

Mayor – Angela Russell
Recorder – Rhonda Ardemagni
City Attorney –Justin Eichmann
Law Firm–Harrington-Miller
City Engineer–CK Civil
Engineering



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
July 15th, 2025
Minutes**

The Tontitown City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15th, 2025, 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) Prayer- Pastor Hudson with Cross Point Church
- 2) Meeting Call to Order
- 3) Roll Call
All in attendance
- 4) Pledge of Allegiance
- 5) Approval of Agenda

Mayor- The following changes were made to tonight's agenda.

13A- Approval of Rachel Pianalto Strickland was removed and will be on the agenda at the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.

13G- Resolution has been updated by Mark Latham and reflects the new grant amount.

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve the agenda.

Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

- 6) Approval of June 17th, 2025, City Council Minutes

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve the council minutes.

Second by Amber Ibarra

Motion Passes Unanimously

- 7) Approval of June 17th, 2025, Special City Council Minutes

Daniel Montez motioned to approve the Special City Council minutes.

Second by Mike Washkowiak

Motion Passes Unanimously

- 8) Financial Report
Reference the city website for detailed report.
- 9) Department Reports
 - A. Museum

Tontitown Historical Museum (THM) Report for the COW Meeting Tuesday, July 15, 2025

The THM Board of Directors met on July 7th at City Hall.

1. Tontitown Summer Camp: The first annual Tontitown summer camp went great! We had three students participate over two days, they learned some Italian from Enrica Ardemagni with the Tontitown Language Center and how to play bocce from Alessandro PalazzuoliBevilacqua (our intern from Spring 2024). They stomped grapes and made polenta as well as learned about Tontitown culture while crafting and playing games. We look forward to doing this again next summer, we will begin sharing news about that in early 2026!

2. Digitization Project: The current count for CatalogIt is 2,101. Staff are working through a new labeling system for items in storage to make finding these artifacts easier. We are excited to announce we will be using QR codes to allow visitors to interact and learn more about artifacts on display, we will begin rolling this out later this year.

3. New Exhibits Coming: Staff are working diligently on upcoming exhibits, we ask that any Tontitown Veterans or family members please reach out to staff to see how to be included in the upcoming Veterans of Tontitown exhibit. We welcome photos, stories and artifacts that can be loaned for the exhibit or fully donated if desired.

4. Visitors: 31 for June. 2024 we had 32 visitors.

5. Tontitown Business Bingo: Board President Misty Piazza and museum staff are working to put together a community wide business bingo. We hare looking to do a back to school bingo card. If you are a business owner in Tontitown and would like to participate, please reach out to the museum at museum@tontitownar.gov for information. As soon as the board is filled the cards will be available to the public.

6. Grape Festival: THM will be opened extended hours during the Grape Festival. Thursday: 4p.m.-7p.m.; Friday 1p.m.-7p.m.; Saturday: 10a.m.-7p.m.

7. New Board Members: THM Board voted on Rachel Pionalto-Strickland becoming a new board member as well as Katie Jo Piazza and Nikki Mussino becoming Junior Board members. We will be asking the approval of the council later in this meeting.

Regular Museum Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 9am-1pm, Friday & Saturday 1pm-4pm There will be no regular THM Board meeting for June due to Heritage Day, the next meeting will be September 8th at City Hall.

B. Police

Tontitown Police Monthly Report Month: June 2025

Calls for Service – 743

Accident Reports – 18

Warrants Served – 78

Warrants Outstanding - 1339

Warrants Amount - \$ 1,671,126.16

Training Hours (YTD) – 1014

Citation Total - 112

Speeding Citations - 7

(Other) Traffic Citations - 92

Criminal Citations – 13

Improper Driving (City Ordinance) – 37

Warning Total - 387

Speeding Warnings – 154

(Other) Traffic Warnings – 233

C. Fire

Fire Department Report JUNE 2025

Total Calls: 54

EMS 23

FIRE 7

MVA 5

FALSE ALARM 4

SERVICE CALL 3

ALARMS 6

CANCELED IN ROUTE 6

Calls within city limits of Tontitown

June 2025: 296 calls for service

June 2024: 247 calls for service

Increase of 49 calls to date over 2024

Average response time (Alarm to en route) listed at: 1 minute 31 seconds.

