

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



Ward 1 Position 1 – Craig Graves
Ward 1 Position 2– Mick Wagner
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
September 1st, 2026
Minutes**

**The Tontitown City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 1, 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) **Call to order**
- 2) **Prayer led by Pastor Bart Hodgson from Covenant Baptist Church**
- 3) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4) **Roll Call- All in Attendance**
- 5) **Approval of August 18, 2026, City Council Minutes.**

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve the August 18, 2026, City Council Minutes.

Second by Mick Wagner

Motion Passes Unanimously

- 6) **Approval of September 1, 2026, Agenda.**

Tim Burress motioned to approve the September 1, 2026, Agenda.

Second by Mike Washkowiak

Motion Passes Unanimously

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

Tim Burress motioned to approve to Waive the 3 Reading Rule for All Ordinances on Agenda.

Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

- 8) **Old Business:**

Mick Wagner motioned to suspend A through G correction of the last meeting.

Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

A. A discussion of a proposed Ordinance to establish the Director of Human Resources Position. Sponsored by: Danny

Daniel Montez motioned to approve an Ordinance to establish the Director of Human Resources Position.

Second by Tim Burress

Motion Passes Unanimously

Larry Ardemagni motioned to approve the Emergency Clause.

Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

B. A discussion of a proposed Ordinance to establish a Director of Parks, Museum, and Grants. Sponsored by: Mick

Mick Wagner motioned to approve an Ordinance to establish a Director of Parks, Museum, and Grants.

Second by Mike Washkowiak

Motion Passes Unanimously

Mick Wagner motioned to approve the Emergency Clause

Second by Tim Burress

Motion Passes Unanimously

C. A discussion of a proposed Ordinance establishing the Public Works Department Director. Sponsored by: Mick

Tim Burress motioned to approve an Ordinance establishing the Public Works Department Director.

Second by Mike Washkowiak

Motion Passes Unanimously

Tim Burress motioned to approve the Emergency Clause.

Second by Mick Wagner

Motion Passes Unanimously

D. A discussion of a proposed Ordinance clarifying Governance of the Tontitown Historical Museum. Sponsored by: Mick

Daniel Montez motioned to approve an Ordinance clarifying Governance of the Tontitown Historical Museum.

Second by Mick Wagner

Motion Passes Unanimously

Tim Burress motioned to approve the Emergency Clause.

Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

E. A discussion and approval of an Ordinance establishing the position of Accounting Clerk. Sponsored by: Mick

Tim Burress motioned to approve an Ordinance establishing the position of Accounting Clerk.

Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

F. A discussion and approval of an Ordinance establishing the position of Water and Sewer Director. Sponsored by: Mick

Mick Wagner motioned to approve an Ordinance establishing the position of Water and Sewer Director.

Second by Tim Burress

Motion Passes Unanimously

G. A discussion and approval of a proposed Resolution for the Removal of Trees along South Barrington Road. Sponsored by: Mick

Mick Wagner motioned to approve a Resolution for the Removal of Trees along South Barrington Road and the low bid Prairie Grove Tree Service.

Second by Mike Washkowiak

Motion Passes Unanimously

9) Public Comment on agenda items

Heather Armstrong 3851 Old Hwy. 68, Tontitown, Ar.

Ms. Armstrong thanked the council for its past support, invited city officials to an upcoming fundraiser/open house, and asked the council to consider providing additional support for their organization.

- They've been helping the city for about four years.
- They want council members to visit and see their work firsthand.
- City officials, police, and firefighters were expected to attend the event.
- They specifically asked for additional support for things they've requested.
- The fundraiser was scheduled for 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

10) New Business

A. A presentation by Sarah Livengood, Ex. Director for Fayetteville Area Affiliate of Arkansas Community Foundation. Sponsored by: Mick

Councilman Wagner invited Sarah Livengood to present a scope of services to the council for their consideration. Ms. Livengood is the Executive Director for the Fayetteville area of Arkansas Community Foundation.

B. A discussion of a proposed Resolution allowing the mayor to solicit RFQ's for professional grant administration services. Sponsored by: Danny

Daniel Montez motioned to approve a Resolution allowing the mayor to solicit RFQ's for professional grant administration services.

Second by Mike Washkowiak

Motion Passes Unanimously

C. A discussion and approval of a proposed Resolution allowing the mayor to enter a Contract with Harrington Miller regarding Condemnation of ROW for Fletcher. Sponsored by: Mike

The city and property owner can't agree on the price, so the council is being asked to authorize attorneys to begin the condemnation process rather than continue negotiating indefinitely.

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve a Resolution allowing the mayor to enter a Contract with Harrington Miller regarding Condemnation of ROW for Fletcher.

Second by Tim Burress

Motion Passes Unanimously

D. A discussion and approval proposed Resolution allowing a Condemnation for Fletcher Road. Sponsored by: Mike

Mike Washkowiak motioned to approve a Resolution allowing a Condemnation for Fletcher Road.

