stated there are no varmints or rodents. Mr. Piske stated the following item is 327 ½ N. Independence. He inspected the property, and it is all in good condition. All issues have been addressed. Councilman Ehman stated all inspections look good. Enforcement Officer Piske stated all is well-kept and maintained. The oven issue is being resolved today, and everything should be completed by mid-week. Mr. Piske commented that 461 N. Conde, Mr. Netherton has a demo contract with Kip Bergman, and Netherton is removing items from his house. Councilman Kring asked for an update on the Red Brick. It was reported that work is being done. Mayor Schmicker stated he had a follow-up meeting with Josea and Cliff Ragan this week or next. It was stated there was little progress. Hopefully, the investment will be completed in a reasonable amount of time. Councilman Kring asked about the former Chamber Building because of the Downtown Development Plan. Mayor Schmicker stated that it is not actively being done. He was called, and he was coming in to get a permit. Mr. Piske stated he would call again.

Street: Municipal Services Superintendent reviewed his report with the Board. He also stated the West Street project is moving today; there were a few days off due to weather. Councilman Ehman asked when the estimated completion date was. Mayor Schmicker stated that it would take 90 days, but they ran into a lot of utilities, which slowed them down. Superintendent Dietrick commented they came across a gas main on the north side of South Street that wasn't marked, but they treated it as a live line. He also commented that he purchased a walk-behind paint sprayer, a two-person operation. Dietrick stated he was asked about the two lanes on Fairgrounds Road and SR 19 about swapping them to help with morning traffic. He also stated he reviewed it and has the material, so he will adjust it when the weather breaks. Councilman Kring asked about removing the ruts and preventing people from driving through. Can we extend the paving to 100-150 feet on Main Street? Mayor Schmicker stated we had a meeting with Midwest Paving during the pre-construction meeting. We also spoke with INDOT about milling and resurfacing those wings. Superintendent Dietrick stated this would be the Main Street and Independence Street intersections. They discussed creating ideas for the bump-outs, either obstruction or cement. Dietrick stated Park would maintain it, but it could be a safety issue. The grass looks better, but maybe a concrete flowerpot or an attractive element would help. Councilman Kring stated concrete, with fake or real grass on top, there would be no maintenance, and you could replace it when needed. Dietrick stated the Street Dept. is filling them in and smoothing them out. Do you have any ideas for that? Councilman Kring stated you don't need my input, but you and the mayor can come up with a plan. He asked if we were ordering new stop signs. Dietrick stated all the materials are in. We need to determine precisely where they need to go, and then we will have Tragesser pour the holes. Mayor Schmicker stated Chief Stout would get with us when we decided where the stop signs needed to go. He also stated it would be about 30-45

days. Councilman Kring stated that adding the wings would be huge and that the asphalt companies should open up soon. Councilman Ehman asked if there are plans to spray the weeds along 28 before they get tall. Superintendent Dietrick stated we have chemical supplies to do the alleys and curb weeds.


Tipton Arts Commission: Arts Commission member Chad Huff, commented that they are reviewing artists' RFQ (Request for Quotes). He gave a brief outline of the RFQ. Mr. Huff stated they are engaging in Generation Arts in the community, the Boys & Girls Club, and Encore. He also said they have determined the arts priority and goals document, completed grants, engaged community base, and business economic impact. Mr. Huff commented that the next meeting will be on March 26th at the library. Councilman Ehman asked who was responsible for The Alley. Councilman Kring stated Main Street. They had lost the title but just got the title back. Maybe they can replace some of that art in The Alley. He also stated you might contact Main Street to engage on this. Councilman Ehman said you might contact the schools' arts programs. Mr. Huff stated part of it is to reach out to the community, a Professional Artist, to the artist's work and how to facilitate that artist.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Schmicker stated we were awarded the CCMG 2025 grant, which will be strategic like West Street. It will have two to three phases. He also stated that this will be East Street and Independence Street near South Street, and they will work toward downtown, near Independence and Madison, and East Street near Jefferson Street. There are no inlets along Jackson Street. There was a brief discussion about West Street tiles.

Mayor Schmicker asked the students in attendance if they had any questions, but there were no questions.

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

Submitted by Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer.

  
Tamera Clark, Clerk-Treasurer

  
President, Board of Public Works and Safety