

Mayor – Angela Russell
Recorder – Rhonda Ardemagni
City Attorney – Tyler R Farrar
Law Firm—Tyler R Farrar Law
Firm
City Engineer—CK Civil
Engineering



Ward 1 Position 1 – Misty Piazza
Ward 1 Position 2—
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 May 19th, 2026 Minutes

The Tontitown City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19th, 2026, 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-** Guy Durkee
- 2) **Meeting Call to Order**
- 3) **Roll Call-** Tim Burress was absent from the meeting but participated remotely via the web.
- 4) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 5) **Approval of Agenda**

Mayor requested the Item K be added-

Approval to appoint the vacancy of the City Council Alderman Ward 1 seat 2 to the agenda.

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve but to add the requested Item to 9A.

Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

- 6) **Approval of April 21st, 2026, City Council Minutes and May 7th, 2026, Special City Council Minutes**

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve both April 21st, 2026, City Council Minutes and May 7th, 2026, Special City Council Minutes.

Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

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

Tontitown Historical Museum (THM) Report for the COW Meeting Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

The THM Board of Directors met April 6, 2026 at City Hall at 6p.m.

1. Heritage Day: THM is ready to celebrate Tontitown history and heritage along with America250, happening on May 31st from Noon-2p.m. We will have pulled pork sliders provided by Red Door along with other sides and grape ice cream from the Tontitown Winery. We hope to see you there, we will be giving out free buttons that will have an America250 theme as well as some fun historic Tontitown buttons.
2. Summer Camp: Happening Jun 8th-10th, we have six students signed up and are excited to play some games, stomp grapes and make food!
3. Digitization Project: Staff are working on textile photographing, this includes wedding dresses, Queen Concordia dresses, vestments, early settler clothing, blankets, flags and banners.
4. Visitors: 9 (2025: 27)
5. America250 Block Party: Shiloh Museum of Ozark History has invited THM to their big block party July 11th, there visitors will get a chance to stop by our table and see some Tontitown history. And Emily has been invited to speak about Tontitown's American story, how we became a town and eventually were incorporated in 1909.
6. Museum Registrar: As we shared on our social media, Juli Sallings is moving onto a great new opportunity and we are actively accepting applications for the Museum Registrar position, details have been shared out on the city and museum social media. We hope to hire in June. Juli has been an asset to the museum since she started two years ago, and it has been an honor to work with her. She has built up the position to what it is today, and we cannot wait to see what the next registrar will bring to the position.

B. Police

Tontitown Police Monthly Report Month: April 2026

Calls for Service – 1162

Accident Reports – 17

Warrants Served – 73

Warrants Outstanding - 1440

Warrants Amount - \$ 1,763,323.93

Training Hours (YTD) – 1257

Citation Total - 205

Speeding Citations -30

(Other) Traffic Citations - 133

Criminal Citations – 11

Improper Driving (City Ordinance) - 31

Warning Total - 655

Speeding Warnings – 117 (

Other) Traffic Warnings – 538

C. Fire

Fire Department Report APRIL 2026

Total Calls: 52

EMS 29

FIRE 3

MVA 8

FIRE ALARM 5

SERVICE CALL 6

MUTUAL AID 0

CANCELED IN ROUTE 0

FALSE CALL 1

Calls within city limits of Tontitown

April 2026: 190 calls for service April 2025: 192 calls for service

Decrease of 2 calls to date over 2025

Average response time (Alarm to en route) listed at: 1 minute 08 seconds.

Average on scene/arrival time (Alarm to on scene): 4 minutes 29 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

May Report:

Building Report Community Development Department

- Planning Presentation by CEI Engineering on Development
- Street and Stormwater

412/Barrington

1st phase of Fletcher

2nd phase of Fletcher

2025 Street Improvements (Work on Reed Valley)

Landfill Road Access Fee

Stormwater work on South Barrington

- Grants Corridor Study

TAP grant

Hazardous Mitigation Grant

- Other Projects

HR Consultant Contract

Community Building Landfill Odor Control Ordinance (Covington Environmental)

Parks Committee (Family Fun Day- June 27)

- G. Attorney

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

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve to Waive the 3 Reading Rule for All Ordinances.
Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

9A. An approval to appoint the vacancy of City Council Alderman, Ward 1, seat 2.

The three candidates listed below submitted their applications for appointment and appeared before the council to address members and answer their questions.

Austin Brown
Richard Castillon
Mick Wagner

Council went into Executive Session.