Average on scene/arrival time (Alarm to on scene): 4 minutes 35 seconds.

D. Public Works/Engineering

Reference the city website for detailed report.

E. Building Report
Reference the city website for detailed report.

F. Community Development

July Council Report:

Community Development Department

• **Planning Update on Waste Management LDS Inspection Rezone Request – The applicant is requesting a rezone located on 886 N. Barrington Rd. The rezone request is from “R-3” (Residential) to “C-1” (Light Commercial) located on approximately 1 acre. Parcel #: 830-38030-002 Rezone Request – The applicant is requesting a rezone located on 1529 Ardemagni Rd. The rezone request is from “A” (Agriculture) to “R-E” (Residential Estates) located on approximately 5.02 acres. Parcel #: 830-37979-002**

- **Discussion and Review with attorney on rezoning properties to R3-L.**
- **Discussion and Review of Master Street Plan.**

• **Street and Stormwater**

1) **412 and Barrington**

2) **Fletcher Ave.**

3) **Mantegani street upgrade. 4) South Planalto Stormwater Improvements 5) Street Improvements for 2025**

• **Grants 1) In the process to complete grant funding for the Community Building with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. Grant due on July 31st.**

• **Other Projects**

1) **Public Engagement Meeting, Monday, July 28 at 6:00 p.m. at city hall.**

2) **2026 Budget**

10) Comments from Citizens

Kenneth Lovett 18702 Clearwater Rd., Fayetteville, AR

1. Asked if solar lights could be installed on the city sign out front, in memory of Art Penzo.
2. Asked if something could be done regarding the public attacks at the city meetings.
3. September 5, 2025, is the court date for landfill expansion.

Tammy Graham 1984 S. Pianalto Rd., Tontitown, AR

1. She read a text message that was sent on June 9, 2025, by a council member regarding the firing of a city employee (who has since been reinstated during a Special Council Meeting where 4 council members who were in attendance and voted unanimously to overturn the mayor’s decision.) Then she goes on to state her opinions on the overreach by the council member and backroom shenanigans.

Mick Wagner 409 Penzo Ave., Tontitown, AR

1. Mr. Wagner expressed his disappointment with the results of the city's Arkansas Legislative Audit findings for December 31, 2024, and 2023 and addressed those findings to the mayor and council as shameful and embarrassing and that he wanted the record to show this is the worst audit since history's been kept on the web by the legislative audit group. He stated in this audit that the city had three times the number of noted inconsistencies and non-compliance matters, as the city had in the seven years prior.

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

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.
Second by Amber Ibarra

Motion Passes Unanimously

12) Old Business: NONE

13) New Business:

- A. An approval of an Ordinance to adopt an organizational chart for the city – Mike

Mike said there's one slight amendment to the one that we looked at last time, and it's under the position, admin assistance been moved off. It was brought to his attention that it looked like the departments below community development, police and fire reported to the administrative assistant or through the administrative assistant to the mayor. We wanted to make it more clear on that.

A second note and this may be controversial, but you know I know that we've been presented with a alternative organizational chart that was presented today and then at 5 minutes before 6:00 we were presented with attachments to that updated chart. I just want to bring attention. It's my intention to go forward with the resolution that passed five to nothing at the last cow meeting and to also bring the council's attention to section 30.29 of our code 30.29B. Nothing in this section shall prohibit any council member from presenting an ordinance to the full city council after it has been reviewed by the Committee of the Whole regardless of what the Committee of the Whole recommends concerning the ordinance. So, Mike objected to even discussion on the presentation of this second organizational chart.

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve the chart that's in your packet along with the resolution attached to it.

Secon by Daniel Montez

Mike Washkowiak Voted- YES

Tim Burress Voted- YES

Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES

Amber Ibarra Voted- NO

Daniel Montez Voted- YES

Misty Piazza Voted- NO

4 Voted YES to 2 Votes- NO

Motion Passes

B. An Approval of an Ordinance to amend codes 153.170 and 153.171 – Tim

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve to amend code 153.170.

Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve the Emergency Clause.

Second by Tim Burres

Motion Passes Unanimously

Correction to code 153.171 from 2 roosters per acre to 1 rooster per 2 acres.

Amber Ibarra motioned to approve the change.

Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

Amber Ibarra motioned to approve the ordinance with changes.

Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve the Emergency Clause.

Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

- C. Approval of a Resolution to adopt an Emergency plan – Cory

Tim Burress motioned to approve.
Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

- D. Approval of Park Resolution – Mark

Tim Burress motioned to approve.
Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

- E. Approval of a Resolution adopting a Purchasing Manual – Mark

Tim Buresse motioned to approve.
Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

- F. Approval a Resolution for the use of Barrington Property – Mark

Tin Burress motioned to approve.
Second by Amber Ibarra

Motion Passes Unanimously

- G. Approval of a Resolution of the Community Building – Mark

Tim Burress motioned to approve.
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

- H. Approval of a Resolution for work order for industrial area elevated water storage tank
– James

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

- I. Approval to rezone 581 S Barrington Rd – Brad

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve.
Second by Amber Ibarra

Motion Passes Unanimously

- J. An approval to rezone parcel No. 830-37615-007 – Brad

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve the ordinance.
Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

- K. [An approval for additional improvements cost with ground zero construction](#) – Zak

Zac requested that this item be tabled and bring back to the next Committee of the Whole Meeting, because additional work maybe added.

Amber Ibarra motioned to [Table to the next Committee of the Whole Meeting](#).
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

- L. An approval to waive competitive bidding for Fletcher Road Improvements – Zak

Amber Ibarra motioned to approve.
Second by Tim Burress

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

3 Votes- YES to 3 Votes- NO = Tie Vote

Mayor Russell Votes- YES

Motion Passes

14) Comments from Alderman

Misty Piazza

1. Thanked Mike Washkowiak for pointing out the rules and codes and asked that the rest of the council follow the codes as well.
2. She use to really enjoy these meetings and coming to these and we're definitely under attack these days. So, church has been talking a lot about Jesus's love and loving your neighbor and she's working really hard to do that.
3. Have a good night and thank you for coming out.

Larry Ardemagni

1. Thanked the staff for their hard work and it's appreciated.
2. To our citizens whether I agree with your comments or not, I agree that you have a right to express your views.
3. He appreciates Dr. Hudson for the prayer before the council meeting.

Tim Burress

1. Thanked Dr. Hudson
2. He appreciates the citizen comments.
3. Happy Birthday to Larry Ardemagni.

Mike Washkowiak

1. He requested to speak to Mrs. Piazza privately after the meeting to explain why he did what he did. So, if Mrs. Piazza would so be inclined.
2. We're public officials and we're under the spotlight and we deserve the scrutiny and criticisms that we get sometimes. He doesn't like it when people attack other people in the audience. If you want to shoot your arrows at us, granted we probably deserve it sometimes. But he does appreciate people being involved in the city, coming out and participating in the meetings and we couldn't do it without your help.

15) Comments from Mayor

1. There will be a public engagement meeting on July 28th from 6:00 to 8:00. It will be here in City Hall in the chambers. We're requesting feedback from the citizens on what they would like to see in the future of our park. There will be a survey online that citizens can fill out and submit.
2. We're looking for new volunteers to take part in heading up our city events. If you're interested, please contact Megan at City Hall.
3. Update on the walls in the City Hall building, they are going to be repaired next week, then we will need to start taking bids for the replacement of the carpet as suggested by the mold inspector.
4. Due to the Grape Festival, the council has agreed to hold the next Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday August 4, 2025, at 6:00 PM.
5. Thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

16) Comments from City Attorney- NONE

17) **Adjournment**- All in Favor

PASSED AND APPROVED this ___ day of _____ 2025.

APPROVED: _____

Angela Russell, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

**Rhonda Ardemagni, City Clerk-Treasurer
(SEAL)**