Second by Tim Burress

Motion Passes Unanimously

E. A discussion and appointment of aldermen to the City of Tontitown's Standing Committees. Sponsored by: Mike

Council is trying to reorganize the council committee system, resolve the three-member requirement, and establish committee assignments and chairs.

Larry Ardemagni motioned to amend the Resolution by appointing Tim Burress as Co-Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee and Larry Ardemagni as Co-Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

Second by Tim Burress

Motion Passes Unanimously

Mike Waskowiak motioned to approve.

Second by Larry Ardemagni

Motion Passes Unanimously

F. A discussion and approval of a proposed Resolution allowing the Fire Department to rearrange funds for the purchase of tools and equipment. Sponsored by: Danny

The Fire Chief asked the city to repurpose money that had been budgeted for a John Deere lawnmower.

- The Fire Department wants to upgrade equipment on one of its trucks.
- They provided two estimates, approximately \$22,700 and \$20,700.
- The existing lawnmower budget was \$25,000.
- The proposed equipment purchase would therefore stay within the \$25,000 already budgeted
- .

Bottom line: Instead of buying the lawnmower, the city would use those funds to outfit a fire truck with updated equipment, without increasing the budget.

Tim Burress motioned to allow Chief Krug to join the discussion.

Second by Daniel Montez

Motion Passes Unanimously

Daniel Montez motioned to approve a Resolution allowing the Fire Department to rearrange funds for the purchase of tools and equipment.
Second by Craig Graves

Motion Passes Unanimously

G. A discussion and approval of a proposed Resolution adopting the City of Tontitown's Organizational Chart. Sponsored by: Mick

The city has updated several department-head positions over the past few months, and the existing organizational chart no longer matches the way the city is actually structured.

Bottom line: They are revising the official city organizational chart/ordinance to accurately reflect the department heads and structure that are now in place.

Mike Wagner motioned to approve a Resolution adopting the City of Tontitown's Organizational Chart.
Second by Mike Washkowiak

Motion Passes Unanimously

H. A discussion regarding the Tontitown Community Foundation. Sponsored by: Danny

Discussion only.

This discussion is about the Tontitown Community Foundation (TCF), how it was created, how city resources were used, and whether the city has any control over its money or operations.

- The city helped establish TCF as a separate 501(c)(3) nonprofit, but it is controlled by a private board, not the city.
- The city attorney said there are legal and documentation issues that need to be corrected, including the lack of clear separation between the city and the foundation.
- Concerns were raised that not all council members were informed or formally authorized the creation or expenses associated with TCF.
- The city apparently paid about \$1,370 in legal bills related to the foundation, even though the foundation was supposed to be established with private funds. The foundation has indicated it will reimburse the city.
- There are also concerns that the city provided staff time, city facilities, emails, and administrative support without a clear method for the foundation to reimburse those costs.

- City financial records reportedly show no money received from TCF during the period reviewed, despite the foundation's stated connection to city-related projects.
- Councilman Wagner emphasized that the issue is not an accusation against the foundation or its volunteers, but rather a concern about proper government authority, taxpayer resources, and accountability.

The recommendation is to pause further city promotion or use of city resources for TCF until the council establishes a clear, legally sound structure.

They want the city attorney and accountants to investigate options, including potentially working with the Arkansas Community Foundation to establish separate funds for things such as the Historical Museum and Parks.

Bottom line: The council is being asked to clarify the legal and financial relationship between the city and the privately controlled foundation, recover any city expenses, and create a transparent system so taxpayers and donors know who controls the money and where donations are going.

11) Closing Comments

Daniel Montez

- Thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

Larry Ardemagni

- Thanked the people who attended and made a joking reference to comments about "stupid." They joked that although people say "you can't fix stupid," the success of Forrest Gump and Bubba Gump Shrimp Company suggests that maybe "stupid" can work out pretty well after all.

Tim Burress

Thanked the residents who attended a public meeting at St. Joseph's Catholic Church regarding the air permit for Waste Management's Eco Vista landfill.

- The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) held the meeting to hear public comments about whether to issue an air permit.
- Attendance was lower than at previous meetings.
- The people who did attend spoke passionately and thoughtfully about their concerns.
- Mr. Burress felt that ADEQ did not appear genuinely interested in the public's comments and may have been conducting the meeting primarily to satisfy legal requirements.

Mike Washkowiak

- Thanked Mr. Ferrar for serving as parliamentarian and helping the council follow proper procedures.
- Said the council is still learning and improving its meeting process.
- Mentioned a report that Northwest Arkansas needs about \$1.5 billion in wastewater infrastructure investment.
- Noted that this is one of the challenges that comes with the region's rapid growth.
- Thanked everyone for attending and said they hoped to see everyone again in a couple of weeks.

Mayor Russell

Have a good evening.

12) Adjournment- All in Favor

PASSED AND APPROVED this ____ day of _____ 2026.

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 _____