

Mayor – Angela Russell  
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—Penny Baskin  
Ward 3 Position 2—Tim Burress

## Committee of The Whole

**September 20, 2022**

### Minutes

The Tontitown Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday September 20, 2022**, 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/UClbUv481CeNFF2JNwoOsrNQ>

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1. Meeting Call to Order
  2. Roll Call  
All in attendance
  3. Pledge of Allegiance
  4. Approval of Agenda

Arthur Penzo motioned to approve  
Second by Penny Baskin  
Motion Passes Unanimously

5. Approval of **August 16, 2022** COW Minutes

Tim Burress motioned to approve  
Second by Amber Ibarra  
Motion Passes Unanimously

6. Monthly Financials-  
Detailed report is available on the city website

7. Comments from Citizens

Rhonda Doudna- 762 Possa Lane, said government should always be transparent. At the last council meeting Michael Odette complained that is neighbor and councilwoman has been harassing him and told the council what he found. For the last three weeks Mrs. Baskins has inundated the city employees, city attorney, code enforcer, police, and the mayor over a fence issue, that Mrs. Baskin’s approved while on the planning. Mr. Odette’s fence was built to code. Mrs. Baskin has been voting in Oklahoma since 2004 under Penny Lynn Ramsey Baskin. Mrs. Baskin was not a registered voter in the State of Arkansas when she took her seat on planning in March 2021 or when she took her oath November

2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, when she was appointed to sit in a council seat. Mrs. Baskin was sworn in but failed to mail in her oath to be filed with the secretary of state to make it legal or provide financials while in planning, failure to do so, the seat shall be declared vacant by the council. Mrs. Baskin finally registered to vote in the State of Arkansas in April 2022, she has falsified documents, failed to follow the state law knowing she did not qualify and has been paid by the city and this is fraud and citizens need to be aware of Mrs. Baskin's actions. Mr. Odette has filed an Ethics complaint against Mrs. Baskins because she continues her leverage as a council member to harass him and his wife, another lengthy complaint has been filed by a city employee. Mrs. Doudna demands Mrs. Baskin to resign till this matter is resolved.

Mark Beasley who is producing a movie and wanted to introduce himself to the council because Tontitown is the location for the next movie called "InThrallled".

Rodney Jackson 246 s. Pinalto Rd. was asking about an update on additional culverts on the north end of Pinalto due to the drainage and flooding issues.

Kenneth Lovett 18702 Clearwater Rd., Fayetteville, Ar- who lives in Washington County outside the city limits of Tontitown, had questions and personal comments for the Tontitown City Council.

- 1) Would like the public comments moved
- 2) Asked how many of the council have read and know the codes
- 3) Why are there so many variances
- 4) Mr. Lovett has brought this up several times and he believes that the city has a conflict of interest with its Attorney whose firm represents other cities.

## 8. Department Reports

### a) Police Department – Chief Corey Jenison

Tontitown Police Monthly Report  
Month: August 2022

Calls for Service – 707  
Accident Reports – 20  
Warrants Served – 88  
Warrants Outstanding - 1132  
Warrants Amount - \$ 1,484,888.65  
Training Hours (YTD) - 1818  
Citation Total - 204  
Speeding Citations - 13  
(Other) Traffic Citations - 150  
Criminal Citations – 41  
Improper Driving (City Ordinance) - 50  
Warning Total - 308  
Speeding Warnings – 89  
(Other) Traffic Warnings – 219

### b) Fire Department—Interim Operations Chief Mark Ramsey

Tontitown Fire Dept.  
141 Zulpo St.  
P.O. Box 305  
Tontitown AR 72770

Fire Department Report  
August 2022

Total Calls: 80

Call Type	City	Rural
EMS	50	6
Fire	1	2

MVA	7	0
False Alarm	7	0
Service Call	7	0
August Total	72	8

YTD Total (8/31/22) 336 (+79) 80 (-5)

Last YTD (8/31/21) 257 85

Tontitown Fire Department responded to 40 EMS calls at the Grape Festival.

We had 20 more calls this August compared to August 2021.

TFD raised over \$500 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA).

School inspections were completed prior to student start dates.

TFD completed over 320 hours of training in August.

Volunteer Fireman Ryan Krug completed Instructor and Officer III in Camden, AR.

Garrett Henry and Cody Tucker completed the 80-hour Driver/Operator class.

Garrett Henry, Cody Tucker, and Brandon Carmean started EMT school.

**c) Public Works Department – James Clark**

Monthly Report September 2022 Public Works Department STREETS/PARKS:

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the last Council meeting when the paving of North Ardemagni was approved. Your support will make many residents happy as this section of road has needed this improvement for many years. The paving contractor indicated that he will be able to move in, and possible complete the project the first week of October, weather permitting.

City staff has met and discussed plans to move forward with developing a list of street priorities and potential sources of funding. In the next few months, we should have a Street Master Plan draft available for your review. Mark Latham has also been in touch with Duncan and Associates, the company working on impact fees, regarding fees for street improvements.

**WATER/SEWER:** We are finally at the bidding stage for the Highway 412 water line project. The bid advertisement has been submitted to the newspaper and will run statewide in the Sunday edition September 18th and 25th. A pre-bid conference will be held October 18th at 10:00 am for contractors to meet with the Engineer and the City to inquire about any specific issues and receive clarification of plans and specs. The formal bid opening will be held Friday, October 28th at 2:00 pm.

