

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 32, § 32.04 AND CHAPTER 30, § 30.01 OF THE TONTITOWN MUNICIPAL CODE TO REQUIRE IDENTIFICATION OF THE SPONSOR OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS; TO REQUIRE PUBLIC POSTING OF SPONSOR INFORMATION ON THE CITY'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Arkansas Code Annotated § 14-55-101 authorizes municipalities to enact ordinances consistent with the laws of the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas Code Annotated § 14-43-502 vests legislative authority in the city council of a city of the first class and authorizes the council to establish rules and procedures governing its legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Tontitown Municipal Code § 30.01(F) provides that the Mayor and any member of the City Council may sponsor items for placement on a meeting agenda; and

WHEREAS, Tontitown Municipal Code § 32.04 establishes the procedures for the introduction and consideration of ordinances and resolutions, including the responsibilities of the sponsoring official; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the absence of a uniform requirement to identify the sponsor of ordinances and resolutions creates ambiguity in the legislative record and impairs transparency, accountability, and the public's ability to understand how legislative actions are initiated and advanced; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further finds that public posting of sponsor information alongside enacted legislation promotes open government, preserves an accurate legislative history, and assists council members, staff, auditors, and citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TONTITOWN, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1.

Amendment to Tontitown Municipal Code § 32.04.

Chapter 32, § 32.04 of the Tontitown Municipal Code is hereby amended by adding subsection (D) (E), and (F), to read as follows:

“§ 32.04(D) — Sponsor identification required.

1. Every written ordinance and resolution submitted for placement on a City Council agenda shall clearly identify the Sponsor on the face of the document.
2. For purposes of this subsection, “Sponsor” means the elected official who initiates submission of the ordinance or resolution for placement on the City Council agenda and who moves for its introduction for City Council consideration.
3. One or more co-sponsors may be listed; however, a primary Sponsor shall be clearly designated.

§ 32.04(E) — Required sponsor and legislative history block.

All ordinances and resolutions shall include a sponsor and legislative history block in substantially the following form:

SPONSORSHIP AND LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Sponsor (Initiated By): _____

Motion to Introduce Made By: _____

Seconded By: _____

Adopted / Passed: _____

Vote: Ayes ____ Nays ____ Abstain ____ Absent ____

This requirement is in addition to, and does not supersede, any authentication, attestations, or signature requirements imposed by state law or other provisions of the Tontitown Municipal Code.

§ 32.04(F) — Website posting and legislative index.

1. The City Clerk-Treasurer shall ensure that each ordinance and resolution posted on the City's official website includes, at a minimum:
 - (a) Ordinance or resolution number;
 - (b) Date adopted or passed;
 - (c) Title or subject matter; and
 - (d) **Name and title of the Sponsor.**
2. Sponsor information shall be displayed in a manner that is readily visible to the public and shall be incorporated into the City's legislative index or listing of enacted ordinances and resolutions.”

SECTION 2.

Amendment to Tontitown Municipal Code § 30.01.

Chapter 30, § 30.01(D) of the Tontitown Municipal Code is hereby amended to state, as follows:

“(D) The Clerk-Treasurer shall prepare an informational packet for any regular meeting and post a copy to the internet no later than noon on Friday prior to the meeting. The informational packet should include, if applicable: an agenda, minutes to be approved from prior meeting(s), any documents relating to any agenda submitted by the sponsor of said agenda item; any ordinance or written resolution to be considered; monthly or other periodic financial statements; any written committee reports; and any other item

the Clerk-Treasurer deems appropriate. **All written ordinances and written resolutions included in the City Council informational packet shall comply with the sponsor identification and legislative history requirements set forth in Tontitown Municipal Code § 32.04(D) through (F)."**

SECTION 3.

Implementation.

The City Clerk-Treasurer is authorized and directed to update all ordinance and resolution templates, internal administrative procedures, and the City's official website as necessary to ensure compliance with this ordinance.

SECTION 4.

Severability.

If any provision of this ordinance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5.

Repealer.

All ordinances, resolutions, or parts thereof in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 6.

Emergency Clause.

It is hereby found and determined by the City Council of the City of Tontitown, Arkansas, that the City currently lacks a uniform and transparent method for identifying the sponsor of ordinances and resolutions; that the absence of such sponsorship identification methods undermines clarity in the legislative record and public confidence in municipal governance; that immediate correction is necessary to ensure transparency, accountability, and accurate documentation of legislative actions; and that delay in implementation would continue to impair the public interest.

Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 20.

ATTEST:

City Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED:

Mayor