

Mayor – Paul Colvin Jr.
Recorder – Rhonda Ardemagni
City Attorney –Justin Eichmann
Law Firm--Harrington-Miller
City Engineer – Garver Engineers



Ward 1 Position 1-Gene McCartney
Ward 1 Position 2– Amber Ibarra
Ward 2 Position 1—Arthur Penzo
Ward 2 Position 2—Larry Ardemagni
Ward 3 Position 1—Don Doudna
Ward 3 Position 2—Tim Burress

Committee of The Whole
October 19, 2021
Minutes

The Tontitown Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 19, 2021** at 6:00 p.m. at the Tontitown City Hall, Tontitown, Arkansas and via Zoom and YouTube visit <https://zoom.us/j/95097016958>

Meeting ID: 950 9701 6958 or join by phone at +1 (312) 626-6799. When prompted for Meeting ID: 950 9701 6958#
If you do not have a Participant Number: press #

If you wish to watch Online without interactively participating, you can stream the meeting online via YouTube, from our YouTube Channel:

- By PC, Mac, iOS (iPhone), or Android: Navigate to the “Tontitown City Hall” channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIbUv481CeNFF2JNwoOsrNQ>

2. Roll Call

All in attendance

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of Agenda

Arthur Penzo motioned to approve the agenda
Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion passes Unanimously

5. Approval of **September 21, 2021, COW Minutes**

Tim Burress motioned to approve
Second by Amber Ibarra

Motion passes Unanimously

6. Monthly Financials

Reference the city website/YouTube for detailed report

7. Comments from Citizens- None

8. Department Reports

- a) **Police Department – Chief Corey Jenison**
Reference the city website/YouTube for detailed report
- b) **Fire Department—Operations Chief Todd Witzigman**
Reference the city website/YouTube for detailed report
- c) **Public Works Department – James Clark**
Reference the city website/YouTube for detailed report
- d) **New Build Permit Report – James Clark**
Reference the city website/YouTube for detailed report
- e) **Planning Department – Rocky Clinton**
Reference the city website/YouTube for detailed report
- f) **Tontitown Museum Board – Beverly Cortiana or Katherine Karras**
Reference the city website/YouTube for detailed report

9. Old Business:

- A. **Discussion of the Conditional Use Permit for a cellular communication tower to be constructed for Verizon Wireless at the Southwest corner of 1853 W Henri De Tonti Blvd – Colvin**

Nathan Rotensteich with Verizon explained that this location was chosen to better improve cell service between two existing towers east and west of this location. And this property owner was the only one that would agree to lease to Verizon.

City Attorney Justin Eichmann presented a Memorandum referencing the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the “TCA”), Wireless Communications Facility- Conditional Use Permit Application, to the council to review and to contact him with any questions.

Reference YouTube for lengthy discussion.

Larry Ardemagni motioned to move to the next city council meeting
Second by Amber Ibarra

Don Doudna voted- NO
Larry Ardemagni voted- YES
Gene McCartney voted – YES
Tim Burress voted- NO
Arthur Penzo voted – YES
Amber Ibarra voted- YES

Motion Passed

- B. **Discussion of an increase to the budget to assist employees with dependent insurance cost – Colvin**

The mayor is asking that the city pay \$200.00 towards Family Coverage per month.

Tim Burress would rather increase the salaries.

The council is to contact the mayor or Pat Pianalto with any questions.

Arthur Penzo motioned to move to the next city council meeting
Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion passes Unanimously

10. New Business:

A. Update on the NACA Plant Presented by Mike Neil and Garver – James

Reference YouTube for the lengthy update that Mike Neil and Garver presented, and the questions and comments from the mayor regarding the City of Tontitown's responsibility verses the cost of other cities like Bentonville.

B. Discussion of a Resolution Adopting premium pay for certain municipal employees from the American Rescue Plan – Colvin

The city received approximately \$450,000.00 in ARPA funds and another \$450,000.00 is scheduled for January 2022 and an additional \$1,100.00 other cities didn't ask for. The mayor attended classes with the Arkansas Municipal League on how to spend this money. Currently the funds are to be spent on Water/Sewer and Drainage Infrastructure projects. The Federal Government is allowing for all the cities in NW Arkansas to adopt this resolution for Premium pay for their city employees. This resolution is copied from City of Farmington which was pasted by Lincoln, Springdale, and Prairie Grove and since we never shut our city down and the mayor is asking the council to adopt this resolution, and to pay the full-time city employees who qualify \$2,500.00 per employee, in lu of a Holiday bonus, for providing essential work during the covid pandemic. One city museum employee is disqualified because she was furloughed.

Full Time = January 1, 2021, through September 30, 2021, and is still employed at passage.

One update in Section 2 of the resolution – Add language “and currently employed”.

Don Doudna motioned to move to the next city council meeting
Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion passes Unanimously

11. Comments from Council Members

Arthur Penzo asked James Clark. Why the “NO truck” signs were not on North Barrington?

James will be looking into this request.

Arthur 's daughter works in Bentonville at the Court House, and she called around and got 1,100 pieces of candy donated to Tontitown's Halloween event and Arthur will be picking it up Saturday.

Don Doudna said he accepted a new job offer and just couldn't turn it down and was stepping down from his position effective immediately. Don said overall we have done a good job for the city; he is very proud that a fire station that's going to be built. Don enjoyed working with everyone said it has been challenging, rewarding, and aggravating at times. Don may have upset people along the way but always tried to do the right thing for Tontitown.

Gene McCartney thanked Don and his family for all their services. Don put his heart and soul into it and like Don said there's been high and low times, but it's been a high time, the whole time since he's been on council. Don is very much appreciated.

12. Comments from Mayor

The mayor thanked Don Doudna for his years of service. We may not have always agree but like the mayor said we leave our disagreements in chambers.

The mayor said the council should have been received a packet from the Legislative Audit for the last 2 years and it is a requirement of the mayor to make that announcement at a council meeting. The city passed with flying colors, except for two and those findings are on the mayor.

- 1) Christmas that we had here at City Hall and the no minutes were recorded.
- 2) The mayor spent tax dollars on a tent and chairs for Tommy Granata's Funeral which the mayor explained it was the height of Covid and Tommy was a former mayor of Tontitown, and the church couldn't hold it.

The Ozark Catholic Academy had an auction and raised \$40,000.00 to put towards broadband for the school.

Congratulations, the Bond Issue passed with 86%. The mayor said he was so proud of the council and all the city employees for handing out flyers and educating the citizens on what the city was trying do for them and future growth.

The city is working on a one-story Fire Department building design, with no administration office. With extra money saved the city could remodel the old Fire Department and that could be the administration office. A committee has been formed to assist with the design of the administration office that will house the Fire Marshall, Inspections Department, and Building Officials.

Committee personal are as follows:

Gene McCartney- Councilman- IT experience

Kevin Burrese- Vice Chairman of Planning- Has commercial/residential building and design experience

Todd Witzigman- City Fire Chief-Expert in the fire world

Bernard Pianalto- TAFD- Chief- Expert in the fire world

City Planner Nathan Crouch is leaving.

If the council has any questions about the budget or salaries get in contact with Pat Pianalto or the mayor.

13. Comments from Attorney- None

14. Adjournment- Arthur Penzo motioned to adjourn Second by Amber Ibarra All in Favor