My main concern regarding the water project is the amount of bond funds remaining after the purchase of materials. There is no question, we saved a considerable amount of cost by prepurchasing materials. Hopefully, this will greatly impact the bids for the construction of the line. However, the original amount of the bond funds dedicated to water was \$4,088,080. The amount spent on materials to this point is \$1,796,825. Therefore, only \$2,291,255 remains for construction.

Last meeting, I informed you that I attended a meeting with legislators in Little Rock to request ARPA funds be released to the Water and Wastewater utilities in the state. On September 13th, a subcommittee approved the release of \$270 Million in grant funding to be administered by ANRC. Final approval of the release of funding must pass Legislative Council on Friday, September 16th. Once this is approved, there will be a re-application process and a short window to submit projects for funding. The Natural Resources Division has already scheduled meetings across the state, beginning September 21st in Springdale, to assist utilities with applications. In the original application process, we submitted seven water and sewer projects to be considered for funding. In this re-application, in order to increase our chances with funding, we will only be submitting one project. We will request funding for a one-milliongallon elevated water storage tank to be constructed at the intersection of Industrial Drive and East Fletcher Avenue. Engineers estimate on this project is approximately \$4 million.

**d) New Build Permit Report – James Clark**

Reference the city website for detailed chart/report.

**e) Planning Department – Planning**

September Agenda: 1. Bariloche Planned Unit Development and Preliminary Subdivision Plat: The applicant is requesting plat approval for 154 lots: 151 single-family, 2 detention, and 1 common area, on 40.13 acres. The project is located on Klenc Road, approximately 3,300 feet south of Hwy. 412/W. Henri de Tonti Blvd., on parcel #s 830-33758-000 & 830-37758-001.

2. Variance 1710 Arbor Acres Ave: The applicant is requesting a variance at 1710 Arbor Acres Ave. to allow a proposed barn structure to be setback on the west side of the property six (6) feet instead of the required thirty (30) feet. This site is located on parcel 830-38352--100.

October Agenda: 1. Paramount Metals LSD: The applicant is requesting an approval for a LSD approval for improvements and addition of two buildings at 761 W. Henri De Tonti Blvd. Parcel #: 830- 37710-000 and 830-37709-001.

More items will be added.

**f) Tontitown Museum Board – Misty Piazza**

Tontitown Historical Museum (THM) Report for the COW Meeting Tuesday, September 20, 2022 The THM Board of Directors met in-person on Monday, September 12, 2022.

1. 20th Annual Polenta Smear: Save the date for our 20th Annual Polenta Smear, Sunday, November 6th at St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Hall. This year's theme is "Taste of Tontitown." You do not want to miss this amazing event.
2. Visitors: We had 98 visitors in August. The Tontitown Grape Festival brings a lot of visitors to the museum in August.
3. Newsletter: Our newest edition of our newsletter went out last week. You can find it on the city website.

Regular Museum Hours: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 1pm – 4pm

The next THM Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 1, 2022 at 6pm in City Hall Conference Room

**9. Old Business:**

**10. New Business:**

**A. Discussion of the Air Quality Committee established in the City of Tontitown – Angie**

**Below are the members of the committee:**

**Mark Calcagni- Chair**

**Kenneth Lovett- Second Chair**

**Jami Morgan**

**Angie Russell**

**Mark Ramsey**

**Penny Baskin**

**Monthly meetings will be held, the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM.**

**B. Discussion of changing the City Council/Committee of the whole schedule – Angie**

**The mayor has asked the council to think about this change, because some council has expressed that there is not enough time to review the items on the council agenda and as a result the items are being tabled, at the expense of the applicants. This change should help give the council plenty of time to review all items on the city council agenda that requires their vote.**

**The council can vote on a new ordinance for this change.**

**C. Discussion of city budget/cost of living raises – Angie**

**The 2023 budget is coming up soon and the mayor has asked the council to review the 2023 cost of living adjustment proposal that was included in their packet.**

**11. Comments from Council Members**

**Penny Baskin said lots of people came to the Bocce Tournament, car and motorcycle show had a lot of fun.**

**Tim Burress thanked everyone for coming out, also thanked some of our police who help with security for the Rhea Lana consignment resell shop, they are a great example of the kind of guys we have, and that says a lot about Tontitown.**

**Amber Ibarra said Halloween in the park is coming up and volunteers and candy donations are needed.**

**Larry Ardemagni thanked Waste Management for providing the bouncy houses for the kids and said the Bocce Tournament, car and motorcycle show was amazing.**

**Gene McCartney wanted to address the bridge on Reed Valley Rd., according to ARDOT we were deficit, and we did some repairs and had additional damages due to the flooding. Gene would like to know what steps are being taken and what direction we're heading in.**

**Gene would like to move forward with the cell tower workshop. The mayor was asked to get this organized**

**12. Comments from Mayor**

**Thanked Nina Brown for providing some Labor Day snacks for the employees.**

**Thanked Tim Burress for getting the sign done.**

**Planning Session will be at 9:00 Am in the morning.**

**Thursday September 22, 2022, will be a Town Hall meeting 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.**

**13. Comments from Attorney**

**14. Adjournment- Penny Baskin motioned to adjourn Second by Amber Ibarra All in Favor**