Daniel Montez motioned to appoint Mr. Mick Wagner.
Second by Mike Washkowiak

Daniel Voted- YES
Mike Washkowiak Voted- YES
Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES
Misty Piazza Voted- NO

3 Voted- YES to 1 Vote- NO

Motion Passes

Mayor Russell swore in Mr. Wagner, who then proceeded to take his seat on the council.

10) Old Business:

A. An approval of a proposed amendment to §153.172 Detached Accessory Dwelling Units. Sponsored by: Mayor/Brad

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve a proposed amendment to §153.172 Detached Accessory Dwelling Units.
Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

Larry Ardemagni motioned to ACCEPT THE Emergency Clause.
Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

B. An approval of a resolution allowing for a payment to Black Hills Energy. Sponsored by: Mark/Mayor

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve the resolution allowing for a payment to Black Hills Energy.

Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

C. An approval of a resolution to purchase placer AI software. Sponsored by: Mayor/Brad

Daniel Montez motioned to approve the resolution to purchase placer AI software.

Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

11) New Business:

A. An approval of a resolution allowing the city to move forward with the 412-Barrington Project. Sponsored by: Mayor/Mark

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve the resolution allowing the city to move forward with the 412-Barrington Project.

Second by Mick Wagner

Motion Passes Unanimously

B. An approval of a resolution regarding the ACT 848 Artificial Intelligence Policy. Sponsored by: Mayor

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve the resolution regarding the ACT 848 Artificial Intelligence Policy.

Second by Misty Piazza

Daniel Montez Voted- YES

Misty Piazza Voted- YES

Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES

Mike Washkowiak Voted- YES

Mick Wagner Voted- ABSTAIN

4 Voted- YES to 1 Vote- ABSTAIN

Motion Passes

C. An approval of a resolution accepting amendments to the Employee Handbook. Sponsored by: Mayor

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve the resolution accepting amendments to the Employee Handbook.

Second by Misty Piazza

Misty Piazza Voted- YES

Mike Washkowiak Voted- YES

Daniel Montez Voted- YES

Mick Wagner Voted- ABSTAIN

Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES

4 Voted- YES to 1 Vote- ABSTAIN

Motion Passes

**D. An approval of an ordinance for the city to request SOQ's and RFQ's for IT services.
Sponsored by: Danny**

Mick Wagner motioned to approve the ordinance for the city to request SOQ's and RFQ's for IT services.

Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

Larry Ardemagni motioned to accept the Emergency Clause.

Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

**E. An approval of a bid award for a Mini Excavator for the Street Department.
Sponsored by: Mayor/Mark**

Daniel Montez motioned to approve the bid award for a Mini Excavator for the Street Department.

Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

F. An approval of a contract to complete a 20-year pavement maintenance plan for streets. Sponsored by: Mayor/Mark

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve the contract to complete a 20-year pavement maintenance plan for streets.

Second by Misty Piazza

Motion Passes Unanimously

- G. An approval of a resolution establishing the process for nominations and appointments to fill the vacancies of City Council Alderman. Sponsored by: Danny**

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve the resolution establishing the process for nominations and appointments to fill the vacancies of City Council Alderman.
Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

- H. An approval of resolution allowing the city to enter an Engineering Contract for 3rd party reviews. Sponsored by: Mark/Mayor**

Daniel Montez motioned to approve the resolution allowing the city to enter an Engineering Contract for 3rd party reviews.
Second by Misty Piazza

Daniel Montez Voted- YES
Misty Piazza Voted- YES
Larry Ardemagni Voted- YES
Mike Washkowiak Voted- YES
Mick Wagner Voted- ABSTAIN

4 Voted- YES to 1 Vote- ABSTAIN

Motion Passes

- I. An approval of an ordinance establishing the mayor as a full-time position with benefits. Sponsored by: Misty**

Mick Wagner motioned to TABLE to the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.
Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

- J. An approval of a resolution for the Water Department to purchase a Mini Excavator. Sponsored by: Mayor/James**

Misty Piazza motioned to approve resolution for the Water Department to purchase a Mini Excavator.
Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

12) Public Comments

Kenneth Lovett- Hwy. 71B, Springdale, AR

Mr. Lovett addressed the council after providing his name and address. He stated that he has been exposed to hazardous vapors from Waste Management's Eco Vista facility and has been raising concerns for years. He emphasized that the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality has confirmed the presence of vapors but has not taken action. He argued that the city, as the host community, has a responsibility to protect its residents rather than ignore or dismiss the issue. He concluded by urging the council to take the matter seriously and thanked them for their time.

