

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



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**  
**November 21, 2023**  
**Minutes**

**The Tontitown Public Hearing and City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, November 21, 2023, 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  
Amber Ibarra was absent.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Agenda

Misty Piazza motioned to approve.  
Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

5. Approval of the October 17,2023 City Council Minutes

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.  
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

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, November 21, 2023**

The THM Board of Directors met in person on Monday, October 2, 2023.

1. **Polenta Smear: November 5, 2023**, was our 21st annual Tontitown Reunion and old-fashioned Polenta Smear featuring a Taste of Tontitown. We had 202 guests along with our team of volunteers, board members and staff attend. Dr. Larry Foley spoke about the upcoming film “Cries from the Cottonfield” and answered questions about the release in 2024.
2. **Author Book Talk: THM and the City of Tontitown** hosted author Lauren Braun-Strumfels, on Wednesday October 25th. This was a pre-release event as the book was officially released the next week. We had 17 in attendance.
3. **Italian-American Studies Conference October 25-28:** THM was happy to host two special tours for those in NWA for the IAS Conference. Those in attendance were walked through the journey of the Italians who settled and founded Tontitown while looking through artifacts and photos of those people. There were a few sessions of the conference that focused on the Sunnyside and Tontitown history, with professors from the University of Arkansas, Lone Star College, Cedar Crest College speaking on the topics.

**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 December 4th.

**B. Police**

**Tontitown Police Monthly Report Month:  
October 2023**

**Calls for Service – 1045  
Accident Reports – 24  
Warrants Served – 68  
Warrants Outstanding - 1125  
Warrants Amount - \$ 1,416,824.50  
Training Hours (YTD) – 2901  
Citation Total - 306  
Speeding Citations - 19  
(Other) Traffic Citations - 195  
Criminal Citations – 35  
Improper Driving (City Ordinance) - 57  
Warning Total - 672  
Speeding Warnings – 191  
(Other) Traffic Warnings –481**

**C. Fire**

**Fire Department Report  
October 2023**

**Total Calls: 57  
EMS 31  
FIRE 1**

MVA 6  
FALSE ALARM 7  
SERVICE CALL 12  
MUTUAL AID 0

**Calls within city limits of Tontitown**

**October 2023: 562 calls for service**  
**Increase of 137 calls to date over 2022**

**October 2022: 425 calls for service**

**Average response time (Alarm to en route) listed at: 1 minute 20 seconds.**  
**Average on scene/arrival time (Alarm to on scene): 3 minutes 32 seconds.**  
**Code Enforcement opened 19 new cases and closed 25 in October.**

**The fire department completed over 432 training hours in October.**

**We have one cadet in Firefighter standards school. We have three cadets in EMT school. Ryan Krug attended Rope Technician, Live Fire Instructor, and Live Fire Instructor in Charge.**

- D. Public Works/Engineering  
Reference the city website for detailed report.
- E. Building Report  
Reference the city website for detailed report.
- F. Planning – No report

8. Comments from Citizens-NONE

9. Approval by City Council Members to Waive the 3 Reading Rule for All Ordinances on Agenda

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.  
Second by Mike Washkowiak

Motion Passes Unanimously

10. Old Business: None

11. New Business:

A. Acknowledgment of the 2021/2022 Legislative Audit – Angie

Mayor Russell presented to the council the Arkansas Legislative Audit Report for December 31, 2022, and 2021. During the city's evaluation, nothing came to the attention that would warrant disclosure in the report.

B. Quarterly Performance Report <Informational only> - Angie/Planning

Mark Latham discussed the report in detail.

Reference the city website for detailed report.

- C. Approval of a resolution authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute an agreement for professional services with Crafton, Tull, and Associates Inc for the Heritage Village/Town Center Mater Planning Project – Angie/Planning

Misty Piazza motioned to approve.  
Second by Tim Burress

Daniel Montez Voted- NO  
Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES  
Tim Burress Voted- YES  
Misty Piazza Voted- YES  
Mike Washkowiak Voted- YES

1 Vote- NO to 4 Votes- YES  
Motion Passes

- D. Approval of an ordinance amending in its entirety ordinance No.38 of the city of Tontitown (Ozark Electric) – Angie.

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.  
Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

Daniel Montez motioned to approve the Emergency Clause.  
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

- E. Approval of an ordinance granting Black Hills Energy Arkansas Inc or its successors, the rights, privilege, and franchise to construct, maintain and operate a natural gas system, and lay gas mains, along, over and across and under streets, avenues, alleys, roads, highways, and other public ways for the purpose of distributing and selling natural gas – Angie

Daniel Montez motioned to approve.  
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

Tim Burress motioned to approve the Emergency Clause.  
Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

- F. Approval of a resolution authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement with Crafton, Tull, and Associates Inc for the 2023 pavement maintenance program – Angie/Planning

Daniel Montez motioned to approve.  
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

- G. Approval of an ordinance calling a special election in the city of Tontitown, Arkansas on the questions of issuing bonds under amendment No. 62 to the constitution of the state of Arkansas for the purpose of financing and refinancing the costs of capital improvements – Angie

Misty Piazza motioned to approve.  
Second by Larry Ardemagni

Mike Washkowiak Voted- YES  
Tim Burress Voted- NO  
Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES  
Daniel Montez Voted- YES  
Misty Piazza Voted- YES

1 Vote- NO to 4 Votes- YES  
Motion Passes

- H. Approval of a Conditional Use Permit at 432 Industrial Drive – Angie/Planning

Tim Burress motioned to approve.  
Second by Misty Piazza

Daniel Montez Voted- Abstained  
Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES  
Tim Burress Voted- YES  
Misty Piazza Voted- YES  
Mike Washkowiak Voted- YES

1 Vote- Abstained to 4 Votes- YES  
Motion Passes

- I. Approval of a resolution to adopt the 2023 Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan update – Angie/Public Works/Engineering

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.  
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

- J. Approval of a resolution to amend the 2023 Budget in order to appropriate funds for a tone-time end of year bonus – Angie

Mike Waskowiak motioned to approve.  
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

## 12. Comments from Alderman

Larry Ardemagni

1. Larry attended the Polenta Smear and was shocked with how many others attended.
2. Be safe over the holiday.

Tim Burress

1. Excited in the direction the city is headed.
2. Thanked all city employees.
3. Excited about the new Fire Department.
4. Happy Thanksgiving.

Mike Washkowiak

1. Thanks to everyone for attending.
2. Excited about the new Fire Department.
3. Need the community's support to move forward with the financing and refinancing of bonds.
4. Safe travel during the holiday.
5. Happy Thanksgiving.

Daniel Montez

1. Thanks to everyone for attending.
2. Thanked the department heads.
3. Excited about the new Fire Department.
4. Happy Thanksgiving.

Misty Piazza

1. Thanked the department heads.
2. December 9, 2023, is Shop with a Cop, still need donations cash, and groceries by December 1, 2023.
3. Tontitown is looking to start a Chamber of Commerce and the city will host "First Coffee" in February, invitations will be sent to all local businesses.

## 13. Comments from Mayor

1. Thanked Misty Piazza for all her hard work.
2. Thanks to everyone for attending.
3. Tontitown received a grant from ARDOT for the Highway 412and Barrington intersection.
4. Captain Bowen had a surprise for the council. (raw honey)
5. Happy Thanksgiving.
6. Travel Safe.

14. Comments from City Attorney

15. **Adjournment**- All in Favor