13) Comments from Alderman

Mike Washkowiak

Mr. Washkowiak shared that the past week had been personally difficult. He acknowledged the serious news Mr. Monte received and said that everyone is praying for a positive outcome. He then shared that his boss, a 75-year-old man he admired greatly, passed away on Friday, leaving behind his wife, four children, and grandchildren. He also noted that a longtime neighbor from his hometown passed away the same day — another well-loved, energetic person whose family grew up alongside his own. He reflected that while the council's work is important, the people you love — and who love you — matter even more.

Larry Ardemagni

Mr. Ardemagni thanked the entire city staff, expressing appreciation for their work and patience during a long meeting. He added that he was grateful to have them and looked forward to seeing everyone at the next session.

Misty Piazza

Ms. Piazza thanked everyone who ran for the open position and noted that election packets are now available for anyone interested. She reminded the public about Tontitown Heritage Day on May 31st from noon to 2 p.m. and expressed appreciation to Red Door and Tontitown Winery for their continued support in helping make the event successful. She closed by wishing everyone a good night.

Daniel Montez

Mr. Montez thanked everyone for attending the meeting and expressed appreciation to those who applied for the vacant position, as well as to the citizens for their patience as the council worked through the process. He congratulated Mr. Wagner on his appointment and reminded anyone still interested in serving that election packets are available.

He then shared deeply personal news: earlier in the week, his son was diagnosed with leukemia. He thanked the community for their prayers and support, emphasizing that he is

not seeking monetary donations, as his family has insurance, but he does ask for continued prayer and for guidance for the doctors treating his son. He noted that he will provide updates through Facebook, as responding individually to the many messages can be overwhelming.

Mr. Montez also expressed gratitude for unexpected donations he received when he came to pick up his election packet, though he stressed they were not necessary. He shared that his son completed his first and hardest treatment and was able to return home, where the family is now quarantining to protect him from infection. He closed by thanking his city family, church family, friends, and the broader community for their overwhelming support.

Mick Wagner

Mr. Wagner thanked everyone and said he looks forward to working with the council. He also offered his prayers to Mr. Montes and his family.

Tim Burress

Mr. Burress noted it had been an unusual evening and thanked everyone for their patience, explaining that technical issues prevented him from attending in person. He expressed appreciation to staff members who assisted him and thanked Mr. Farrar for answering his questions. He also acknowledged his fellow council members, saying that although they have had disagreements, he respects and values each of them.

He then addressed Council Member Montez, saying that he and his family have been praying diligently for Montes' son following his leukemia diagnosis. He also offered condolences to another council member who had recently lost both a boss and a childhood friend.

Mr. Burress raised a legal concern regarding a citizen who provided an address he believes may not be accurate, asking for clarification from the city attorney at a future meeting.

He thanked all three candidates who applied for the vacant council seat and expressed appreciation for their willingness to serve. Although he was unable to vote due to his remote participation, he welcomed Mr. Wagner and said he looked forward to working together respectfully and professionally.

He closed by thanking everyone again for their patience and said he looks forward to being present at the next committee meeting in June.

14) Comments from Mayor

The mayor reviewed upcoming community events, reminding everyone that Heritage Day will be held on May 31st from noon to 2 p.m. at the park and encouraging residents to

attend and get involved. They also highlighted the Family Fun Day event on June 27th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., which will feature live music, food trucks, and activities for all ages.

They expressed deep appreciation for city employee Scott Ademagni, who responded late at night to remove a fallen tree that had damaged a citizen's car—working until after 3 a.m. They noted that he has stepped up like this many times and thanked him for his dedication.

The speaker then acknowledged the difficult week experienced by Mr. Montez and Mr. Washkowiak, offering prayers for both families. They specifically mentioned that Mr. Montez' son is only five years old and assured him of continued support and prayer.

They closed by thanking everyone for staying through the long meeting.

15) **Comments from City Attorney**

Mr. Farrar kept his remarks brief, first offering thoughts and prayers to Council Member Montez and his family during their difficult time, and encouraging him to reach out if he needs anything. They then welcomed Mr. Wagner to the council and said they look forward to working with him. With a bit of humor, the speaker noted the unusual speed with which they went from representing the city against Mr. Wagner in a legal matter to now representing him as a council member. He closed by saying he looks forward to working together and wished everyone a good night.

16) **Adjournment-** All in Favor

PASSED AND APPROVED this ____ day of _____ 2025.

APPROVED: _____
Angela Russell, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Rhonda Ardemagni, City Clerk-Treasurer
(SEAL)

Sponsor (Initiated By): _____

Motion to Introduce Made By: _____

Seconded By: _____

Adopted / Passed: _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Abstain _____ Absent _____